



## **We would like to "Thank" two Cursillistas**

Marie Trombley for her six years of devotion and service as Lay Director, and Joe Thouin for assuming the Lay Director's position.

Joe Thouin  
Lay Director

### **Know your new Lay Director?**

When I talk about my past I am keeping the memory of institutions alive that once were. I was born in 1952 in the old Cohoes Hospital, not the one that now houses the Eddy, but the *old Cohoes Hospital*, which is now the parking lot for the Price Chopper in Cohoes. My father died when I was two years old so my Mom was a single head of household before her time. She and my French speaking grandparents raised me. So by the time I entered kindergarten I was bilingual (in other words I neither knew French nor English very well).

I attended St. Joseph's School a block from my house, which is now a small park like setting in between two more parking lots. After attending Keveny Memorial Academy (another parking lot across from St. Bernard's Church) for my freshman and sophomore years of high school, I pleaded my case to my Mom to allow me to go to Cohoes High School (which still exists), where I could play football and not have a tuition payment. It was costing me \$11.00 per month out of my paper route, not leaving me much spending money. After much persistence my Mom gave me permission to go to CHS. I now spent (actually invested) the

\$11.00 per month tuition payment on my future bride. I played varsity football during my junior and senior years at CHS. I also wrecked my right knee and needed surgery, but I know it was worth it, because I'd do it all over again. The stories you tell about football injuries go on for a lifetime. It's fun what can I say? My football playing paid off when it came time to go to college. Although I never even practiced with the Siena College football team, my coach at CHS was also my guidance counselor, and he called Siena's coach and told him "I've got a kid here who gained 5.6 yards per carry, if he doesn't make the cut with his grades can you do something for him?"

Next thing I knew I was matriculating at Siena College. I still don't know how I got in! After dating my bride since high school, we got married during the summer between my junior and senior years at Siena. We dated 5 years and got married on August 18<sup>th</sup>, 1973 immediately after I returned home from ROTC summer camp. My wife worked at the Watervliet Arsenal during my senior year at Siena. Upon graduation I was assigned to the Army Air Defense School in El Paso, TX. Sharon got a job on base at Fort Bliss. Two weeks after we arrived I found myself in William Beaumont Army Medical Center awaiting major surgery. I was in the

Continued on Page -2-

## ***We Need Your Help!***

Can you easily help make your local Cursillo to operate more efficiently? You can...very easily if you have email.

As the costs of paper mail keeps Increasing, the cost of electronic mail has not.

**For every 100 newsletters we email we will save \$52.** This includes Postage and printing.

I realize we cannot email all the newsletters, however, the more we can the quicker the delivery, and you help cut operational cost here in Albany.

If you wish to receive electronic newsletters please email me, Kit Lawrence at [mclaw@nycap.rr.com](mailto:mclaw@nycap.rr.com)

De Colores,  
Kit Lawrence

**Sr. Betsy Van Deusen, CSJ**  
**Spiritual Director**

Legend has it that the Ground Hog comes out of his hibernation on February 2 and if he sees his shadow, then we get six more weeks of winter and if he does not see his shadow, we get spring. I have lived in the Northeast most of my life and the best I can figure,

Continued on next page

Continue From Page -1-

hospital from January through March, and my young 21 year old bride would have been all alone, away from home, further than she had ever been in her life, except for two friends from our home town, who were also assigned to El Paso, TX. What a blessing that was. After a year in Texas, we were assigned to Giessen, Germany for three years, where Sharon worked at a school for Army dependents, and I worked 24 hour days every other day for the next three years. On the "off days" I just worked 12 hours.

Melissa M. Thouin was born in Frankfurt Army General Hospital February 24<sup>th</sup> 1977. Sharon wasn't home alone anymore. We were then assigned to Fort Knox, KY. Megan Marie Thouin was born in Ireland Army Hospital on Fort Knox, August 27<sup>th</sup> 1979. Sharon and Missy now had company. I resigned my commission in 1980 and accepted a position with Procter & Gamble starting in Allentown, PA part of the Philadelphia Folgers Coffee District. Joseph Albert Thouin was born in Allentown Osteopathic Hospital on August 31<sup>st</sup> 1982. Missy and Megan now had a baby brother. After three years of being so close to home, and yet being so far, with three children, I knew Sharon would be happier closer to our families. One day I asked her, "Honey, do you want to move home?" She cried and said "Don't tease me". I said I wasn't teasing and I would ask for a transfer or find a new job. I contacted my boss and asked him if I could get a transfer to Albany or if I should start sending out resumes. Very shortly we were informed that a job awaited us in Albany, but we'd

Sr. Betsy—Continued From Page -1-

either way; we get spring in late March or early April! The Gregorian calendar tells us that March 20 is the beginning of spring. As Christians however, we have the invitation to spring beginning on Ash Wednesday and continuing until the Triduum.

Our liturgical season of Lent is forty days of "spring." As Christians we are invited to alms giving, fasting and prayer. We are encouraged to be mindful of our life journey, in a sense; we are invited to "spring cleaning." As we approach the season of spring we wash curtains and clean corners and sort closets. We rake the lawn, we pick up trash and we get ready to plant flowers. I invite us to spend this Lenten Season doing our "spiritual spring cleaning."

What do I need to wash? What is hiding in the corner that I need to take a look at? What needs to come to light in my spiritual closet? What relationship(s) do I need to attend to that I have left unattended? In short, what in my spiritual life do I need to give attention to? Perhaps in my "spring cleaning" I will recommit to Group Reunion and Ultreya. Perhaps I will recognize that this journey of Christian faith is not a "Me and Jesus" journey but one on which I desperately need companions.

The Church gives us great readings during Lent to look at these things and I invite and challenge myself and each of us to do that "Spring Cleaning" in preparation for Easter and the gift and grace of this journey



Continued from Joe Thouin

have to move ourselves. Here we are, 23 years later, having worked for Procter & Gamble the whole time. As I look back, I see how the plan unfolded, that's why I have faith in the future. He's always been there for us, He is with us now, and through the eyes of faith I believe He will be with us always.

Please keep us in your prayers as we will keep you in ours.

God Bless,  
Joe

### *Stations of the Cross and Soup Supper*

*Join us for worship and fellowship. The Stations of the Cross and Soup Supper will be held on Friday evening, March 30th, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.*

*Join us at St. Alphonsus' 4 Crandall St, Glens Falls, NY 12801. (518) 792-1574*

*If you would like to donate a meatless soup check with your Ultreya Rep.*

## Carl Rosenthal Web Master

I pray this finds that you are not experiencing cabin fever at this time and you are renewing your Spiritual life during this Lenten time of prayer and reflection. This is a time of renewal and also a challenge to grow closer to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



Since I last wrote my daughter graced me with my third grandson and I now for the past two months have had the privilege of watching him five days a week along with my four year old grandson twice a week when he's not in day care/school. As you can see my retired life just got a lot busier with less time for doing what I want. But the lessons we learn just from an innocent child are what Jesus tells us in the Gospel to be like a child. They don't have the every day temptations that we do and there is a lot to learn from a child.

What has all this to do with Lent you're saying to yourself? Well this leads me to share about the temptations of Jesus after He came from finishing His forty days in the desert and how he was tempted by the devil. In my reading from the Living Faith, I would like to share from a portion of the meditation for the first Sunday in Lent by Sr. Joyce Rupp. I quote: "I can't imagine any of us liking our own deserts, the parts of our life we want to get rid of as fast as we can: disagreeable relationships, troubling questions about religious beliefs, challenges to our ego and anything else that snatches us away from the contented life. We tend to think our deserts are bad places, but could it be that the Spirit leads us there to

help us know ourselves better? Could it be that our deserts are the very place to strengthen our faith and to gain assurance that we can, as Jesus did, always choose for good in the face of temptation and conflict?" How true are those words in all of our lives. If we could all just be like a little child, then we wouldn't have the problems, as adult, of being bombarded with all those temptations in our daily lives.

I again encourage you to check out our web site often for new information and updated Calendar of Events so you can keep up with what's going on in Cursillo. Also put The Albany Diocesan Cursillo Web Page on your favorites list so you can access us faster. You can find us at: [www.cursillo.org/albany](http://www.cursillo.org/albany) . This is your Web Page so send me comments or suggestions for our site. You can e-mail me at [albancursilloweb@yahoo.com](mailto:albancursilloweb@yahoo.com) .

De Colores  
Carl Rosenthal

## Kurt Lawrence Pre-Cursillo

Environments... As a leader within the Movement, but also a Cursillista, now is the time... the time to search our environments and extend that invitation to those around you. If this Movement in the Albany Diocese is to continue, then it is up to all Cursillistas to make this happen. "Make a friend, be a friend, bring your friend to Christ" this quote is so true. Jesus did not call the rich, or famous, he called you and me to be His earthly hand...bring a friend to Christ! - (next column)



Shirley Neet is in the team building stages for the women's weekend once 15 applications have been received a weekend date will be determined. This also holds true for the men's weekend. Once the required applications have been received Mike Getman and the men will be given a date too.

Cursillo is not about fill the weekends, it is about the Fourth Day. The weekend comes and goes, yes this is a special time, but it comes and it goes... The Fourth day is the rest of your life, or your candidate's life.

To follow the Cursillo Way is not part time, it all the time. Jesus did not call us to be part-time Christians, Cursillo too, requires us to challenge ourselves everyday. We must follow the tripod to keep on track. We can make a difference in all our Environments if we try, if we let Jesus work within us.

Remember when you became involved in Cursillo, the fire, the need, the love...Pass it On!

De Colores  
Kurt Lawrence

## Kit Lawrence Post-Cursillo

Please review the back page for the upcoming calendar of events.

We are really excited about the scheduled Community Building events.... Please join us—we would like to see you!

**Do you have something to share?** The Little Light would love to hear from you. Your reflection on your journey, a funny little story. Let your heart talk to you community, and share with us your life

**Let us Pray:**

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of your love.



Send forth Your Spirit, and they shall be created, And You shall renew the face of the earth.

O God, Who by the light of the Holy Spirit, instruct the hearts of Your faithful, grant that by that same Holy Spirit, we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolation, through Christ our Lord. ...Amen.

**Directions to St. Alphonsus'**

**4 Crandall Street—Glens Falls—NY—12801  
Daytime Phone—(518) 792-1574**

**From the Northway (I-87) -** Get off at Exit 18 (Queensbury), head east towards Glens Falls (Main St.) Go approx. 2 miles (the road will change to Broad St.) left onto Pine St., Left on Crandall, the Church is on the left.

**Ziti Dinner**

A Secretariat sponsored spaghetti dinner will be held on April 29, 2007, at St. Helen's. The dinner will be from 5-7 PM followed by a Diocesan Ultreya from 7-8:30 PM. The dinner will be prepared and served by members of the Albany Diocesan Secretariat to let Cursillistas know that we are servants for them. If you plan on attending please leave word at (518) 693-6867

**Elaine Granato  
School Leaders**

Welcome to the new "babe chicks" reading the Little Light for the first time. I hope your Fourth Day is bringing you ever closer to Jesus. As all of you attend your Ultreyas during the next few months you will be discussing the results of the survey the School of Leaders has been working on. One of the questions the School has been dealing with is: "who is, and what is the School of Leaders?"

Ideally we would have at least two representatives from each Ultreya on the School of Leaders. We have guidelines given to us by the National Secretariat, but we have no set structure so we can be responsive to local needs. Because of this we are constantly evolving. We pray that we will always be moving in the direction the Spirit leads us. Our purpose is to enable all members of Cursillo to stay true to the teachings of the Church and loyal to the Cursillo method. Each of us has something to teach and something to learn. One of the most important tenets of Cursillo is in order to stay connected with other Cursillistas we must be active in a small group and attend



Ultreya. It is impossible to follow the Cursillo method on our own. We need each other!

Let's remember to do Palanca for the movement and also to pray for each other. It's easy to get caught up in our daily lives and see Cursillo activities as just one more thing on our "to do" list. Take a minute now and remember how you felt on your weekend. I'll bet you're thinking more about the emotional high and not so much about the exhaustion. What did you promise on your commitment sheet? Do you remember your Rector/Rectora telling you that Jesus is counting on you? He still is. Renew your pledge to make your relationship with Him your most important priority.

De Colores

**Goods and Services Auction** is

coming! Some number of years ago we had our first Service Auction, (our new historian will be able to tell us how many years ago) but the original idea was to gather the Cursillo community for some food, community, sharing of our gifts, talents and treasure and fun! It seems, like so many things when we have some time elapse from the first one, we forget some of the stuff of it! What is it that you could share with the Cursillo community by way of time or talent or treasure that would help to raise funds toward our weekends? Place to be announced, date is Sept. 16, 2007.

Event Tickets for a game

Boat Ride on Lake George

Spring cleaning party

Time Share

Cookies sent to a college student or a soldier!

Goods and Service Auction Ideas. Build community, help raise needed funds!  
We Need Your Help!

A Show...

Dinner for "4"

Tax Preparation

Tailgate party for SPAC

Birthday Cake?

Event tickets to Show

Painting Party  
Gather your group reunion to paint a town

Wine tasting Party

Albany Cursillo Movement  
 16 Terrel Way  
 Gansevoort, NY 12831

NAME  
 ADDRESS

**IMPORTANT DATES ON BACK PAGE:  
 DON'T FORGET TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS...**

**Monthly Ultreya Locations & Contacts**

<b>2nd Friday</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Ravena, NY	Ellen Bradt	768-2757
Scotia-Glenville	Harrilyn Beehner	581-0742
Troy, NY	Chuck & Rosalie Adams	273-9017
<b>3rd Friday</b>		
Glens Falls, NY	Wil & Marie Trombley	793-3901
Ilion, New York	Lucille Kenny	315-894-8385
<b>Miscellaneous Ultreya Information</b>		
Northville	Freddie Hoffert	863-4780

**Look for a Men's Weekend to be scheduled this fall. It should be in early November 2007. There are new applications available. Just ask, or download from the website.**

There are new Cursillo manuals available with the updated talks. If you want one, they are \$20, please contact Sandy Haas to order. [sandyh56@yahoo.com](mailto:sandyh56@yahoo.com)

**Calendar of Events for 2007**

**March**

30th Soup Supper/Stat ion  
 St. Alphonsus, Glens Falls  
 Starting at 7pm

**April**

29th Pasta Dinner  
 St. Helen's, Niskayuna

29th Diocesan Ultreya  
 St. Helen's, Niskayuna

**September**

16th Goods & Service Auction

**November—Men's Weekend  
 Other Events to be Announced**

**Historian  
 Wanted...**



Secretariat is looking for that special person who would research and maintain the Albany Cursillo Movement Historical Records. If anyone is interested in the position please contact Joe Thouin ([thouin.ja@pg.com](mailto:thouin.ja@pg.com))