

SCHOENSTATT OF INDIANA, INC.
FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT
SEPTEMBER 2010 through AUGUST 2011

OVERVIEW:

His Mother said to the servants: "Do whatever He tells you." (John 2:5)

We are dedicated to serving Mary, our Mother Thrice Admirable, Queen of our Hearts, as pilgrims and board members, by promoting the growth of the Schoenstatt Movement through spiritual formation and family oriented activities at the parishes in this area. Our ardent desire is to build a Daughter Shrine (*Mother of the Eucharist*) on our land in Delphi, Indiana with an adjacent Retreat Center where such activities will have their true home. In these next few years, a very important focus of our endeavors will be to prepare, locally, for the Centennial Celebration of the founding of Schoenstatt that will take place in October 2014.

Schoenstatt of Indiana, Inc. has its origins in the much earlier efforts of Schoenstatt Sister of Mary, Professor Ann Astell who came to this area in 1988 and subsequently established several Pilgrim MTA Circles at the St. Thomas Aquinas Center at Purdue. The first Covenants of Love were made in 1993 on May 18, following Holy Mass celebrated by Schoenstatt Father Gerold Langsch. On October 29, 2005, our Bishop at that time, Bishop William Higi of the Diocese of Lafayette in Indiana, dedicated our outdoor Wayside Shrine on our land in Delphi.

Schoenstatt of Indiana was incorporated as a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit corporation on June 27, 2005 (with four original interim directors). Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation were filed on August 19, 2007 and approved on October 31, 2007 by the Indiana Secretary of State. Spiritual directors, officers, and board members for the Corporation were unanimously elected also on August 19, 2007. Corporation By-Laws were prepared in the Spring of 2008 and approved that Fall.

MAIN EVENTS OF THIS PAST YEAR:

ON OCTOBER 9, 2010 at St. Joseph's Parish in Delphi, we celebrated the First Anniversary of the Crowning of our Mother Thrice Admirable as *Queen of our Hearts*. Bishop Emeritus William Higi concelebrated the Holy Mass with Schoenstatt Father Johnson Nellissery. Afterwards, we participated at the dedication of the Home Shrine for Nan Ross. Fellowship and food completed the afternoon.

ON DECEMBER 4, 2010 we held our Fourth Annual Advent Family Day at Honan Hall, St. Joseph's Parish in Delphi, with talks by Father Gerold Langsch. Board member Julie Haskell, with the help of Rosemary Speaker and Susana Venis, prepared a Children's Skit about Father Joseph Kentenich's life. The children were greeted with much laughter and loud applause throughout the performance. The evening concluded with supper and a visit from St. Nicholas. Father Peter Vanderkolk joined us as well as a very special guest, our new Bishop Timothy Doherty. That same morning, Father Langsch dedicated two Home Shrines, for the families of Rosa and Daniel Salazar and Denise and Jeff Craig.

ON MARCH 18, 2011, Suzanne Gardiner and Rosemary Speaker attended the retreat in Ohio at the Maria Stein Center led by Schoenstatt Father Gerold Langsch.

On APRIL 3, Spiritual Director Sister Ann Astell and many of the board members, plus Mary Faderan, gathered at a brunch at the Reklaitis home. Discussion centered on developing our land in Delphi as a *Schoenstatt Sacred Park*.

On APRIL 8, Father Gerold Langsch held a mini – retreat for board members and guests, following a congenial supper at MCL cafeteria. Earlier that day he dedicated the Home Shrine of Chris and Billie Ruth Scully.

ON APRIL 9, our annual Spring Lenten Day of Recollection took place at Blessed Sacrament Parish. The presenters were Father Gerold Langsch, Suzanne Gardiner and Patti Durbin. Seven new Covenants were sealed on that weekend (Judy Bauer, Chris and Billie Ruth Scully and the four children of Randy and Kathy Smith).

ON MAY 21, Spiritual Director Sister Barbara Ebbe joined us at our board meeting with her presentations on the organizational structure of Schoenstatt and on preparation for membership into the Schoenstatt Apostolic League. Former board members Jeff and Marlene Jarboe as well as guest Larry Todd were present at this stimulating event. Afterwards, we prayed the Rosary at our Wayside Shrine, followed by lunch.

ON JUNE 16 – 19, five of our board members, Marilu Altman, Rennatta Berkshire, Carole DiFabio, Suzanne Gardiner, and Janine Reklaitis with guests Marjorie Clifford and Ro Hall attended the Schoenstatt Rosary Campaign in Waukesha, Wisconsin.

IN LATE JULY, board members met to design and disseminate 200 postcards with “Save the Dates” for Schoenstatt events for 2011. The front of the postcard has a photo of the interior of the Waukesha shrine, provided by Marilu Altman. Subsequently another 100 postcards were printed up to pass out at the outdoor Holy Mass.

ON AUGUST 3 AND 4, Suzanne Gardiner and Rosemary Speaker were in Yorkshire, Ohio for the Schoenstatt Girls Camps. Their intention is to be able to help with such camps for youth in our own area in Indiana next year.

ON AUGUST 15, the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, an outdoor Mass was celebrated by Schoenstatt Father Joy Puthussery at the Wayside Shrine in Delphi. This was the fourth time Father Joy was with us. (Last year, our Mass was celebrated by Father Johnson Nellissery.) We had about 60 people attending, with a Rosary preceding and beautiful music led by Joann Clark on her guitar.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Rosemary Speaker, Suzanne Gardiner, Julie Haskell, and Janine Reklaitis, who replaced Barbara Strasburger, have focused this year on preparation of the land as a future park and site for the Schoenstatt of Indiana, Inc. Daughter Shrine and Retreat Center, *Mary, Mother of the Eucharist*.

In the early spring there were several meetings with Bob Dearing, president of Haan Marketing, for advice on marketing goals and fundraising strategies. In addition, Rosemary met with Professor Mike Cassidy for the same purpose. Once the snow melted, we walked our land with Dan McCain, director of the Canal Association in Delphi, and made plans for continued, close collaboration for its improvement.

We engaged the services of the firm of Robert W. Gross for a survey of our land. Along with Board Secretary Don Faderan we met to discuss his results. Mr. Gross is now completing a “Legal Land Survey” for our Corporation.

Several members of the development committee, along with director Marilu Altman, also had a few meetings with Larry Todd for designing and making a Unity Cross. Thanks to a generous donation from a board member for this project, it is anticipated that we will be using it at our Schoenstatt events and that eventually this Unity Cross will hang in our Retreat Center.

Rosemary Speaker and other committee members met with our architect Rob Galbraith on various occasions for modifications to our building design and location.

On June 8, we met with Kurt Williams of T&W Church Solutions. Mr. Williams is the project coordinator for the large Methodist church building under construction in Delphi. He gave us an on-site tour and provided valuable advice.

Met with Joe O'Donnell at the Purdue Agricultural Extension office in Delphi. Following his advice regarding our Wetlands, we talked with Mr. Shaw of the Firm Beam, Longest and Neff, L.L.C. and engaged this firm. Their representative has analyzed our land and delineated the wetlands parcels on July 6. They have submitted their report to us and we will be following through with their recommendations.

On July 8, along with Director Marilu Altman, some members met with landscaper Yvonne Keech at our land in Delphi. She suggested some good and constructive ideas.

On August 19, the development committee met once again with Mr. Joe O'Donnell. He will be introducing us to local experts for beautifying our land and for securing funds through grants available for this purpose.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES:

The spiritual foundation from which all of our work proceeds is Adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. A Eucharistic Holy Hour for Schoenstatt intentions at St. Elizabeth Central Chapel is held on every third Thursday of the month with Benediction by Deacon Mike Grey.

For planning purposes, we gather at regular monthly Board meetings, except in those months when we have a general Schoenstatt activity planned.

Rotation in various parishes of the large picture of our Mother Thrice Admirable—the Picture of Grace-- has taken place for about two years. Thanks to Bill Strasburger, this is an excellent means of promoting the Schoenstatt movement in our diocese. Only one Deanery visit was made this past year, namely, to the Fowler Deanery by Rosemary Speaker and Fran Dunn in November 2010; with a follow-up later by Bill Strasburger.

The annual Fannie May Candy Fundraiser was again conducted in November by Gloria Thompson with partial proceeds, as always, going to Schoenstatt of Indiana, Inc.

Carole DiFabio continues her efficient and inspiring communications efforts with her regular E-newsletters. Our website, maintained by Professor Jenny Bay, a mother in our Garden of Mary group, is updated periodically. Publicity in the *Catholic Moment* and in parish bulletins is now under the direction of Marilu Altman.

Hospitality at our events and Holy Masses is admirably provided by board members Dan and Rosa Salazar and Randy and Susana Venis.

Regular meetings take place monthly for the Couples and the Mothers Groups.

Maintenance of our Land:

A SPECIAL Clean up day was organized by Director Rosemary Speaker in collaboration with Dan McCain and the Canal Association in Delphi on April 16. We had a good turnout. Additionally, Gloria Thompson, with the help of Suzanne Gardiner, had work done to level and fill in the water erosion on the pathway for the land at our outdoor Wayside Shrine. The plants, bordering our Shrine, are nicely maintained by them.

ADDITIONAL CHANGES

On March 25, 2011, the Feast of the Annunciation, we mourned the death of Sally Faderan, one of the original Mothers group "Garden of Mary" members and wife of Board Secretary Don Faderan. The Board asked for nine Masses to be offered at the Schoenstatt Shrine for her soul. Sally was one of the earliest "pioneer" members of Schoenstatt in the state of Indiana and her influence pervaded much of our work. We believe that she continues to intercede for us from above.

Elections for all officer positions, as mandated by our By-Laws, have been scheduled for August 27, at the annual Board Meeting. One additional officer position will be added, namely, that of Assistant Secretary. (Refer to the Minutes for May 22, by Secretary Don Faderan.) Due to the resignations of board member Barbara Strasburger in the Fall of 2010 and those of board members Nan Ross and Fran Dunn who resigned in the Spring of 2011, new candidates for the board have been nominated: Nancy and Jerry Johnston of Blessed Sacrament Parish, with additional nominations forthcoming.

In addition, new and voluntary assignments will be called for in the Service Area committees. These were first proposed in April of 2007 by Spiritual Director Sister Ann Astell and have been traditionally divided up among the board members

FUTURE PROJECTS

Preparation, under the leadership of Carole DiFabio, for full membership dedication into the Schoenstatt Apostolic League began on August 18 preceding the monthly Holy Hour. Carole had been giving brief teachings at our board meetings on this topic. And Sister Barbara Ebbe also explained what this commitment entails on May 22. Thus far, nine of us women will be meeting monthly for a full year.

The Third Anniversary of the Coronation of Mary as *Queen of our Hearts* is scheduled to take place on Thursday, October 20 at 7 p.m. at St. Elizabeth's Chapel.

There are plans for offering formation activities for the SRC coordinators in the local area by Regional coordinator Carole Di Fabio and a committee of her choosing.

We will extend an invitation to another diocesan priest for attending our Schoenstatt activities on a consistent basis. Father Jeff Martin declined. Information has been submitted for a full page, with photos, about Schoenstatt of Indiana, Inc. for the annual Diocesan Directory.

The development committee will continue to meet, most often on a weekly basis, for preparing materials for use in fundraising efforts for the future Daughter Shrine and Retreat Center.

The Fifth Annual Schoenstatt Advent Family Day of Recollection with Father Gerold Langsch will take place on December 10 in Honan Hall at St. Joseph's in Delphi.

As part of the National United States Gift for the 2014 Centennial we will present an album of local Home Shrines. This project has been requested by the Movement Secretary in Waukesha and is due by December 2011. We currently have 25 families with Home Shrines, but as yet not all have responded to Janine Reklaitis.

A new Mothers Group will soon be forming under the direction of Julie Haskell who plans to have the meetings at her place with its Home Shrine.

The director of the Epics Program at Purdue University, Professor Bill Oakes, was contacted with ideas for a possible student class project to provide help with developing our Schoenstatt Sacred Park. Although he expressed interest in our proposal, collaboration cannot occur this fall.

SPECIAL NOTES:

Generous donations come in consistently from Rosemarie and Brian Dubaz to Schoenstatt of Indiana, Inc. We are deeply grateful for all their past and current support. Their hearts belong totally to our Blessed Mother Thrice Admirable.

Thanks as well for the generous gift of time at our monthly Holy Hours with Benediction by Deacon Mike Grey!

Nan Ross has selflessly given of her time and talents in designing programs and announcements for publicizing our educational and family events. The board members thank her and wish her happiness in her new position at our Diocese.

IN CONCLUSION

After having served for four years, guided by our Mother Thrice Admirable, Queen and Victress of Schoenstatt, as the President and Chair of this Board, I wish to thank ...to pray ...and to rededicate myself to being a "co-worker for the mission of the Blessed Mother in today's world." As we go about "doing our deeds", we remind ourselves that it is the spiritual foundation for them that is most important. We want to be Mary's instrument in following the will of our Heavenly Father, by following her example. We want to offer all our strivings and sacrifices to the Capital of Grace.

I renew my commitment to Our Mother Thrice Admirable through my Covenant of Love with her. In great anticipation, I pledge my help to our **new** officers and to the board.

Ever and always we say:

"Nothing without you, dear Mother; nothing without us."

Respectfully submitted,
Janine Reklaitis,
Outgoing President of the Board, August 27, 2011
West Lafayette, Indiana

POSSIBLE SERVICE AREA COMMITTEES for 2011-12

MONTHLY HOLY HOUR Bill Strasburger, current

SCHOENSTATT ROSARY CAMPAIGN REGIONAL COORDINATOR
Assigned: Carole DiFabio

DEVELOPMENT & FUNDRAISING, chair Rosemary Speaker

PUBLICITY, currently Marilu Altman

E- NEWSLETTER, currently Carole DiFabio

WEB- SITE, currently Jenny Bay

YOUTH GROUPS and CAMPS

SHRINE MAINTENANCE, chair Gloria Thompson

EVENTS

Annual Programs
Preparation for Covenants and Home Shrines
Pilgrimages
Social Activities

OUTREACH

Diocesan liaison
Deaneries
Liaison with other Marian Groups
Rotation of MTA in parishes
Schoenstatt books/materials dissemination

OTHER AREAS:

Coordinators of current & new groups (couples, mothers, youth)
COORDINATOR of Apostolic League Membership (C. DiFabio- assigned)
COORDINATOR OF Home Shrines ALBUM (J. Reklaitis-assigned)