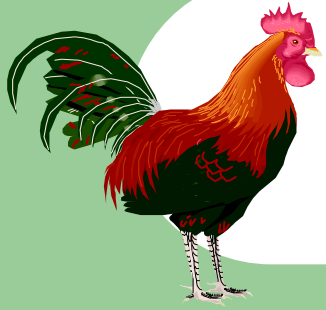


February 2009



## The Rooster Crows



### Re-evangelize and Re-group

By Steve Pacitti

The time has come for us to re-evangelize our Cursillo Community.

Reflecting on the number of men and women who have attended Cursillo Weekends in the Diocese of Knoxville, (estimated to be 900 people) you have to wonder – where are they all?

If we look around the diocese we would find anywhere between 12 and 24 active small group reunions. Take the higher number (24) and multiply that by five (average number in a small group) and the sum is 120 people. That would be just a little more than 10% of the community that is involved in active small groups.

Reflect on your weekend experience around your table with your small group. Remember how intimate, secure, and protected you felt sharing in that environment. You can see that your heart slowly opened to others in your group and your heart was therefore open to encounter your Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Now contrast that with some of the small group experiences that our new Cursillistas are subjected to when they come off a weekend. Many enter into a group where there is a lack of commitment. Members show up one week and then don't attend for another four

weeks. Or, members arrive late, leave early, or allow themselves to be distracted with cell phone calls. Often the format for grouping is disregarded as members will insist on sharing in a disorganized fashion. Many times this is the norm from week to week. Another problem is that groups are formed where there are too many members, preventing adequate sharing time for each person. Is this the kind of environment where intimacy is promoted? I think not. No wonder Cursillistas don't stay in small groups.

I believe the time has come to also re-group. My wife Toni and I recently went through the painful process of re-grouping. We asked for a commitment from potential members and insisted on defining the group according to the norms set by National Cursillo, setting boundaries, AND following the proven small group format. The effort proved to be well worth it as we are now both in very strong small groups that are intimate, challenging, and inspiring.

Let's challenge our brothers and sisters in our community to form committed small groups. Help them through the process. I think we will start to see our community reconnect and re-

energize.

This brings me to my final point – the upcoming men's and women's weekends in 2009. For the English community we are scheduling one men's and one women's weekend in the fall. The reason why we are scheduling only one of each is because of the level of community involvement. Weekends that were held in 2007 and 2008 were supported by 2 or 3 small group reunions and only a dozen or so other individuals. Having more committed small groups from which to draw will give us the support we need for more weekends.

We know from our Cursillo Weekend experience that the small group reunion is the life blood and foundation of all we are about – Make a friend, be a friend, and lead that friend to Christ. Therefore, let's re-engage the community, challenge one another to enter into committed small groups, support the weekends in the kitchen, Palanca Chapel, set-up crews, clean-up crews, and presenting teams, and to make a friend, be a friend, and lead that friend to Christ.

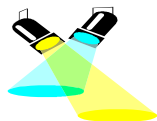
De Colores!

#### Re-evangelize



#### Re-group

# DE COLORES



Searching for a  
few good people  
who wish to  
serve.

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## 2009 Diocese of Knoxville Cursillo Calendar

SOL, FEBRUARY 7, ST. THOMAS, LENOIR CITY  
SEC MEETING, APRIL 18, OUR LADY OF FATIMA, ALCOA  
SOL, MAY 16, ST. THERESE, CLEVELAND  
SEC MT, JULY 11, ST. THOMAS, LENOIR CITY  
SOL, AUGUST 8, SACRED HEART, KNOXVILLE  
SEC MT, OCTOBER 2009, ST. JOHN NEUMANN, FARRAGUT  
SOL, NOVEMBER 21, ST. THERESE, CLEVELAND

## Secretariat Vacancies

There are two vacancies on the current Secretariat. We are looking for a Leader for the Spanish School of Leaders, and a Music Ministry Leader who will organize and coordinate the music for our weekends, closings, etc.. If you are interested in either position, please contact Jim Heath for more information. Details on these vacancies can be found on the Cursillo website also at <http://www.knoxvillecursillo.org> under vacancies. Also, anyone with computer skills is encouraged to step forward to edit the Rooster Crows, as my appointment was temporary.

