



AREA CHAIR REPORT ~ Suzanne W. Downing DM



Dear Friends,

Now that the days are getting longer and spring is almost in sight, it's time again to bring you up to date on what is happening in the Boston Area of the Order of Malta.

On January 8th Gus Grace took his second vow on his road to becoming a Knight of Justice. The Mass and the taking of the vow was held at Our Lady Help of Christians in Newton, MA. Msgr. Dennis F. Sheehan our Magisterial Chaplain was the Celebrant and Homilist.

Joseph Metz head of the Sub Priory for the American Association was in attendance and Joseph Feitelberg and James O'Connor were the witnesses. A small group of Knights and Dames attended. Gus plans to take his final vows in Lourdes, France in 2012. Keep Gus in your prayers, this is a long road.

April 9th is the morning of Lenten Spirituality. The prayer service and lecture will take place in the Formal Dining Room, next to Elana's Café on the second floor. Coffee and social time will be held from 9:00 AM—9:45 AM. Prayer and reflection will follow and the event will conclude at 12:00 noon.

As to new appointments, Kathleen Salisbury from Portsmouth NH has been named to the Boston Area Board and is the Chairperson for New Members in NH. She is associated with the University of New Hampshire and will be a very welcomed addition to our Board. Thomas Duffy is the new head of the Auxiliary. He lives in Centerville MA and is looking forward to moving the Auxiliary in a new direction. As indication of his dedication to Malta, Tom has gone to Lourdes each of the last two years and is going again this year.

Remember the Order of Malta motto: "obsequium pauperum et tuition fidei" Witness of the faith and service to the poor. I look forward to seeing many of you and have a wonderful Spring and Summer and may the Lord and Our Lady of Lourdes look down on us all.

All the best,

Suzanne

Suzanne W. Downing
Boston Area Chair



BOSTON AREA BOARD

Suzanne W. Downing DM
Area Chair
suedowning@comcast.net
508-224-9597

Ed Marshall KM
Hospitaller
marshall.e@comcast.net

John MacKinnon KM
Treasurer
Johnmackinnon@comcast.net

Msgr Dennis Sheehan
Area Chaplin
dsheehan@verizon.net

Paul W. Sandman KM
Grants
P.sandman1@gmail.com

Lynn Finn DM
Ministries
gardengram@comcast.net

Craig Gibson KM
Membership
cbgibson@comcast.net

Kathleen Salisbury DM
New Members NH
Kathleen.salisbury@usnh.edu

Mercedes Riley DM
Secretary
mgridley3@yahoo.com



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 9, 2011 Lenten Morning of Prayer & Reflection
9:00-9:45 AM Coffee Social
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM Prayer & Reflection
Pastoral Center, Braintree MA

April 27-May 3, 2011 Lourdes Pilgrimage

June 22, 2011 St. John the Baptist Mass
11:00 AM Mass, Lunch to follow. Portsmouth, NH

June 23, 2011 St. John the Baptist Mass
11:00 AM Mass, Lunch to follow. Worcester, MA

June 23, 2011 Retired Priest's Dinner
6:00 PM Dinner. Boston College Club

June 24, 2011 St. John the Baptist Mass
11:00 AM Mass, Lunch to follow. Osterville, MA

September 26-27, 2011 Leadership Meeting
Details to be announced at later date. Florida

October 19, 2011 Annual Boston Mass & Dinner
Emmanuel College, Boston MA

November 10-12, 2011 Annual New York/Boston Dinner
Annual meeting and investiture. NY

December 8, 2011 Advent Mass
5:30 Mass, Dinner to follow
Pastoral Center, Braintree MA

REMEMBERING PATTY TYRRELL

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Patty Tyrrell. As a member of the Auxiliary, she made significant contributions to the Boston Area. She will be missed! Joe Feitelberg was asked to speak on behalf of the Order of Malta at her funeral service. His thoughts are written below.



Patty diligently served the Order of Malta for the last 7 years. She was treasured for her suffering example, courage, charm and grace, plus her bed rock of faith. She became part of The Order when illness took her to Our Lady's shrine at Lourdes in 2002. There she became a cherished Malade. As some of you know, her dad was a highly respected Knight in the Order. Between her dad and his good friend, John McManmon, Patty became destined to place her singular mark on Malta's Boston Area....which includes the 7 Dioceses in the states of MA, NH, VT and ME.

She used her considerable skills to make the Boston Area's technological capability compatible with today's 21st Century needs even as her health was steadily deteriorating. She was so good at what she did. During Jack Pohrer's presidency of our American Association, he wrote "**Shazam**" in an email to describe some of Patty's work. Naturally, she served as Chair of our Communications Committee!

Patty did it all. She found us a wonderful webmaster who is still on the job. She created an outstanding electronic format for our four state membership base. She regularly called some 30 plus ministries which our membership serves on behalf of the sick and poor to properly document their achievements. As a final example she wrote what she labeled "User Friendly Notes" to help people navigate their way through our website. Thus in 2008, she was awarded the Boston's distinguished Bishop John Fitzpatrick medal for her extraordinary service. The Bishop was the first American born Bishop of Boston, who earned the trust and respect of the State's colonial descendants because of his compassion, reasonableness and inclusiveness, each also a Patty strength! Thus in closing, Patty had a marvelous smile and sense of attention to detail. Because Our Lady of Lourdes is the patroness of The Order, she often reminded me of Bernadette who was always consistent, precise and prayerful. One of Our Lady's first promises to Bernadette was, "I do not promise to make you happy in this world, but in the next." Surely, this has already occurred! Our Lady of Lourdes pray for us.

Hospitaller's Report ~ Ed Marshall

I would remind everyone to get their reservation in for the Saturday, April 9th "Lenten Morning of Reflection" which will be held at the Pastoral Center in Braintree for 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon. We are pleased to announce that Fr. John Sassani, Pastor of Our Lady Help of Christians Parish (Newton, MA), will lead us in our morning of prayer and reflection. This event should prove to be a wonderful experience on our Lenten journey. Featured in this newsletter is Brian O'Laughlin's article on "My Brothers Table". Please take the time to read it. This effort is a great example of the outstanding "Good Works" taking place in the Boston Area." And speaking of outstanding efforts....Steve Caron, KM continues the expansion of "The Serving Brother" prison newsletter. With the terrific support of the American Association, The Serving Brother is now distributed to over 400 correctional facilities in 27 states, Canada, U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam and Oceania. Great job Steve!

If you would like to know more about the Boston Area Works, Ministries and Blessed Gerard Projects, please visit our website @ maltaboston.org and click on the "Works..." tab. Please feel to contact me @ marshall.e@comcast.net if you would like more information.

Grants Report ~ Paul Sandman KM

This year, the Boston Area has recommended grants for five outstanding organizations. **Archdiocese for Military Services** works to identify potential seminarians. The Archdiocese annually conducts two "discernment retreats" for young servicemen. The Archdiocese has applied for funding for the 2012 Step Closer Retreat. **Catholic Charities Laboure' Center** has applied for a grant to establish a diabetic education program to teach diabetics how to self manage their disease. In South Boston, the diabetes rate is 29% higher than the national rate. **Housing Assistance Corporation** has applied for a grant to replace its client transportation van. The vehicle is used in bringing clients to job interviews, new work situations, housing search interviews and court and medical appointments. The vehicle is critical to HAC's service delivery capability. **My Brother's Table** has applied for a grant to establish a trial program to provide high-protein take-our weekend breakfasts especially needed by the Table's guests who have no other source of food. **Catholic Charities North** has applied for a grant to expand the scope of their Fathers Support Program to include teen fathers in Lynn. Despite a desire to be active in the lives of their children, many young fathers have little knowledge of child development, limited interaction with their children and few role models of successful fathers. The Grants Committee of the American Association will meet in May to review applications and make decisions on grant awards for this year.

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT ~ My Brother's Table ~ Lynn Finn

Ninety seven thousand meals served in 2010—7,000 more than in 2009!!!..What small restaurant wouldn't LOVE to hear that statistic? But I am writing about, not a small cafe-restaurant, but rather a soup kitchen, My Brother's Table, located in Lynn, Massachusetts.

Nearly 30 years ago the "Table" was founded by the Catholic Church to serve as a haven for those who are hungry in the North Shore area of Massachusetts. Today, the privately funded dining room is open 365 days a year serving lunch and dinner during the week and a healthy dinner on weekends. The "Table" is open to anyone providing a nutritious meal and an atmosphere of welcome, love and dignity. I guess you can say that the "Table" fulfills the mission of Brother Gerard by helping the poor and the sick. Each year over 2500 volunteers assist a small staff in serving the meals and building a loving and caring relationship with our many guests.

The "Table" works with local food pantries as part of the Hunger Network—coordinating the distribution of turkeys at Thanksgiving, the Postal Canned Food Drive and sharing "extra" food deliveries with others in the community who are active in the war against hunger. My Brother's Table delivers meals to terminally or chronically ill people who are not elderly and are not eligible for another food assistance program. The Dinner Shuttle supplies a weeks' worth of food (frozen meals and canned goods) to the ill person and each family member. Many of the people in this program have small children. As well as serving delicious food, the "Table" provides a weekly Art Therapy Program for our guests—young and old alike. We also supply meals to the city jail on a daily basis. In addition, My Brother's Table hosts a weekly medical clinic, staffed by volunteer doctors and nurses who evaluate and monitor the health and nutritional needs of our dinner guests by providing flu vaccines, nutritional supplements (Ensure), diabetes testing as well as making referrals when appropriate.

As noted earlier, the "table" continues to face enormous challenges particularly in this fragile economy. Each year we have to generate 100 percent of our operating budget without government assistance or United Way affiliation in order to serve the greatest number of guests So, if you are in the Lynn area and would like to donate some of your time or treasure, feel free to drop in. We'd love to see you. Or maybe you'd just like to sit down and share a meal with some of the nicest people that I have ever met! Whatever your choice, you will NEVER forget the experience of eating in one of the busiest and finest restaurants in the North Shore. As Albert Pine once said, "what we do for ourselves dies with us; what we do for others and the world remains, and is, immortal."

Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us
Notre Dame de Lourdes, Priez pour nous.
Brian G. O'Loughlin K.M.

For more information on what's happening in the Boston Area Order of Malta, please visit www.maltaboston.org.

Treasurer Report ~ John MacKinnon

Order of Malta-Boston

Statement of Cash Flows/Activities For the year ended December 31, 2010

	Cash Bal. Jan. 1, 2010		\$ 47,752
Activities	Receipts	Disbursements	
Spiritual Bouquets, Masses,	\$ 5,765	\$ 1,241	\$ 4,524
Cathedral Cares	13,029	8,175	4,854
Auxiliary	1,000	1,000	-
Lenten Retreat	1,245	1,323	(78)
Serving Brother	450	3,310	(2,860)
Retired Priests	1,000	1,000	-
New York Dinner	17,844	14,357	3,487
St. John Day Events	8,390	5,073	3,317
Annual Dinner - Boston	14,650	9,491	5,159
Advent Mass & Dinner	3,705	3,363	342
Museum Event	1,256	1,186	70
New York Reimbursement	4,180	-	4,180
Website, Secretarial, Postage,	-	3,954	(3,954)
Contributions	-	6,000	(6,000)
	<u>\$ 72,514</u>	<u>\$ 59,473</u>	<u>\$ 13,041</u>
Cash Balance - December 31, 2010			\$ 60,793

Allocated as follows:	Bal. Jan 1, 2010	Activities	Bal Dec. 31, 2010
Cathedral Cares	\$ 6,665	\$ 4,854	\$ 11,519
Medical Ethics	1,881	(1,881)	\$ -
Auxiliary	2,906	-	\$ 2,906
Free Cash	36,300	10,068	\$ 46,368
	<u>\$ 47,752</u>	<u>\$ 13,041</u>	<u>\$ 60,793</u>

Please remember in your prayers, our aging members of the Order, who are no longer able to attend our functions.

