

LCWR Plans for National Assembly on Visioning Religious Life into the Future

Initial plans are in place for the 2007 LCWR national assembly to take place from August 1-5 in Kansas City, Missouri.

Set in the country's "Heartland," the 2007 assembly will offer numerous opportunities for members to receive input and have significant conversations with one another on the challenges and opportunities before US women religious today.

The LCWR Assembly Planning Committee met in October at the assembly site, the Kansas City Hyatt Hotel, for its first meeting. Former LCWR president Mary Mollison, CSA is serving as the facilitator of both the committee and the assembly.

As more details of the assembly are in place, information will be communicated to all LCWR members and associates.



At the 2007 LCWR Planning Committee meeting: (standing) LCWR executive director Carole Shinnick, SSND; Nancy Bramlage, SC; Pam Hinkle, SCL (ambiance and logo); Sue Miller, SCL; Eleanor Granger, OSF (staff); and Shirley Roberg, SNJM. (Seated) Marge Perron, RJM; Marion Etzel, SDS; Annmarie Sanders, IHM (staff); Mary Mollison, CSA (facilitator); and Amy McFrederick, OP (liturgist)

New Information on the Needs of Women Religious in New Orleans is Available on LCWR Website

Since fall 2005 LCWR has posted information on its website (www.lcwr.org) about the needs of the congregations of women religious in New Orleans who were severely impacted by the 2005 hurricanes. Several of these congregations have now updated their information, listing the most critical needs that they have at this time.

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From the LCWR Presidency

The Mystery that Urges Us Forward

by Mary Whited, CPPS -- LCWR President-Elect

Last night the dream returned. Details had changed, but patterns were similar to other dreams I have had in recent months. I dream that I am wending my way from room to room in old, comfortable surroundings like the section of our motherhouse that dates back to 1875, or our girls' academy that is celebrating its 125th anniversary, or my grandparents' home. I feel secure in these familiar spaces.



This Advent, I am aware of how my dreams connect me to prophets who were profoundly attentive to God's dreams. Miriam, who led through dance and song, trusted that the dreams of the Hebrew people would unfold into a land of promise. Isaiah, echoing dreams of the chosen, prophesied of leveled hills and of wolves lying with lambs. A pregnant mother pondered the dream within her womb. An anxious father-to-be acted upon an angelic message he heard in his dream.

Suddenly I lose my way. I wander through a maze of rooms I have never seen before. Glancing over my shoulder, I realize that the rooms from which I came have vanished. No going back. No "mapquest" can

*Isn't being a leader today
sometimes like wandering
through a maze,
making a path by walking?*

point the way ahead. I pause to ponder, "Is this journey worth the risks?" As I continue to walk and attend to the journey, I am moved by a Mystery that urges me forward.

On waking, I sit with the dreams to uncover their meaning. Isn't being a leader today sometimes like wandering through a maze, making a path by walking? Seems like we, women religious, are ever on a journey. We leave behind what has become familiar and secure, risk the next steps we need to take, and are moved by the Mystery that urges us forward. Perhaps the dreams reflect that, in the face of unprecedented global realities, old answers will not address new questions. I wonder, "Do the dreams invite me to take a deeper step in trust?" The obvious almost seems too simple!

Like the prophets of old I want to discover how God speaks through my dreams. I want to attend to the new being born in the lives of women religious today. I desire to respond to God's dreams of embracing the poor in our world. I yearn for peace in the Middle East, an end to violence and terror in Iraq and Afghanistan, hospitality for immigrant families, and a more equitable distribution of power in church and society. For me, Advent is no longer a season of waiting. It is more the season to dream the impossible and to act on what is possible.

Advent plunges us into God's dreams at the heart of the mystery of Sacred-become-flesh. Such a mystery paves

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the way for dreaming, even when we are awake. God's dream has become a way of life for us, as leaders, and for us, communities of women religious who make the path by walking together. Truly, this Advent brings a transformative task of embracing God's dreams anew!

LCWR Mourns the Death of Former President Anita de Luna, MCDP

LCWR mourns the death of Anita de Luna, MCDP, 1992 conference president, and former superior general of the Missionary Cathechists of Divine Providence, the first order of Mexican American women religious founded in the United States and based in San Antonio.

Remembered by those in LCWR leadership as a woman of peace and great hope for the world, church, and religious life, Anita was the first woman of color to be elected to the LCWR presidency. She represented well the richness that the Mexican American experience adds to the US culture, and generously brought her unique wisdom and insight as a bi-cultural leader to the work of the conference.

Anita earned a licentiate in sacred theology from the Jesuit School of Theology and a doctorate of philosophy in Christian spirituality at the Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, California. She received an honorary doctorate in 2004 from the University of Notre Dame. She published a book, *Faith Formation and Popular Religion: Lessons from the Tejano Experience*, as well as many articles and musical compositions. Among her ministry experiences she was an adjunct professor at the Mexican American Cultural Center. For the last three and a half years she taught at Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio. She died on October 27 at the age of 59.



LCWR remembers Anita by recalling her own words that epitomized her philosophy of life:

*Live your life with purpose and let the days of God give you meaning;
share your life with those who inspire your days and invite you to greatness for the
sake of others so that at the end of your days you will find that your life has
made a difference to someone, for something, and most importantly for The Creator.*

New Information on the Needs of Women Religious in New Orleans Available on LCWR Website

(continued from page 1)

This information is found in the password-protected area of the LCWR website ("LCWR Members' Information"). LCWR members and associates are encouraged to review this information to see if there are any needs with which they can help. Some LCWR member congregations have shared this information with other organizations and possible donors. The report and slide show of the October 2006 visit to the New Orleans congregations made by LCWR president Mary Dacey, SSJ, and LCWR executive director Carole Shinnick, SSND are also available on the website under "What's New."

LCWR Membership Dues Now Cover Entire Councils

With the new structure for the payment of LCWR membership dues, all members of congregation councils will be considered national members of LCWR. With this change, all council members will be eligible to attend the LCWR national assembly, participate in all programs offered by the conference, and receive all publications.

Dues for congregations and congregational units are based on the group's census as of November 1.

Dues for LCWR members should be submitted to the national office by **December 8**. Dues for associate members should be submitted by **December 20**.

LCWR Executive Committee Meets in November in Baltimore

The members of the LCWR executive committee (Mary Dacey, SSJ; Mary Whited, CPPS; Beatrice Eichten, OSF; Jeanne Bessette, OSF; Margaret Mayce, OP; Maureen Shaughnessy, SC; and Carole Shinnick, SSND) met in Baltimore from November 6-9 at Bon Secours Retreat Center, Marriottsville, Maryland.

In addition to reports from the presidents, executive director, secretary and treasurer, the committee discussed other items including: assisting the congregations in New Orleans, the LCWR history exhibit, evaluating LCWR's services, programming updates, upcoming LCWR assemblies, and follow-up to the CARA study of 2005 on sexual abuse policies and practices.

The LCWR and CMSM executive committees also met jointly at the Cameron Street office building on November 9. The two committees planned for several up-

coming joint events including the joint national board meeting in February 2007, visits to the Vatican offices scheduled for April 2007, and the joint assembly in Denver in 2008. CMSM associate director John Steingraeber, CSsR gave the committees a financial report on the Cameron Street building which LCWR and CMSM own together.

Mary, Mary, Beatrice, Jeanne, and Carole attended a meeting of the Commission on Religious Life and Ministry on November 10. Andrée Fries, CPPS, executive director of the National Religious Retirement Office, updated the commission on the NRRO collection, and some implications of its continuance for the next 10 years. The group also considered some of the implications of the reorganization of the US Bishops' Conference.

On November 13 and 14, Mary, Beatrice, Mary, and Carole attended the USCCB meeting in Baltimore as observers.



LCWR executive committee members: (seated) Maureen Shaughnessy, SC; Jeanne Bessette, OSF (standing) Mary Dacey, SSJ; Beatrice Eichten, OSF; Mary Whited, CPPS; and Margaret Mayce, OP



CMSM executive director Paul Lininger, OFM Conv with Mary Dacey, SSJ and Margaret Mayce, OP at the meeting of the LCWR and CMSM executive committees



Andrée Fries, CPPS (far right) reports to members of the Commission on Religious Life and Ministry



2007 LCWR New Leader Workshop
The Retreat Center at St. John's
Plymouth, Michigan
March 15 -18, 2007

This workshop, offered for leaders who have been in office for two years or less, provides invaluable information on topics of critical importance for religious life leaders.

The faculty includes:

Nancy Schreck, OSF
Spiritual Dimensions of Leadership

Simone Campbell, SS and Christine Rody, SC
Leaders and Canon and Civil Law

Hertha Longo, CSA
Leaders and Finance

Mira Mosle, BVM
Leaders and Communications

Fran Repka, RSM
Leaders and Personnel Issues and Holistic Leadership

The workshop will provide multiple opportunities for participants to consider how to employ their new insights once they return home and builds in time for leadership teams to reflect together on what they learn.

The experience is set in a context honoring the mystery, grace, and power of God's Spirit, where the faculty and participants share insights in a spirit of mutual learning.

Registration forms are available on the LCWR website at <http://www.lcwr.org/lcwrprogramsresources/newleaderworkshop.htm>

The deadline for registration is December 8.

Two spaces are available for the

LCWR

Leading from Within Retreat

Consider giving yourself the opportunity to gather with other leaders for a unique retreat experience that promises to provide inspiration and energy for your leadership ministry.

January 14 —19, 2007
Franciscan Center
Tampa, Florida

Contact Carol Glidden at cglidden@lcwr.org or 301-588-4955 immediately to reserve a place.

More information is also available on the members' information section of the LCWR website: www.lcwr.org.

Did you ...?

✓ Send in your LCWR membership dues? (Deadline for members: December 8; for associates: December 20)

✓ Consider making the LCWR Leading from Within Retreat? (Register now)

✓ Register for the LCWR New Leader Workshop? (Deadline: December 8)

✓ Join the LCWR Resource Sharing Forum?

✓ Mark your calendars for the next LCWR national assembly for August 1-5, 2007?



LCWR Offers New Service: The LCWR Resource Sharing Forum

LCWR has initiated a new service for its members and associates: the LCWR Resource Sharing Forum. The forum is a listserv that is open only to LCWR members and associates that provides a means for communicating with one another online with a question or to share information. Since initiating this service in October, 84 members have signed on.

What is being discussed on the LCWR Forum?

To date, members have posed questions on issues including the following:

- Models for developing a safety plan (follow-up to the CARA study recommendations regarding sexual abuse policies)
- Chapter steering committees
- Guidelines for older drivers
- Congregation-sponsored schools that are going independent
-

So that all forum members are not receiving the answers to these questions, persons who wish to respond to a question are asked to send their response directly to the individual making the request for information.

What are the benefits of participating?

Members can easily ask other members for help any time they have a question or are looking for information, resources, speakers, facilitators, translators, policies, or good ideas. Members are already reporting that they have received very helpful information on questions they have asked.

Members can also participate in polls initiated by the national office, asking for input on LCWR issues. Forum participants can also access the archives of past messages.

What is needed to make the forum successful?

The participation of as many members and associates as possible! The more LCWR members who are a part of the list, the more effective this service will be.

How do I sign up for the LCWR Forum?

Information on signing up for the LCWR Forum is available on the LCWR website in the "LCWR Mem-

bers' Information" section, which is password-protected. Any member or associate who does not have the username and password to access this part of the site may obtain this information from Carol Glidden at cglidden@lcwr.org. Carol can also guide members through the process of signing up for the forum.

NETWORK Board Selects Coordinating Council and Emphasizes Development

Decisions made during the October 26-29 NETWORK board meeting included the selection of a board coordinating council to serve for two years. Mary Yelenick, who has given invaluable service to the board, especially in the area of development, was named chair. Other officers include Linda Howell-Perin, vice-chair; Elizabeth Avalos BVM, secretary; and Marie-Clark Brill, treasurer. Marie Lucey, OSF, continues as LCWR liaison. Sincere gratitude was expressed to outgoing members, especially to Jackie Griffith, SSJ, departing chair.

The board also affirmed the issue focus drafted by the advocacy committee which is composed of board members and staff, the main lens being economic and social transformation, with primary attention being given to federal budget issues, impact of US policies on global poverty, and impact of US policies on the earth. Specific issues in each category were identified. While approving the committee's proposal, the board cautioned that it may be too ambitious given the reduction in number of lobbyists due to budget constraints.

A slate of candidates for the 2007 board election was approved. (Note: this year the ballot will appear on the back page of the January-February 2007 Connection.)

The board continues to emphasize development, especially major gifts, as well as increased membership. As noted in previous newsletters, LCWR has a particularly close relationship with NETWORK and encourages congregational and individual memberships. Visit www.networklobby.org.

Cameron 5 Organizations Visit with DC Archbishop



Archbishop Donald Wuerl (center) met with the Cameron 5 executive directors: Dan Ward, OSB (LRCR); Laura Reichs, RSM (NATRI); Janet Mock, CSJ (RFC); Paul Lininger, OFM Conv (CMSM) and Carole Shinnick, SSND (LCWR)

Archbishop Donald Wuerl visited the national offices of LCWR, CMSM, RFC, NATRI and LRCR at Cameron Street in Silver Spring, Maryland on November 1. There the newly appointed leader of the Washington, DC Archdiocese met with the five staffs and enjoyed their hospitality. The archbishop also sat down with the executive directors of the organizations to learn more about their missions and current work.

LCWR Welcomes New Records Coordinator

LCWR welcomed Carol Crowder to its national office staff on November 13. As LCWR's records coordinator, she brings extensive experience in database management and computer software and repair. She has a background in working with nonprofits and litigation support and holds a computer science degree from Rutgers University. Carol is the mother of a son and daughter and grandmother of four lively boys.



Executive Committee Approves GCC Recommendation for 2007 Sabbath Year

During their recent meeting, the LCWR executive committee endorsed the 2007 Sabbath Year and will encourage participation in Jubilee USA's activities as recommended by the Global Concerns Committee (GCC):

- Encourage congregations to participate in the Rolling Fast in the fall of 2007. (Details will be published at a later date.)

- As appropriate, encourage sisters, especially those who minister in parishes, to promote Sabbath Sunday, January 21, traditionally celebrated by Protestant churches as Jubilee Sunday and by Catholics as Church Unity Sunday.
- In response to Jubilee USA's encouragement to introduce a Sabbath Year resolution, the GCC will adapt a model resolution and forward it to regions to consider in the spring as an assembly 2007 resolution.

Because the assembly takes place midway through the Sabbath Year, the GCC asked the executive committee to endorse the Sabbath Year now and to encourage participation in activities named above.

Jubilee USA Council Plans Sabbath Year 2007

The Jubilee USA Council held its annual meeting with a full agenda October 12-13, 2006. During the Global Campaign Update, participants heard from Jubilee South members from the Philippines and Liberia. Another panel included a speaker from Friends of the Earth, addressing climate change as a social justice as well as environmental issue, and a speaker from Oil Change International making the connections among debt, oil, and climate change.

Council members also received a six-month update on Jubilee's participation in the ONE Campaign. Both opportunities and challenges were described by the coordinating committee and staff followed by questions from participants. While advantages appear to outweigh disadvantages, some cautions were issued.

Plans for Sabbath Year 2007 were described and discussed before representatives of participating organizations were asked to make a commitment to one or more of the activities. Why the focus on 2007?

- 2007 marks the seventh year since the Jubilee 2000 Campaign, an appropriate time to raise a prophetic call to debt cancellation and economic justice.
- 2007 is the halfway point to achievement of the 2015 Millennium Development Goals.
- In 2007 The World Social Forum will be held in Africa for the first time.
- The G-8 Summit will be held in Germany, the site of the initial Jubilee 2000 commitments.
- 2007 is the 200th Anniversary of the end of the Atlantic Slave Trade.

A series of activities will culminate at the end of the year with a hearing in Congress on the Jubilee Act, legislation that will provide debt cancellation for many more nations that need it.

To view and order an attractive brochure on the Sabbath Year visit: www.jubileeusa.org, scroll down to Prepare for 2007 Sabbath Year, click Sabbath Year Outreach brochures.

LCWR Participates in the National Religious Partnership on the Nuclear Weapons Danger

Because LCWR has a long history of peacemaking and opposition to nuclear weapons, LCWR has been a member of the Interfaith Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, a Washington, DC based group which recently partnered with the larger National Religious Partnership on Nuclear Weapons. During a strategy session of NRP held November 14, members received a sobering briefing from a member of Union of Concerned Scientists on the current nuclear build-up, and an alternative vision briefing by the head of Fourth Freedom Forum. During discussion it was observed that the nuclear weapons issue is no longer a major priority for many, given the emergence of other urgent situations; however, when people are made aware of the disturbing facts, they are very concerned and want to respond.

Members supported A Call to Action: Offering an Alternative to the Nuclear Weapons Build-up which calls for a campaign against nuclear weapons. While a long-term vision and goals will be developed, the near-term goal is to stop the so-called Reliable Replacement Warhead program the objective of which is to consolidate bomb-making operations into a single "Consolidated Plutonium Center" with the capacity to develop 125 new weapons per year. This program would restore the US nuclear arsenal to its Cold War capability by 2030, the Department of Energy's "Complex 2030" proposal. Public hearings are now taking place around the country, with the final hearing being held in Washington, DC on December 14. Religious leaders are encouraged to attend and oppose the program. For further information visit www.ananuclear.org and www.faithfulsecurity.org.

From the
**Center for the Study of
 Religious Life**

**April Interdisciplinary Leadership
 Forum**

The third Interdisciplinary Leadership Forum on “The Individual and the Common Good” will be held April 15-17, 2007 at El Retiro Jesuit Retreat House in Los Altos, California, <http://www.elretiro.org/>.

This forum provides a vehicle to share insights with other congregational leaders as well as with religious who are experts in the fields of psychology, theology, canon law, and the social sciences on situations found in religious institutes today where there is a tension between the good of the individual and the good of the group.

In addition to current leaders, the forum would also serve as an opportunity for those in discernment for congregational leadership. The case topics for the forum are:

- The middle-aged religious who has difficulty finding the right ministry
- The new Asian member of the community who is the oldest child and only son in his family
- The professed religious who wishes to use her patrimony to fund a new project.

The panel members for the April forum include

- Joanne Doi, MM, interdisciplinary studies, theology
- Anthony Gittins, CSSp, social anthropology, mission theology
- Doris Gottemoeller, RSM, theology, health care
- Lynn Jarrell, OSU, canon law
- Mary Ellen Moore, SH, psychology

Based on feedback from the leaders who attended the last two forums, the time has been reduced by half a day. The forum will begin at 5 p.m. Sunday, April 15 and end at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, April 17.

The registration form reflecting the new dates is available at <http://www.religious-life.org/programs>. For additional information, contact Virginia Piccuch at vpiccuch@religious-life.org or 773-752-2720.

Upcoming LCWR Dates

LCWR Leading from Within Retreat

*Franciscan Center
 Tampa, Florida
 January 14 — 19, 2007*

LCWR Think Tank

*Villa Maria del Mar
 Santa Cruz, California
 February 26 — March 1, 2007*

LCWR New Leader Workshop

*The Retreat Center at St. John's
 Plymouth, Michigan
 March 15 — 18, 2007*

LCWR Assembly

*Kansas City, Missouri
 August 1 — 5, 2007*

LCWR Leading from Within Retreat

*Redemptorist Renewal Center
 Tucson, Arizona
 January 20 — 25, 2008*

LCWR-CMSM Joint Assembly

*Denver, Colorado
 August 1 — 4, 2008*

LCWR Assembly

*New Orleans, Louisiana
 August 11 — 15, 2009*



Update is an official publication of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious published monthly and distributed to members nationally.

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From the LCWR Executive Director

The Waiting Season

I am writing this column on the morning after Thanksgiving. It is only 7:00 o'clock, but since the wee hours, thousands of caffeine-fueled shoppers have been doing battle at the local malls. It's "Black Friday" – the day when retailers learn whether they will end the fiscal year in the red or the black. Tonight on the evening news we will undoubtedly see clips of shoppers storming the doors of Walmarts and Targets, running like linebackers down the aisles to snatch Dora-the-Explorer and Play Station 3 off the shelves. Some horrified child may even see her own mom on TV tonight fighting with someone else's mom over a Tickle-Me-Elmo. Poor kids. Poor Elmo. Shopping on Black Friday has become the contact sport of choice for millions of Americans who just the day before were flopped out on sofas throughout the land in turkey-induced comas.



Carole Shinnick, SSND

it has helped when the time leading up the Christmas has been close to a true month and my fourth advent candle shows that it has done its share of burning. This has less to do with finishing my Christmas cards and mailing off my gifts, and more to do with having a bit more time to soak in, once again, the ancient Advent message. I need all four weeks of Advent with those sturdy promises of peace and abundant care. When reports of horrific killings in Iraq, and random violence in our schools

stream over the airwaves, I need to hear about the lion and the lamb. I need to hear about children unharmed while playing with cobras. When I see pictures of the devastating genocide in Darfur, I need to hear again about the holy mountain where all will be well-fed. I need to hear about bloody swords becoming earth-caked plows. When I struggle with disappointment in my government, my church, and the very lifestyle which I live – when I question where in the world things are headed, I need to hear again, "Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those of fearful heart, "Be strong. Fear not. Your God has come to save you."

Maybe you find these December days challenging, too. Maybe you find yourself choking up unexpectedly while hearing a Christmas carol or watching the news. Maybe you find yourself feeling particularly troubled to hear that a bomb has gone off in – of all places – Beth-

Welcome to the opening of the Christmas season - which actually seems to have begun much earlier this

*I need
all four weeks of Advent
with those sturdy promises of
peace and abundant care.*

year. I am pretty sure I heard "Silver Bells" playing in October while Halloween costumes and treats were still on the shelves. By the time Christmas arrives I will be a bit sick of Jack Frost nipping at my nose. "Back off, Jack, if you know what's good for you! Tell Rudolph I've had it with him, too!"

This year the Fourth Sunday of Advent is also Christmas Eve. (Fortunately this doesn't happen again until 2017. I checked.) So, at the morning liturgy on December 24th we will sing, "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" and a few hours later we will sing "O Come All Ye Faithful." That's a quick shift from expectation to jubilation, isn't it?

I have never managed the pre-Christmas weeks very well. For me it is a time of rollercoaster emotions, over-the-top expectations, and impossible ambivalence. But

*We hear once again that those
who wait in hope for the coming of our
God will not be disappointed.
And that's a promise you can count on.*

lehem. Maybe you struggle at living an alternative lifestyle in a consumer economy.

If so, the good news is that even in a shortened Advent there is in fact - Good News. We hear once again that those who wait in hope for the coming of our God will not be disappointed. And that's a promise you can count on.

NRVC Seeks an Associate Director

The National Religious Vocation Conference (NRVC) is seeking an associate director. Responsibilities include coordinating and supervising the planning, implementation, and follow-up of workshops, programs, and the biennial convention; overseeing the production of NRVC resources; assisting the executive director in other administrative duties. Requirements include MA in administration and/or related field; organizational, planning, budgeting, computer and writing skills; interpersonal and collaborative skills; knowledge of contemporary Catholic church and consecrated life. Experience in vocation ministry is preferred. This position is an excellent opportunity to serve the church in vocation ministry on a national level.

Applicants may send a letter of interest, résumé and references to Paul Bednarczyk, CSC, NRVC, 5420 S. Cornell Ave. #105, Chicago, IL 60615.



Horizon Now Accepting Ads

The newly redesigned NRVC journal, *Horizon*, is accepting ads. The publication offers advertisers the opportunity to communicate effectively with a niche readership of vocation ministers and church leaders. Anyone who is aware of potential advertisers may direct them to the NRVC office at (773) 363-5454 or nrvc@nrvc.net. A media packet, which includes ad rates, will be mailed immediately.

NRVC Offers New Workshop

Sexual Issues of Women: Implications for New Membership

Lynn Levo, CSJ, PhD

February 26-27, 2007

Oblate Renewal Center — San Antonio, Texas

Set within the context of being human and sexual, this workshop will explore issues frequently encountered by vocation and formation personnel in the women who are discerning a celibate commitment in community.

This workshop will center discussion on the many topics related to sexual issues addressed in assessment of candidates. These will include: understanding relationships; healthy sexual expression; boundaries; issues related to physical, emotional, or sexual abuse; sexual history; sexual orientations; relating to and sharing with formators and community members; as well as community living considerations for new members and current members. Other topics of interest to participants will be addressed as time permits.

This workshop will benefit all religious vocation, formation, and leadership members, as well diocesan personnel and any others entrusted with the assessment of female candidates to religious life.

Register on-line at www.nrvc.net or call the NRVC office at 773-363-5454.

NRVC Convocation Audio Tapes and DVDs

All of the proceedings of the recent 2006 NRVC convocation will be published in the winter edition of *Horizon*, coming out in January.

Audio tapes and DVDs are available at www.verandadatapes.com or by calling Veranda at 502-894-9780 or 800-493-8273.

Materials from NATRI Conference Available

Copies of the handouts and slides from presenters at the National Association for Treasurers of Religious Institutes 2006 conference are posted at the NATRI website: www.natri.org. Click on "Programs" and select "Materials" (Last Conference).

The following may be particularly helpful to leadership:

Deborah Cerullo, SSND, JD, JCL addressed ethical issues in tax-exempt organizations in **Workshops 2 and 8**. Section VI of Workshop 8 provides 10 arguments favoring application for benefits (SSI, Medicaid, public housing). Section VII provides eight arguments against accessing benefits. These may inform the debate.

Seminar B, Is Bigger Better?: Christine Rody, SC and Mary Kelly, RSM have both been involved in the reconfiguration of religious institutes. They provided guidance on hoped-for benefits, internal roles of leadership and external roles with the church and civic community. They also shared some of their learnings in the area of streamlining administration and sharing resources.

Seminar E, Introduction to Government Programs: Constance Neeson, a well-known specialist in government programs for religious, provided an overview of various programs and an update of the Medicare and Medicare Part D changes for 2007. These include premiums, deductibles, in-kind support, and maintenance levels.

Tapes/CDs of the presentations may also be purchased. An order form can be found on the NATRI website.

LRCR 2007 Annual Legal Seminar

Flowing Waters:

Channeling Energy Through Turbulent Waters

Adams Mark Hotel — St. Louis, Missouri

March 8-11, 2007

Highlights of the 2007 Legal Seminar:

Two Pre-Assembly Workshops

Civil & Canon Law 101: Concepts & Procedures

Civil & Canon Law 301: Procedures for Administration

Keynote Addresses:

"Immigration: The State of the Issue"

Donald Kerwin, JD

Executive Director, Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc.

"Strategies for Passing on the Charism"

Melanie Morey, Ed.D. & John Piderit, SJ, PhD

14 Breakout Sessions on Emerging Topics

Subscriber Registration Fee	\$450
Each Workshop Fee	\$225
Adams Mark Hotel	\$100
	plus tax/Guest Room

The Legal Seminar registration brochure is available on the LRCR website (www.lrcr.org). Updates will appear as planning continues.