

The Rooster Crows



ARE YOU A LEADER?

By Lois Schering

ers talk on Saturday of the Cursillo weekend, “Leaders are those who, with their person and conduct, influence the thoughts and actions of others. They guide, orient and direct.” I am sure that those of you who are parents have influenced your children. Your spouse too, maybe. Some of you have probably influenced co-workers or friends. You have been an agent of change.

Now that you recognize that you are a leader, let’s look at what is a “Christian Leader.” A Christian Leader combines natural leadership with Christian virtue, enhanced with unselfish giving (of self), lives in Grace and uses their capabilities and possibilities to influence others in whatever circumstance they find themselves. As a Christian leader, we are called to respond to God’s directives by accepting our vocation in life. As stated in Pope Pius X, *The Firm Proposal*, “They must be mature Catholics, convinced of their faith, solidly versed in the ways of religion, sincerely devoted to the Church and to the

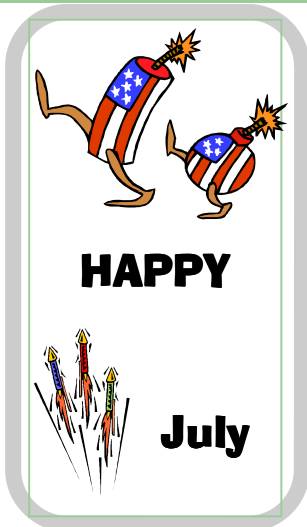
...Pope, persons of genuine piety, ...virtue, of clean habits, of a life so blameless that the qualities they (exhibit) may serve as an effective example to all.”

The Holy Spirit invited us to make the pilgrimage to Cursillo because He saw in us the potential of being good “Christian leaders.” A Christian leader does not run the company. God is already the CEO. A Christian leader is daily living the Ideal of piety, study and action. God tells us that we **MUST** (not may) take action in our environment. Paraphrasing my pastor, who in his recent homily eloquently said: “We are to evangelize the ones who live life to the fullest only for merriment without any thought to the future – **THIS IS THE GREATEST OF FOLLIES** – thinking that when they die, “that’s all folks!” If I live a good or bad life and there is no God – no gain, no loss; but if there is a God, the difference is in losing everything including my soul or gaining everything in God! We **MUST** con-

vince others, especially our family members and our friends, of this reckless approach to life – to do so, we are living the life of a selfless leader!

I have always said we are Christian Leaders “under construction.” We need to continually learn more about the Catholic faith and what we believe so that we can take action. Cursillo is just the beginning. Beyond Cursillo there is continuing education known properly as Leaders School. The English and Spanish Schools meet quarterly on Saturday for four hours. We listen to topics that will help in our journey to evangelize our environments. The Schools lead by example, emphasizing piety, study and a strong Christian community. Each is a vibrant, spirit-filled session, which leaves us uplifted and re-energized.

YOU ARE A LEADER. All you have to do is add Christ; be Christian where you are. “For Christ and I are an overwhelming majority! With Him we can accomplish anything.”



I don’t know what is so apprehensive about the word “Leader” but some Cursillistas continue to tell me they aren’t one. In order for us to start at the same point, allow me to define the word “Leader.” I like the definition in the Merriam-Webster dictionary that a leader is “one who has initiative.” How many times have you taken initiative in the things you do at home, at work, social circles, neighborhood or at Church? As we learned in the Lead-

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THE 1ST DIOCESAN CURSILLO ENCOUNTER

Will be held at
Sacred Heart Cathedral
 711 Northshore Drive,
 SW, Knoxville

On Saturday,
August 8, 2009
 From 10 am to 3 pm

Beginning with Mass
 in the Church
 Followed by a
 Grand Ultreya
 and Fiesta
 (weather permitting
 in the Pavilion)

Theme:
**"Love the Lord Your God
 With All Your Heart"**

This is one day we can
"all" gather together
 to pray, share and
 have fellowship

Please bring a dish to
 share and a lawn chair

Members of the Secretariat

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2009 Diocese of Knoxville Cursillo Calendar

July 11, SEC MT, ST. THOMAS, LENOIR CITY

July 30-Aug 2, National Encounter, San Barnardeno, California

August 8, 1st Diocesan Cursillo Encounter, SACRED HEART, KNOXVILLE

August 20-23, Men's Spanish #5, Apison Center

September 10-13, Men's # 37, Apison Center

October 1-4, Women's #38, Apison Center

October 17, SEC MT, ST. JOHN NEUMANN, FARRAGUT

October 30-Nov 1, Regional Encounter, Mount St. Joseph, Owensboro, KY

November 21, SOL, ST. THERESE, CLEVELAND

We are still looking for a few good people to fill vacancies for a Parish Rep Coordinator, Palanca Coordinator, and Editor of the Rooster Crows. These positions can mostly be done from home, if you have a working knowledge of the computer. Contact Jim Heath, 931-788-2569 to let him know you're interested in helping the community.