



Delegation to NECS 2007 from the Bahamas
 Photo by Carlos Delgado.

The National Episcopal Cursillo Committee (NECC) gathered on Tuesday, October 23, at the DoubleTree World Arena Hotel in Colorado Springs for its final quarterly meeting in 2007. That evening we discussed the book we had read in preparation for the quarterly meeting, which was *Grace in Practice: A Theology of Everyday Life*, by the Rev. Paul F. M. Zahl, and we shared and prayed with each other about how things had been going and especially about having lost our sister Susan Paisley earlier in the month. The next day we began with Eucharist, had our opening plenary session, had subcommittee meetings and our district meetings, went out to dinner at Chili's with other members of the community, and wrapped up the day with our closing plenary session, so that we were free the next morning for Thursday's activities. Two of us attended the Episcopal Cursillo Leaders Workshop (ECLW), which began Thursday, while the rest of us began Thursday with morning prayer and then helped set up for the Seminar.

Here's some of the work we did on Wednesday.

- A. The Cursillo Leaders Development (CLD) Subcommittee continued looking at how "Back to the Mountain" programs are being done around the country and in what ways the NECC can help. Instead of creating a separate booklet in the NEC Library, CLD envisioned offering an outline that diocesan movements could use to tailor the program to their needs. CLD also considered revising the ECLW Host Manual, so as to create a general Host Manual with appendices specifically addressing events such as ECLWs and Back to the Mountain programs. CLD also spent time studying the responses to its survey of Spiritual Advisors for each Secretariat. CLD preliminarily found a need for clergy education about the purpose of Cursillo and about how Cursillo can benefit individual parishes.
- B. The Publications Subcommittee spent much of its time editing the booklet in the NEC Library entitled *The Health and Well-Being of the Movement*, for NECC approval by e-mail after the October meeting. PubSub also reviewed the format of *The 4th Day Magazine* and the assignment of authors to revise some other NEC Library booklets.
- C. The Seminar Subcommittee continued its work involving transition of its duties to the new Seminar Servant Community, which would come into existence at the Seminar in a couple of days. The Seminar Subcommittee also wrapped up details on NECS 2007 in Colorado Springs and considered the need for a critical look at future seminars and the need for communicating to local Cursillistas the benefits of gathering at a Seminar.



Past President Neukam presents badges to outgoing NECC Members at Saturday General Council
 Photo by Carlos Delgado.

We took the following action at our closing plenary session Wednesday evening.

1. The NECC expressed to the Rt. Rev. Vincent W. Warner, Jr., its warmest greetings and best wishes for his continued recovery, as well as our continued thanks for his willingness to serve as Keynote Speaker for the 2007 Seminar, which he would have done but for health problems that made his coming to Colorado Springs impossible. The NECC also confirmed Susan Farren as Keynote Speaker for the 2007 Seminar, expressing our appreciation for her making herself available on short notice.
2. The NECC authorized Sue Davis to negotiate a resolution to the current dispute with Burroughs Company, which is the landlord for the NEC's office in Conway, South Carolina, with the provision that she is to report to Ted Ederer and Gary Rose.

3. The NECC approved revisions to the proposed NEC budget that it had approved in July, including CLD's motion to contract with ACS Technologies to serve the NEC website, so that the budget with those revisions could be presented to General Council during the second business meeting during the Seminar, which followed on Saturday.

This action from the plenary session on Wednesday reflects only the work done that called for a vote of approval. Plenty of work had also been done in preparation by e-mail and otherwise for the October meeting, so as to make the best use of the time we had together.

The Seminar itself was a joy in so many ways. Those who participated in the ECLW that began Thursday generally raved about how great an experience it was. Sharon Neukam sang beautifully in honor of Susan Paisley at Compline on Thursday evening. The educational sessions were all enthusiastically received, and many rejoiced in Susan Farren's Keynote Address, which had us laughing and singing the night away, and in the sermons given at the three Eucharists by the Rt. Rev. Robert O'Neill, the Bishop of Colorado, by the Rt. Rev. Alan Scarfe, the Bishop of Iowa and the NECC's Liaison to the House of Bishops, and by the Rev. Don Seils of Parker, Colorado, a leader in the host community. Ted Ederer and the rest of the NEC leadership team for 2008 were commissioned Saturday morning during the second business meeting, to loud acclaim. Energetic members of the Episcopal Cursillo Movement in the Diocese of Central Florida presented a memorable invitation to the NEC Seminar at Daytona Beach in 2008, passing out prizes for those who got particular beach balls that were being thrown about. Talk about a mountaintop experience!



These NewsNotes are brought to you by the NECC, which takes this opportunity to remind you:

- [a] that an Episcopal Cursillo Leaders Workshop (ECLW) is an excellent way to strengthen your movement, and that you can watch the website (www.episcopalcursillo.org) and *The 4th Day Magazine* for schedules or you can send requests for information to moorenjnc@yahoo.com;**
- [b] that a subscription to *The 4th Day Magazine* is a wonderful way for sponsors to give to their candidates added help in living the fourth day; and**
- [c] that contributions to Friends of Cursillo provide for the mission and work of the NEC, and that those contributions can be made as often as you like, either as occasional gifts or as annual pledges or just about any other way you'd like.**

Invitation to NECS 2008 by
Diocese of Central Florida.
Photo by Carlos Delgado.

Ultreya!