

Harkins and Tremonte Honored Posthumously

Kathleen Harkins, OP
accepted by
Ann Mrugala

In the name of all the Sisters of the Adrian Dominicans, I accept with appreciation this award given posthumously to Kathy Harkins.

Kathy was a friend to us all and a great performing artist. For Kathy the DIA was a dream come true. She always seemed most energized when collaborating with other artists and encouraging their artistry.

We miss Kathy's presence, yet we all know that her enthusiasm, her humor and her free spirit permeate these gatherings even yet.

I often think of Kathy beholding the splendor of eternity with its "cloud of witnesses." I imagine she greeted her new-found friends and her God with the words uttered by the "aliens from outer space," those aliens who were the friends and guests of "Trudy the Bag Lady." I can just hear her, standing on the "corner of walk and don't walk," as she beholds the glory, saying, "I am in AWE! I am utterly AWE-STRUCK! It gives me goosebumps!"

Kathy, you are home. We are the aliens and we miss you! Thank you for being a special companion along the way. Thank you, DIA, for honoring this special Dominican artist.



Mary Peter Tremonte, OP
accepted by
Joann Neuhaus

Only a few of you had the opportunity to know Sr. Mary Peter personally. You have seen some of her smaller pieces at the DIA exhibits, and perhaps have

looked through the photos of her installations. She died the year before DIA held its first gathering. Were she alive today, she would be an eager participant.

Mary Peter was small in stature, barely 5' 2". People meeting the two of us for the first time usually assumed that I was the sculptor, judging from the size of the monumental bronzes they might have seen. Tiny though she was, she had big ideas and hopes for art in the Church. Whether her commission was for only one piece, or for the decor of a whole church, she threw herself into the prayer and study that went into designing and executing the art. She named our place in San Antonio "Studio Fra Angelico," and she always explained to visitors that our Renaissance Brother Angelico preached through his art.

The last five years of her life, as diabetes began to take its final toll, she was going three days a week for kidney dialysis, but she kept on working. Even as her eyesight failed, she completed the largest sculpture of her career, thirteen 8-foot figures of Mary and the apostles at Pentecost, in high relief against a huge circle of wind. The finished sculpture is twenty-two feet in diameter, as tall as a two-story house.

We knew her to be a gentle, faithful friend, a good storyteller, and famous for her hospitality. No one visited the studio without a good Italian meal, in many courses. My community is very proud of Mary Peter and of her art. She touched many lives with her artful preaching. I am profoundly moved by this gesture on your part. The Houston Dominicans are most grateful that you are presenting the Fra Angelico Award to our sister and friend, Sister Mary Peter. I accept the award on their behalf. They, and I, thank you very much.

**FRA
ANGELICO
AWARD
2001**

Letter from the President

Energy Creating, Mystery Unfolding! It is with a heart filled with gratitude and memories that I write of Gathering 2001 in Elkins Park: the beauty and hospitality of the Dominican Retreat Center, the Cosmic Walk and words of Cletus Wessels, Ann Willits, the many muses that inspired our creativity, the art work shared through slides and at the evening socials, the graffiti wall and energetic conversation -- all these are part of a new reality. We the Board members are so grateful to the planning committee, the volunteers and financial and spiritual supporters of The Dominican Institute for the Arts.

The DIA Gathering 2001 has passed into the energy of past gatherings of Millennium Horizons at Adrian, Prelude to Jubilee at Sinsinawa and those of Mission San Jose and Oakland. The Gatherings have been part of a continual timeless whole but also part of a creative reality unfolding in our individual and collective whole. It is hard to separate the past from the present. With the giving of the DIA awards posthumously to Kathy Harkins, OP, and Mary Peter Tremonte, OP, all of our Dominican artists and Dominican family were with us in a timeless now. Fra Angelico didn't bring his slides but I think that I saw his mark on the graffiti wall.

The unfolding of mystery, creativity and energy has been very real to me these days. From Elkins Park and across the country in Spokane, Washington over 200 Sinsinawa Dominicans gathered at Fort Wright, a former army base now owned by the Japanese as a site for Japanese girls to learn English and American culture. The theme was "We are Salmon Woman," and the new cosmology was the stream connecting both coasts. Many of the sisters there had been part of another cosmic stream, the O'Murchu gathering at Sinsinawa in mid-June. Past, present and future seemed to come together where signs were written in Japanese with translations in English and posted in former officers' quarters. I was so aware that time was a human reality, not a cosmic reality. Somehow, all of the spirits of those past lives -- the land, the first Americans, the soldiers, the college girls, the Japanese students of American culture, the Dominican sisters -- were walking the same earth and somehow it was all connected with the events and the spirit of Elkins Park.

I am still in awe of how the experience of Elkins Park and Spokane reached the core of my soul in ways unplanned. Words from the Spokane Assembly mingled with the words by Cletus and Ann, and the stardust words of Barbara flowed into eight new monoprints. Images *Energy Creating - Mystery Unfolding* is a reality in my life and I pray that you, too, are having experiences of new energy unfolding within you and with others.

-- Joeann Daley, OP, Chairperson, Representative Board

Letter from the Editor:

Our brother St. Francis said, "Preach always. If necessary, use words." We Dominican artists are called to preach with our talents. We are called to preach justice. In this issue we have an example of this from a British Dominican artist, Sheila Flynn, OP, of Africa whose message should inspire us all. We preach by this newsletter, too. The January issue will give us a great chance to do this. PLEASE send in essays, editorials, reports, photos, etc. Be in touch with me with ideas, etc. The next deadline is **December 1.**

-- Elaine DesRosiers, OP

INTERIM WEBPAGE and LISTSERV information.

As we go to press, a NEW web site is under construction. That is good news! It will take some time before it is up and running. We will let you know as soon as it is complete. The new address is <http://www.DIAonline.org>. In the meantime, the old address is <http://msjdominicans.org/dia.html>.

The DIA ListServ, which is open to members only, currently is dia@msjdominicans.org. It will soon be dia@dialist.org.

Currently, to join the ListServ please follow the instructions below:

1. Click on the button at the bottom of the web page which says Directory. You will find on the first page of the directory a link "to subscribe or unsubscribe to the DIA ListServe." If you have an email address, you can subscribe.
2. Click on "<http://mx.msjdominicans.org:8080/>, or copy this address onto the "LOCATION FIELD:" at the top of the page. Press Return or Enter.
3. Click on the Blue Box at the left that says "Mailing List Directory." When the page comes up, click on the "D" in the alphabet at the top.
4. Click on "dia@msjdominicans.org DIA members."

Add your email address and choose the method of delivery—either immediate delivery or digest. You will receive a verification response request by email.

In the next DIA Newsletter, the updated information will be published. In the meantime, email the editor if you have questions.



The Gathering 2001 Planning Committee deserve our gratitude: *front:* Mary Frances Gorman, OP, Francetta McCann, OP, Jean Vianney Norris, OP; *back:* Mary Irene Walker, OP, Lorraine Ferguson, OP, Rosaire McAuliffe, OP and Lucianne Siers, OP, Chair. Thanks also to Jeanne Stickling, OP, the Board Liaison, and the nine muses who could not "flit around" because they were "anchored" to their own project.

Why be a member of the DIA?

Membership in the Dominican Institute for the Arts has many rewards, among them:

- it offers reduced conference fee
- it provides opportunity to exhibit and showcase Dominican art
- it supports collaborative Dominican artistic projects
- it offers potential for mutual support and connections with Dominican Artists
- it continues the treasured preaching tradition of Fra Angelico into the 21st Century
- it includes the DIA Newsletter
- it ensures listing on the Web Site Directory and ListServ

Editor Elaine DesRosiers, OP • DesRosiers.1@nd.edu
Staff: Barbara Schwarz, OP, Board Liaison
Barbara Kelley, OP, writer, proofreader
Logo design by Irene Mary Diones, OP
Masthead by Deborah Marie Butcher, OP



Cletus Wessels, OP, Inspires Artists With New Cosmology

by Barbara Kelley, OP

"Energy Creating, Mystery Unfolding" was the theme as 62 members of the Dominican Institute for the Arts met in the Dominican Retreat House in Elkins Park, PA, June 25-28 for the 2001 DIA Gathering. Mystery unfolded for participants in small nuggets of wisdom several times throughout the conference as Cletus Wessels, OP gave a series of talks on the new cosmology. He based his talks on his recent book, *The Holy Web: Church and the New Universe Story*. Cletus sets the stage for the remainder of his talks Monday evening with a Cosmic Walk. Beginning with the primordial flashing forth of all creation 15 billion years ago, the Cosmic Walk symbolically traces the universe story to the creation of galaxies and supernovas, the solar system, our sun and the Earth. The story narrows its focus to formation of the first living cells on Earth 4 billion years ago; the first multi-cellular life 700 million years ago; the age of dinosaurs 235 million years ago; the development of the earliest humanoid types 2.6 million years ago; and the emergence of *homo sapiens* 40,000 years ago.



For the remainder of the Gathering, Cletus fleshed out the significance of this new understanding of the creation and its impact on our spirituality. All began with a flashing forth about 15 billion years ago, he noted. Everything that was or will be was in latent form at that flashing forth. This new cosmology deepens God's role as Creator. God didn't simply create one day millions of years ago. "All the power and love of God" was present at the flashing forth and throughout the millennia of creation, Cletus said. "The unfolding of the universe is the unfolding of God's presence. God is present at every moment of creation."

Wessels outlined a new understanding of how life is organized. The Theory of Holons holds that everything that is a whole is also part of something larger. The holon is simultaneously whole and a part. This theory applies to cells, which are whole but part of an organism, a human which is whole but part of a species, the church and society; and to the church, which is whole but part of a larger community.

Cletus emphasized the idea of human beings as part of the community of species and the community of creation. The separation of human beings from one another and from nature has been the root cause of the environmental and social problems we face today.

Cletus spoke of three stages of humanity. From our beginnings to about 10,000 years ago, humanity was in childhood, "deeply dependent on Mother Earth" and living as part of the community of species. However, with the establishment of agriculture and the domestication of animals about 10,000 years ago, human beings began to feel more independent of nature, more in control of their surroundings, and they entered the adolescent phase. Most notably, humanity exhibited one unique characteristic of adolescence: separation from others and a sense of independence. Just as adolescents develop their own ego by separating from their families, Cletus

explained, the human race developed its species identity by separating itself from the community of species. The adolescent stage of humanity was depicted graphically in "Who Rules the Roost," a dramatic reading quoted in *The Holy Web*. In this dialogue, a gorilla teaches a modern human being the history of the human conquest of nature and how, even to heal the devastation caused by this conquest, human beings must establish yet more mastery over nature.

Wessels spoke of the profound effect that adolescent humanity has had on the Earth. "The harmony of nature was deeply disturbed" as human beings set out to conquer nature for their own benefit. The separation of humanity from nature ultimately led to other separations, which pitted human over nature, divine over human, ruler over subjects and male over female. "This separateness is very destructive if not outgrown," he said.

Wessels is optimistic that human beings will eventually outgrow their adolescence and enter the stage of adulthood, which will be marked by re-connecting with the community of species and nature from which we separated ourselves. The common human experience of separation, of feeling like a "motherless child," is "calling us home to adulthood," to reconnection with the sacred community of the Earth, Cletus believes. As adults, we will come to see that God's holiness – goodness, truth and wholeness – is found in everything because everything is of God.

In the closing session on June 28, Cletus spoke of yet another characteristic of adulthood: wisdom. He urged the artists to seek and incorporate the wisdom of the universe, the great sacred books of Judeo-Christianity and other religions, women and love. He further encouraged the artists to remain humble as we embrace this new understanding of creation – not blaming people of generations past for the patriarchal views they adapted from their own understanding of creation, but to recognize the mistakes and set forth on a new path. "We have to become adults ourselves first and then call our culture and the human race to adulthood, Cletus concluded.

Interspersed with Cletus' talks were several opportunities for the artists to unleash their own creative energies. Daily morning and afternoon sessions were set aside for artists to work in any artistic field they chose: drama/storytelling, calligraphy, graphic arts, prose and poetry, music, painting, fabric weaving, dance and clay. The daily schedule also included an hour of prayer before breakfast, evening "show and tell" sessions and socials. The light-hearted spirit of the conference was maintained through frequent raffle drawings, the antics of two mimes, and a 15-minute ritual of blowing soap bubbles before breakfast on the last day. The spirit of celebration culminated with Liturgy on Wednesday evening. The closing session featured the posthumous presentation of the Fra Angelico Award to Kathleen Harkins, OP and Mary Peter Tremonte, OP.

AAAAAAAAAAAA

Millionth Circle Initiative Calendar Features Schwarz Mandalas

Ten of Barbara Schwarz's Mandalas will be published in the international Millionth Circle 2002 Initiative Calendar. It will be in English, French, and Spanish and will make its debut during the UN conference on Children in September. It will be available through Global Education Associates at millioncircles@earthnet.com. The Millionth Circle Initiative is about forming sacred circles of equality, shared leadership for the sake of a real living future for the planet in the context of spirituality. Barbara's article "Urgent Longings: Preaching in the Global Context" was published in *Dominican Ashram* March 2001.

HAPPY DAYS WITH THE MUSES (1)

MUSIC

Anita Smesik

The Music muses were inspired to create new music and utilize members' music for our celebration. Several members worked together to set Barbara Schwarz, OP's, new poem, "Creation," to music. It was a very challenging and exciting group project. Rudolf Loewenstein, OP, however, was inspired to write a completely new musical setting which the group then rehearsed and performed for the Gathering. Another member, Raphaela Lee, candidate, responded to the creation input by creating a piano solo. The group became a schola for the closing Mass for the Gathering. The Gathering's Mantra by Anita Smesik, OP, "Energy Creating, Mystery Unfolding," accompanied by interspersed percussion, was used for the opening procession led by dancer Carolyn Roeber, OP. Lucianne Siers, OP, was the cantor. Cecil Steffen, OP's, "There Is a Season" suitably accompanied our Offertory Procession. All of us gathered together were music makers lifting our hearts and voices *a cappella* style in many ways and occasions during our Gathering!



CLAY

Mary Reid

In the Beginning:

Did God laugh with amazement?
Jude did, when her cup handle turned into
a perfect body hidden at the entrance to a
flower garden.

Did God gaze as tenderly on clay – Adam,
as Cletus on his sculptured
COMPASSION? (my name for her)

Did God dance with delight in the myriad
shapes— seeing good in the least lump of
clay, like Janice?

Did God correct clay-Adam as gently as
Bernardine did her bowl on the wheel?

Did God say, "This won't work. I'll make
another."?

Did God faithfully determine to complete
the task, no matter what?

Did God watch with attention and
awareness over all the details of the
garden (Linda)?

I hope when they see the finished product,
they can say, "It is good!"

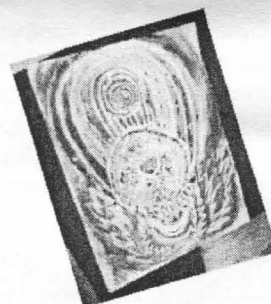
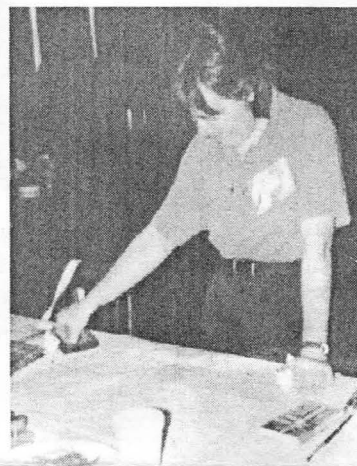


PAINTING

Irene Mary Walker
and Rosaire McAuliffe

The painting class was alive and electrified with paints, colors, pencils, markers and chalk. Some "newcomers" and some "old timers" plied their artistry and went away with some grand pieces of art.

We enjoyed sharing material, time, ideas, and inspiration with each other, with the dancers, the weavers, the potters. It was a fruitful time for all!



HAPPY DAYS WITH THE MUSES(2)

CALLIGRAPHY

Janet Weyker

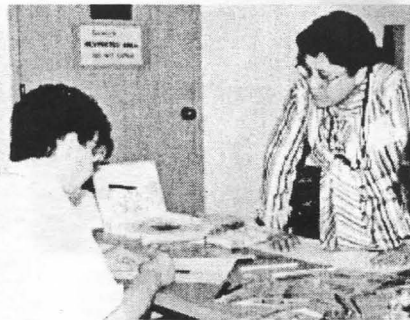
With "mystery unfolding - energy creating," Racine Dominican Janet Weyker led a group of calligraphers as they put into beautiful letterforms, ideas that expressed their oneness with the universe. Inspired by the concept of "holons" described in *The Holy Web* by Cletus Wessels, each participant created two designs on circular sheets of watercolor paper that we called a "holon." Holons are "wholes and parts" at the same time. Each holon has the capacity of preserving its own particular autonomy and is able to be transformed into something novel and emergent when different wholes come together. They are self adapting as they are in relationship to one another and they can break down.

These capacities of holons led to the idea of creating a mobile with our calligraphic designs. Individual designs were glued to the two sides of wooden hoops and with fish line we attached the completed hoops to dowels creating a new holon. When the pick of balancing the mobile was finished, we hung our new creation behind the altar for the closing liturgy and we were delighted as the holon danced in the breeze.

When the days of sharing came to an end, the mobile "dissolved" with each artist taking her individual holon home. Trust in the creative process lets beauty come forth from chaos!

GRAPHICS/DESIGN AND CALLIGRAPHY

Irene Mary Diones

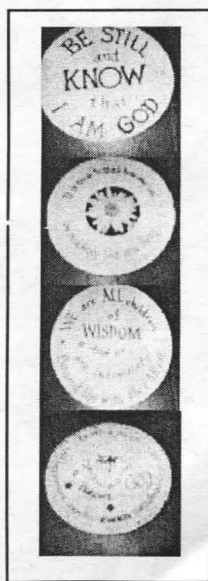
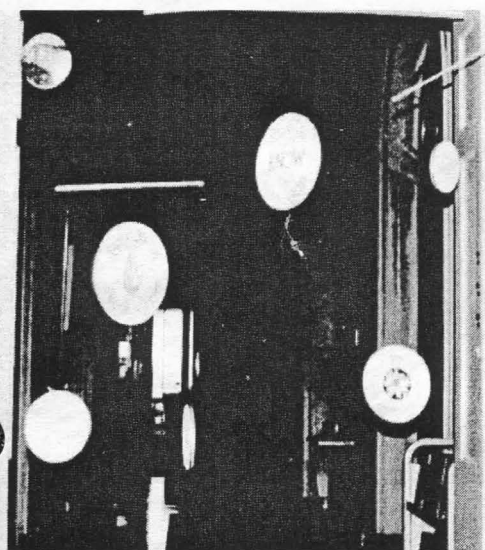


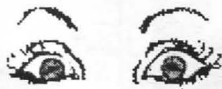
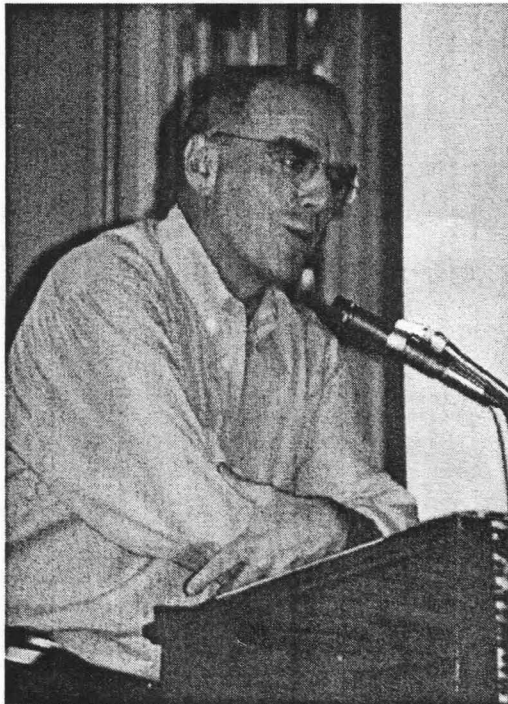
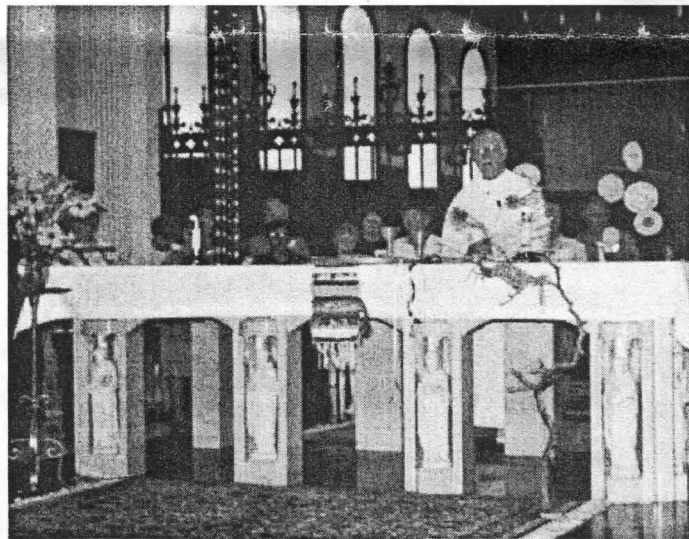
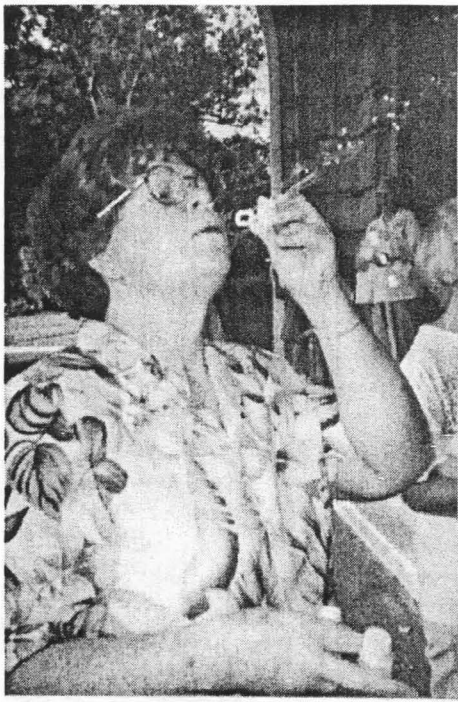
Following the movement of the spirit and inspired by the outcome of the theological reflection during Cletus' presentation, a number of members ventured another way to express the richness of God's Word through graphics/decorative designs and calligraphy. A variety of work surfaced as each participant applied conventional calligraphy as well as learned and experimented with different and personal styles of printing and designing. Adding to each one's creativity, what appeared to be a common highlight and excitement during the session, was "blow-painting" -- a process so free, so spontaneous, so unique, so surprising, yet it has added and completed each "masterpiece." Others took, rendered, and found their new discoveries seriously yet very contentedly as well. Completed collaborative projects were shared during night recreation and were used as part of the environment, along with other art works, during liturgical celebration.

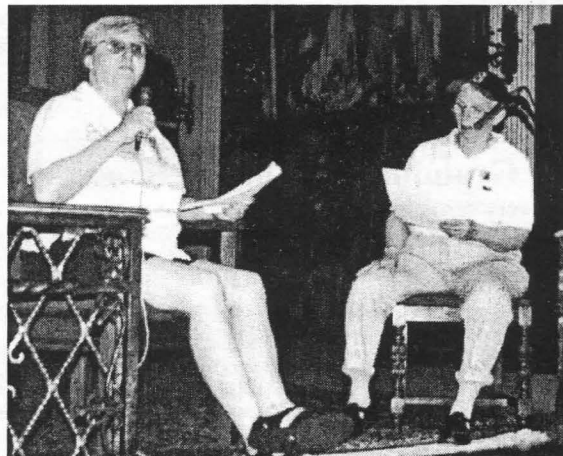
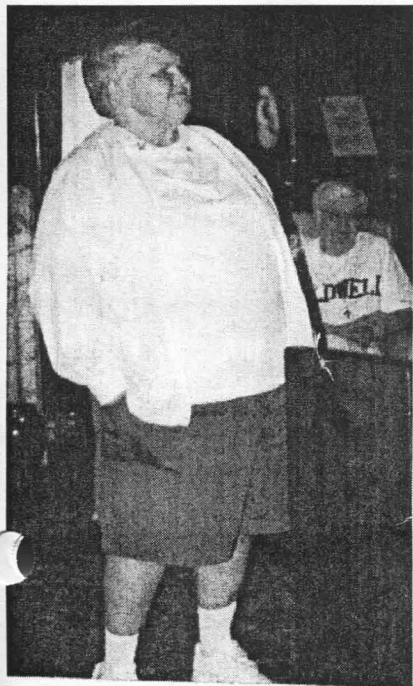
WEAVING

Nancyann Turner

The weaving workshop was set in a windowed and lovely room of a tudor mansion. Even though the temperatures were soaring that week, there was a calm, creative and peaceful atmosphere throughout the weaving times. Myriad colors of yarn, feathers, ribbons, and strings stirred the imagination of participants. A table loom, circle/web looms, back strap looms, and even tree looms provided the framework for the rhythms of nature and beauty that were created. The steady and contemplative rhythms of warp and weft, over and under, in and out—with all kinds of in between surprises, eventually became objects of great beauty and creativity. Truly the art of weaving complemented the whole theme of energy unfolding, mystery creating with its finished creations and webs of colors and textures.





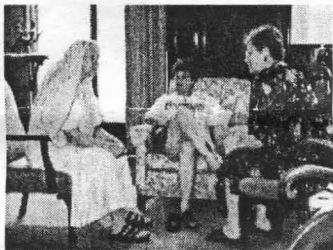


HAPPY DAYS WITH THE MUSES (3)

DRAMA AND STORYTELLING

Elaine DesRosiers

A small but committed group was inspired to follow Muse Elaine DesRosiers to experience drama and story telling. Meeting in the beautiful St. Lucy's Parlor, each participant either recreated a story from her past or created a tale from her imagination. When Muse Elaine appeared in the role of Jesus or of Mary Madgalen, the participants were inspired to hold conversations with these special personalities. Cletus Wessels asked this group to dramatize the short Six Act Play, "Who Rules the Roost." (This play is based on Daniel Quinn's, *Ishmael, An Adventure of the Mind and Spirit*.) When the Liturgists asked for a dramatic reading of scripture at the closing Mass, this group agreed to do this. These are good examples of the way the participants of the Gathering interacted all during the week.



PROSE AND POETRY

Ann Mrugula



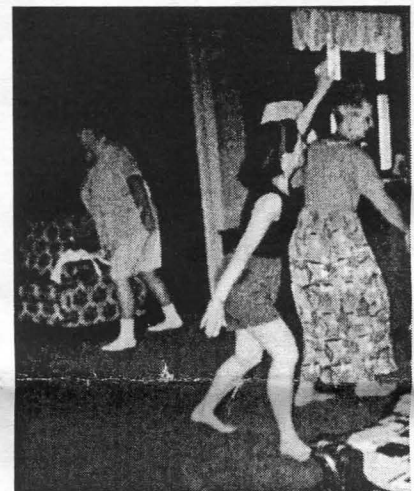
Poetry and prose - the single thread braided into the fabric of human life. Writer and reader together complete the salvation story. The cave drawings of ancient peoples are a legacy of writing and reading passed on to us. Thus, reading the cave drawings, we can catch a glimpse of the ancients' experience of life - not just any experience, but the inner experience, the sacred experience of God. Is it possible for a writer, a poet to pen her inner experience of life (God) at a designated place and time? One would think not. Inspiration does not happen on schedule, one would assume. But it so happened at Elkins Park in a library stacked with books filled with words, words, words and more words. And so, with open heart, the writer wrote and the poet created, the single thread of life was woven into the present day salvation story. And God looked upon it all, was pleased and

said, "Ah, it is so good! It is so very, very good!"

Reader, catch a glimpse of our God sketched in the present day word-drawings penned by the writers in this issue. Thank you for your words, preachers of the Word. (See box below.)

DANCE

Dancers of all degrees of sophistication had ample time and splendid space to follow Muse Elaine Taylor in what was probably the most physically active group of muse-followers.



Fireflies at Elkins Park

Firefly. Fireflight.
Sirens splitting summer night.
Fires, fly.

Pat Lee ©2001

Found

Lost in the blur
Forsaken in my comfortable world
I gaze inward.

Jean Beagan ©2001

Volcano (from Ezekiel)

Ash beat
Ankle knee waist
submerged shoulders mouth agape
sightless

Jean Beagan ©2001

The Grandma Tree by Jean Beagan, OP

Once upon a time a tiny seed was dropped into very fertile ground. Suddenly, one golden day, a tiny sprout poked its head above the rich soil and it grew and it took shape. A twig with fresh green leaves had appeared. Lazy cotton clouds filled the sky and one day they rained moisture over the little sprout.

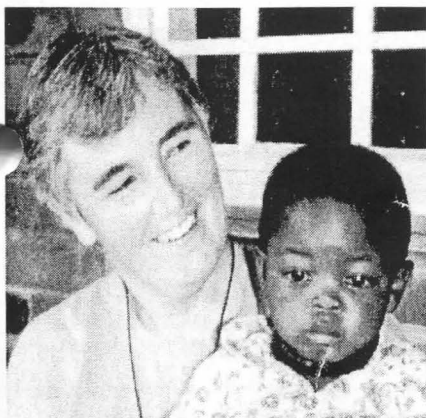
She grew taller and taller and fuller with breezes blowing through her green leafy hair, rustling the skirts of her branches. She was beautiful, young, and alive.

Soon she matured and became mother of sprouts that dropped from her plump, rosy, and golden fruits. Near her roots other new sprouts and buds poked through the earth. There was an orchard full of fruit trees all about her, growing gracefully as she had done.

One day she realized that she had grown older. Her trunk was thicker, her branches longer and fuller. "Why," she thought, "I've become a grandma!" Then she held out her leafy apron to all the squirrels, birds, and little animals that had always been her friends.

"It's party time!" they all shouted as they nibbled and gnawed away.

The Grandma Tree was very, very happy and so were all her little friends.
©2001



A message from Sheila Flynn, OP

The death toll of the HIV/AIDS pandemic has exceeded that of many catastrophes. However, it is unique in being shrouded in silence and ignorance. More than 4.2 million South Africans have died. Every day, in Sub-Saharan Africa, it is estimated that more than 1,500 people die of AIDS, and we are silent. How many people must die of HIV/AIDS before our government and every person in this land will face this pandemic with courage and compassion? Our young adults and teenagers are dying; our next generation will not grow to maturity. Are our peoples not our greatest treasure and investment? What can we do, how can we respond to the Gospel imperative "to bring good news to the afflicted ... to proclaim liberty to captives, sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free ..."? (Luke 4:18-19). Timothy Radcliffe, OP, challenges us as Christians to commit ourselves to radically respond to social justice issues. He calls us to counter the vacuum of spiritual values, greed and materialism endemic in our societies, which impact undeniably on the poor, those silenced, suffering or in pain.

Art Brings Individuals Healing, Dignity, and Hope

an article by David Larsen, *Sunday Independent* 6/11/01 (edited)



When Rose arrived at a paper-making workshop run by Dominican Sister Sheila Flynn in Wintervelt, she was a broken woman. A refugee, Rose (not her real name) had fled to Wintervelt, a rural area

north of Pretoria, from her family and village in Mozambique. It all began when Rose's husband realized he was dying of AIDS and went to the village sangoma for help. When the sangoma's prescription did not cure him, a rumor spread in the village that her husband was bewitched. One night the village people came to Rose's home, seized her husband and burned him to death. Rose fled, fearing for herself and her nine-year-old daughter. Her husband's brother caught up with her and raped her. As a result, on arriving in South Africa, she gave birth to a small, sickly baby.

Through the paper making workshop Rose began to open up. "The art workshops helped her express her anguish and shame for the first time," says Flynn. Such was the healing and dignity imparted through learning a marketable artistic skill that Rose was able to cope with the death from AIDS of her infant, and the discovery that she herself was HIV positive.

This is just one of the many stories of hope imparted through the art workshops Flynn conducts. Flynn is passionate about art, and even more passionate about using her art as an instrument to bring healing, dignity, and hope, particularly to individuals and communities beginning to feel the impact of the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

Recently Flynn joined a non-for-profit organization based near Howick in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands, to head their community outreach programme. Flynn has started to train a group of women and unemployed youth from the rural township of Mpophomeni in paper-making skills that will generate income. Parallel to this, a teacher-training course — visual arts integrated learning — will be run. Both groups share the resources and

training, and together attempt to deal with the social ills that affect their quality of life, including issues surrounding HIV/AIDS. It is hopeful the exchanges will uplift the community, as they did in Wintervelt, where Flynn first developed her methodology.

Recently trained at the Wits Technikon fine arts department, Flynn saw the potential of art to reach out to people. Such was her enthusiasm and attention to detail that she was put in charge of the outreach programme for the fine arts department. She worked with seven communities in Gauteng and further afield, but spent most of her time with the Wintervelt rural community to ensure the benefits of art education reached as far afield as possible.

She began with a group of 20 women who were infected or affected by HIV/AIDS, teaching them marketable, artistic skills. The group was set up in a consultative manner with all the women agreeing to 25 percent of their earnings from sales going straight back into the business. When Flynn left the project, the women she had trained took over and have continued to make it a profitable enterprise. Not only were these women economically and emotionally empowered, but they were also able to serve as assistants to teaching art in schools.

Flynn ran a one-year art training program for teachers. "Many teachers in South Africa have been deprived of training in the visual arts," she says. "So much of our education has been quantitative, requiring rote learning. Art, however, does not fit into this way of thinking, making it difficult for teachers. Nor have teachers had access to training in this field. It is, however, essential in equipping people for life, developing conceptual, visual, technical and emotive elements in the learners." In taking the position, Flynn is bringing her creativity and experience to the province hardest hit by the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

Sheila Flynn, OP, new DIA member, belongs to the English Oxford Dominicans. She works in Africa with the Thabong Dominican Community. Sheila may be reached at thabong@global.co.za.

What's Doing?

A column dedicated to highlighting the DIA members' latest achievements in art



• Photo Skills Enhance Earth Project

Pat Daly, OPA, has made a major contribution to the Kentucky Dominicans of which she is an Associate. As a member of the Land Use Committee and a nature photographer, Pat traveled to the motherhouse at St. Catharine, Kentucky to photograph each of the hundreds of acres which comprise this sacred land, the home of the first American Dominicans, and, in fact, the site of the first active Sisters of the Order. The Land Use Committee earlier had identified each plot as cropland, pasture, woodland, Motherhouse, etc. The Sisters and Associates were given the opportunity to identify a specific plot to "claim" and pray for. Pat has sent a photo of the chosen plot to each person.

• Light is Everywhere

The Dominican University of California in San Rafael will present an exhibit by **Joanne Cullimore, OP** from September 13 to October 27. The exhibit, in the San Marco Gallery in Albany Library, will consist of recent water colors that reflect the spirit of Mexico where Joanne spends her summers. The artist will give a talk on her works on October 17. The exhibit is entitled "Light is Everywhere".



• Sparkill Sister Expresses Multi talents

Adele Myers, OP, of Sparkill had an exhibit of her cement/fresco relief sculpture at the Visions gallery in Albany, NY from July 6 to August 31. She also had a solo exhibit at the Flywheel Gallery in Piermont, NY, August 30 - September 16. Adele has been busy with windows and a mosaic for the new chapel built by her community at their motherhouse in Sparkill. The two stained glass windows that she designed were installed in May of this year. Her mosaic surrounds a statue of St. Dominic in the outdoor Gathering Space and was installed in August. The chapel, called Our Lady of the Rosary Chapel, will be formally dedicated on September 10th. Her congregation's web site includes the arts under ministries/arts and culture: www.sparkill.org

• Poet is Also Art Therapist

Mission San Jose's **Jean Matthew Smith, OP**, was a poet at the DIA Gathering at her motherhouse in 1998. Jean's poetry web site continues to be www.homestead.com/cm/. She is completing the last class for an Art Therapy Certificate from UC Extension Berkeley, and will begin her Practicum in the fall. With 15 units of art in four media and 12 units of Psychology, she hopes to use her talents at the MSJ Care Center and maybe at the YWCA in San Jose's counseling department dealing with the sexually abused. Her address is sjmtpglt@hotmail.com.

• Arts for Prayer and Preaching

The Houston Dominicans in the Arts are planning a day of workshops entitled "**Exploring the Arts for Prayer and Preaching**," September 15. DIA members **JoAnn Niehaus, OP**, and **Deborah Clark, OP**, are joining the Promoter of Preaching, **Pat Casey, OP**, and eight other artist/preachers in offering sessions in music, movement, environment, reading, storytelling, massage, the Mandala, and Chi. The event is open to the public. For further information, contact JoAnn Niehaus, 713-747-3310 or email jniehaus@domhou.org.

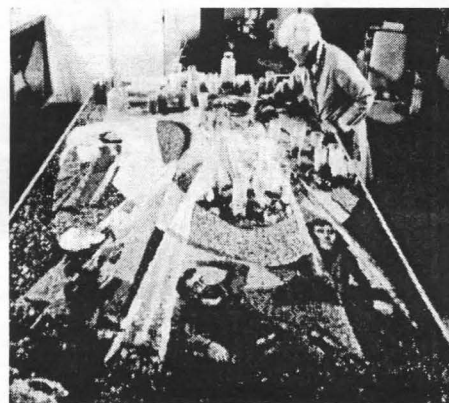
• God's Work, Via Dogs!

The television movie "Within These Walls," starring award-winning actors Ellyn Burstyn and Laura Dern made its debut on the Lifetime cable channel on August 20. This film is about the life and works of **Pauline Quinn, OP**. It features the inspirational story about the Prison Pet Partnership Program which she founded in 1981. Inmates train puppies for use by people with disabilities, especially those who use wheelchairs. The program now operates around the country and internationally.

CONGRATULATIONS, PAULINE!

• From Mosaics to Prayer Line

DIA member **Lois Schaffer, OP**, is shown here creating her mosaic, "The Transfiguration," which is now located the Benedictine Monastery in Pecos, New Mexico. Two of her other creations are "Risen Christ" and "Jesus of Mercy." The latter is at St. Rita's Church in Wellington, Florida. Lois is now the spiritual director of a prayer line for people with problems. She resides in Grand Rapids, Michigan.



NOTE WELL THESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

The DIA now has archives!

Jean Vianney Norris, OP, our Archivist, needs help from the members for: communications, such as letters flyers, announcements, minutes of meetings, secretarial reports, financial reports, our constitution, invitations, themes, logos, photos (with names on the back), members of original group, representative board member lists, committee members, videos, etc. Jean says, "As I am eager to get this off the ground, my hope is that people will take time to help by sending these materials to me."

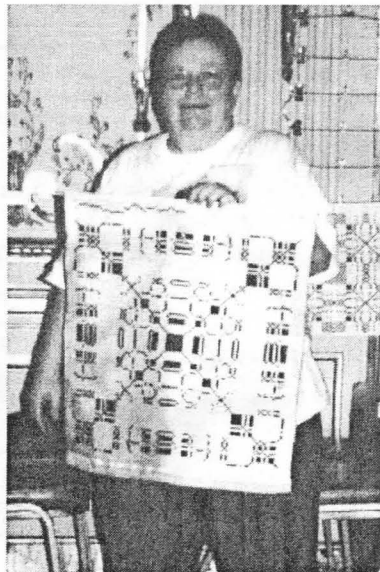
Jean Vianney Norris, OP, DIA Archives
25 Auburn Street
Charlestown, MA 02129

Graphic Artists! Houston Needs You

Students from our Houston high schools returned from the Dominican High School Preaching Workshop in River Forest full of enthusiasm for "The Four Pillars of Dominican Life." The students and teachers are trying to devise a program by which each class would feature one of the pillars, e.g., Freshman - Study, Sophomore - Community, Junior - Prayer, Senior - Preaching. The principals would love to have a drawing/symbol that would incorporate four pillars. Jo Ann Niehaus, OP, invites graphic artists to design a drawing that would symbolize the Four Pillars. It would be a wonderful contribution to the development of our young people in the Dominican spirit. The program organizers and the schools involved could both use the symbol. Please be in touch with JoAnn at jniehaus@domiou.org.

Woven Music?

Participants at the Gathering 2001 will remember Sarajane Seaver's extremely creative project of weaving music. She is seeking songs that are original to each Dominican congregation. Please seek these out from your Liturgist, and send copies to Sarajane. Watch for further report on this project in the next newsletter. Please send songs to Sarajane Seaver, 22051 Cleveland Street #221, Dearborn, MI 48124-3459.



MEMBERS! Your input is needed about

BIENNIAL GATHERINGS.

What do you think about having the DIA Gathering every other year? Plusses and minuses? What are your ideas for alternate events in the off year? Other thoughts?

Please send you input on this matter to the Editor:

Elaine DesRosiers, OP
603 E. Catalpa Dr. #C
Mishawaka, IN 46545
or Elaine.DesRosiers.1@nd.edu by December 1.

All responses will be published in the Winter issue of the DIA Newsletter.

This information will facilitate your decision making before the voting at the 2002 Gathering.

TWO important dates!
DIA NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
DECEMBER 1, 2001
and the
DIA GATHERING 2002
will be in
Sinsinawa JULY 18-23, 2002.

NOTICE about Membership

The DIA Newsletter is a benefit of membership in the Dominican Institute for the Arts. Beginning with the next issue, the newsletter will be sent only to paid members of the DIA. Membership is also required to be on the DIA ListServ and to be on the Website Directory. To facilitate joining the DIA, a membership application is below.

YES! I want to join the DIA!

Name

Address

Phone

Email

My artist interests are

Annual membership begins in July.

Fee is \$25.00. Make check payable to DIA and send to

Dominican Institute for the Arts
c/o Jeanne Stickling, OP
701 Locust Road #2N
Wilmette, IL 60091



Contributors Corner

The Dominican Institute for the Arts acknowledges with a spirit of gratitude to the following congregations, organizations, and individuals who provided funding and services to make the Gathering 2001 and our projects possible:

Dominican Sisters of Springfield
Mary Jane Traeger, OP

Sacred Heart Convent
Los Angeles, CA

The New Orleans Female Dominican
Academy, New Orleans, LA

Printers: Vincent and Elizabeth Rosiles
Los Angeles, CA

Eastman Kodak Company
Representative: Gary Baum, So. Elgin, IL

Dominicans of St. Catharine, KY

Congregation of the Holy Cross
Sisters of St. Dominic, Amityville, NY

Sinsinawa Dominicans
Sinsinawa, WI

Patricia Daly, OPA
Associate of St. Catharine, KY

Joeann Daley, OP
Sinsinawa Dominican

Pauline Quinn, OP, Dominican (with
proceeds from film "Within These Walls")

Sparkill Dominicans
New Hope Manor, Barryville, NY

Sisters of Saint Dominic
Our Lady of the Elms
Akron, OH

Patricia O'Reilly, OP, Noreen McKeough,
OP, John MacNaughton and Sandra
Warner for their assistance to Joella
Miller, OP, in the membership process and
mailing.

Regina Dominican Convent "Sister's
Place," Maureen McGrath, OP, Director,
and Women in Residence of the Convent
Wilmette, IL

Adrian Dominicans
Adrian, MI

Anonymous contribution from a friend
and supporter of Mary Reid, OP, of
Caldwell, NJ

A special donation in honor of John
Gerlach, OP, by the Springfield Domini-
cans for his service to their congregation.
This consisted of a five-year membership
for John in honor of his artistic gifts
(John's well-known portrait of St.
Catherine with flowing veil is available
from Parable) plus a large donation for
each of the 12 years of John's ministry at
Springfield as he moves on to Sinsinawa.



Return Service Requested

1257 Siena Heights Drive
Adrian, MI 49221-1793



Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Adrian, MI 49221
Permit No. 300