



The Lubbock SERRAN

Volume 6 Issue 4

April 2003

Annual Serra International Foundation Drive Underway

Lubbock Serrans should have received a memo from David Buescher by now announcing the 2003 annual Serra International Foundation drive. The Lubbock Club has a long-standing record of supporting this most worthwhile endeavor.

In fact, we have received several "Banner Club" (\$1,000 to \$1,999) citations over the past years and in 2002 achieved the designation of "Mission Club", (\$2,000 to \$2,999).

The Serra International Foundation is the principle way that we support Serra and outside efforts toward vocations. In the 2001-2002 fiscal year, SI awarded grants totaling \$291,256.

As anyone who has been following Wall

Street will be aware, the past year has seen additional falls in the value of most stocks. The bad news is that the Foundation's investments suffered a further decline in value of 9.5%. That negative impact would have been even greater had it not been for careful management of the invested corpus and a further 12.4% reduction in operating expenses.

Serra's vocations work often requires financial support from the Foundation. Therefore, it is essential that the Foundation maintains its long-term growth even in times of economic downturn. Your support of the Foundation will make many good works possible.

Let's do our part again!

President's Message

Spring is here and trees are starting to bud. We are already through Lent. Hopefully everyone will have their taxes done by the time they read this article.

It seems as though the first quarter of the year passed very quickly.

Larry Craig came back from a Regional Serra training meeting earlier this year with a suggestion for the officers. The National Serra organization seemed to feel that clubs would be better served if the officers would serve two year terms.

The Nominating Committee took his suggestions to heart and approached the present officers about serving an additional term. The slate that will be presented in April will be similar to present officers. With a little experience, hopefully we can continue to grow.

Thanks to all who agreed to serve.

Elmus and his committee have been doing an excellent job with the programs. They have been informative and interesting. Keep up the good work.

I know that I received a letter from David Buescher soliciting support for the Serra Foundation. The club has always done a good job of supporting the Foundation. No doubt we will be again.

As we pray for vocations please add an extra prayer for all our men and women in uniform as we go through this turbulent time. God Bless



Brian Beauchamp

The Call To Holiness

By Fr. Tim Judd

Jesus calls us to holiness.

On the day of their ordination to the holy priesthood, Cardinal Samuel Stritch, of the Archdiocese of Chicago, told six young men, that he had just ordained as priests, in a low tone of voice: "Be holy priests."

The call that Blessed Father Junipero Serra, O.F.M. received was truly lived out in a most marvelous way. We are all blessed by his work and prayers.

Our Holy Father Pope John Paul II has reminded us of our own personal

call to holiness. He is really aware of the present evil in the world. He calls this evil: "The Culture of Death."

Our personal call to holiness comes at the reception of baptism. The graces added to this call come from the other sacraments especially the Most Holy Eucharist. When we receive these sacraments we receive sanctifying graces because they make us holy. These Graces are a result of the beautiful signs of God's love for each one of us.

Now is the time for the call to holiness!!!

Spring Leadership Planning Conference Set

Serrans who will have leadership roles in District 44 have been invited to attend the Spring Leadership Planning Conference (SLPC) scheduled for Saturday, May 24, 2003 at the Cotton Patch Café in Plainview.

This year's SLPC will be lead by Larry Craig, District Governor; David Dzik, Past District Governor from Amarillo and Jake Richards, current Amarillo club president and rumored to be Governor-elect.

The conference runs from 9:15 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. and is designed to equip officers

with the tools to effectively manage their clubs. Topics include discussions on committee process, team building, leadership principles and characteristics. Workshops will be held to share experiences and ideas. Planning sessions will be held, by club, to map out the coming year's programs and activities.

All Serrans are invited to attend the SLPC, even if they are not a current office holder. For further details contact Larry Craig, 863-2570.

Officer elections set for Friday, April 25 meeting

Officer elections are scheduled for our Friday evening meeting to be held on April 25. The nominating committee has worked hard to fill out a slate of club leaders to serve during 2003-2004.

The committee is made up of Elmus Beale, Brian Beauchamp, Larry Craig, Bob Goyette and Elroy Simnacher.

Nominations will be taken from the floor.

President
President-Elect
Programs VP
Membership VP
Vocations VP
Communications VP
Secretary
Treasurer
Trustee (1 year)
Trustee (2 year)
Trustee (3 year)

Brian Beauchamp
Gary McDonald
Elmus Beale
Elroy Simnacher
Jim McNally
Bob Goyette
Al Arreola
Tony Buxkemper
Don Wanjura
Scott Piercy
Floyd Boone

Foundation Representative **David Buescher**

District 44 Governor **Larry Craig**

Chaplain **Fr. Bill Anton**
Assistant Chaplain **Fr. Tim Judd**

Two Priests to be ordained

Rene Perez and Omar Quezada will be ordained to the priesthood on Saturday, May 31. The Sacrament of Ordination will take place at Christ the King Cathedral beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Lubbock Serra Club members have a long history of serving as ushers for this celebration. Please put this date on your calendar and make plans to attend.

Our diocese has been blessed to have so many men enter the priesthood over the past several years. God is truly at work and is answering our prayers.

Thirty-one Club

James McNally and his Vocations Committee are busy reorganizing the Thirty-one Club. The Thirty-one Club is an effort to have at least one Serran from our club to pray for vocations at a Mass each day of the month. For the Club to work all you have to do is sign-up to pray on a date during the month. If you have not signed up, see James at our next meeting.

Prayer List

Paul Meyer, Jr.
 John Gaschen
 Bob Paikowski
 Dan Prewitt
 Millie Callow
 Joe Botik
 Seminarians
 Vocations


**white-collar
 workers needed.**

Serra for Priestly and Religious Vocations

The Lubbock Serran is published quarterly by the Serra Club of Lubbock Communications Committee. Gary McDonald-Vice President-Communications, 1310 Avenue Q, Lubbock, TX 79401, (806) 744-2220, Elmus Beale, Larry Craig.

Mike Custy

by *Elmus Beale*

Mike Custy has been with the club for several months but was officially inducted at the January dinner meeting this year. Mike was born in Denver on October 28, 1947. He is the oldest of 10 kids—6 boys and 4 girls. Mike's father and six of his siblings still live in Denver. His mother died in 1998. Mike describes his family as very close. "It was great fun to live in a large family". There was no privacy but nobody noticed.

Mike went to Immaculate Conception School in Denver from grades 1-6. But the family got too big so Mike finished his schooling in the Denver public schools. Mike's dream was to go to college and play baseball, but that did not happen. So to avoid the draft Mike joined the Air Force immediately after graduation from high school in 1966, and spent the next 21 years of his life in the military.

Mike was stationed 4-1/2 years in Thailand where he met his wife "Ping". Ping (her given name is Ngarnpis) was working as a civilian employee at the Air Force base in Ubon, Thailand. Mike and Ping were married and later stationed for 3 years in the Philippines and 1-1/2 years in Okinawa. Mike tried to obtain assignments in Europe, but they never materialized. His final assignment was at Reese AFB from 1977 until his retirement in 1987. Mike and Ping came to Lubbock with low expectations. He retired from the Air Force as a First Sergeant in 1987—after 21 years in the service, and 10 of those years in Lubbock. The low expectations were elevated to "home" by retirement time.

While in the military, Mike received a solid education. It was both OJT ("on the job training") as well as formal. He received a BS in business from Wayland Baptist University, and an MS in Human Resource Management from Houston Baptist University. Mike quipped, "I think it important that a good Catholic boy lets the Baptists give him an education."

Mike then put his education to good use. He taught business and management, part-time, at South Plains College. Immediately after retirement he went to work for the Texas Rehabilitation Commission where he worked with people with various disabilities to help them find jobs. Most of

his clients were people with mental retardation or head injuries. He provided vocational rehabilitation and aided individuals suffering from alcohol and drug abuse.

Mike then switched to another State Agency, the Texas Commission for the Blind where he currently works as the Regional Business Manager for two regions—Lubbock and El Paso. Mike is responsible for around 40 Case Services Budgets and various other agency budgets and contracts. He spends much of his time in front of a computer using Excel and other programs. Since he is responsible for the El Paso Region, he spends about one week a month in El Paso.

Mike and Ping have four girls, ages 13 – 32. The youngest, Elizabeth, is a 7th grade student at Christ the King School. She wants to be a lawyer or a forensic scientist so that she can catch criminals. Some of us have seen Elizabeth as a server and incense bearer at the 9:15 AM Mass at Christ the King where Mike and Ping are members. Actually, Ping was raised as a Buddhist and has never converted. Nonetheless, Ping has attended Church with Mike and the girls for years, and she has volunteered many hours in the school. Mike and Ping's oldest daughter, Beau, lives in Maine, and daughters two and three (Sara and Heather) live in Lubbock. Sara has a son, Brian, and Heather has two sons, Mikey and Parker. Mike expects to spend time this summer watching Mikey and Parker play soccer.

Mike enjoys listening to music and yard work. Though his travels prevent him from enjoying golf as much as he would like, he does have an 8-9 handicap and loves to play.

Mike joined Serra because "we need to do what we need to do" in order to encourage vocations. We need to do more than just go to church, says Mike. Mike recalled that there used to be so many Catholic High Schools in Denver that they had their own athletic conference. He attributes their demise, in part, to the loss of the sisters. These days, families no longer hope that one of their children will become a priest or a sister. Mike feels that Serra is important in reversing the trend, and he expressed a willingness to get involved in the leadership after a year or so in the club. We are blessed to have him.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Apr. 25** Dinner Meeting CRC
6:30 P.M.
- May 2** First Friday Rosary
and Mass-CTK 6:35 A.M.
Donuts and Coffee follows.
- May 6** Board Meeting, Place TBA
7:00 p.m.
- May 8** Lunch Meeting
McInturff Center, 12 Noon
- May. 24** Leadership Planning Conf.
Plainview
9:15 - 2:30 P.M.
- May 30** Dinner Meeting CRC
6:30 P.M.
- May 31** Priest Ordination
Christ the King Cathedral
10:00 A.M.
- June 6** First Friday Rosary
and Mass-CTK 6:35 A.M.
Donuts and Coffee follows.
- June 10** Board Meeting, Place TBA
7:00 p.m.
- June 12** Lunch Meeting
McInturff Center, 12 Noon
- June 27** Dinner Meeting CRC
6:30 P.M.
- July 4** First Friday Rosary
and Mass-CTK 6:35 A.M.
Donuts and Coffee follows.
- July 8** Board Meeting, Place TBA
7:00 p.m.
- July 10** Lunch Meeting
McInturff Center, 12 Noon
- July 25** Dinner Meeting CRC
6:30 P.M.



Program Calendar		
Meeting	Speaker	Topic
April Dinner 4/25/2003	Sr. Claire Olivier	Current Events at Covenant
May Luncheon 5/8/2003	TBA	
May Dinner 5/30/03 (unconfirmed)		Installation of Officers
June Luncheon 6/12/03	TBA	
June Dinner 6/27/03	Motherhouse	Visit Motherhouse and socialize with the Sisters. Spouses are invited
July Luncheon 7/10/03	TBA	
July Dinner 7/25/03	Unconfirmed	College Youth Ministry

Are we green and growing or are we ripe and rotting?

by Gary McDonald

It must be spring!

The trees that have stood like skeletons stretching upward to the sky are now beginning to put on their green coats. My yard that has demanded little attention the past few months now beckons for me to give it a mowing every couple of weeks. A pear tree that produced literally buckets of fruit last September has shed it's March blossoms and begun growing the fruit of this year's harvest. Yes, another winter has past and we are in the middle of spring; a time when the earth is full of sites that are green and growing.

What has all this talk of springtime have to do with the Lubbock Serra Club? It reminds me of what I see happening within our club. On April 25 we will elect new officers to lead us in 2003-2004. Saturday, May 24 these newly elected officers will travel to Plainview to begin laying plans for the coming year. Larry Craig, District 44 Governor will be leading the training. He

does a great job of organizing and directing the day's activities.

Springtime also reminds me of the need for our club to grow in membership.

Elroy Sinnacher, membership chairman, and Bob Goyette have put together a great packet to hand to potential member. When you bring a guest to a meeting make sure the guest receives one of these packets. The packet contains specific information about Serra International and the Lubbock Serra Club. Have your guest look over the material and then follow up with a call or a visit to see if they have any questions. And don't forget to ask them to become a part of this great organization that has such an important mission - AN INCREASE IN VOCATIONS.

We had five guests during the past month at our meetings. This is very encouraging. Be sure to follow up with these people so they can become part of our green and growing organization!

Serra

NOW

More Than Ever!