

Fra Angelico Award to Poet and Filmmaker Armando Ibáñez, OP

One highlight of the Sixth Annual DIA Gathering was the presentation of the Fra Angelico Award to Armando Ibanez, OP, co-founder of the Dominican Institute for the Arts, for his lifetime contribution to the arts as a poet, writer and filmmaker. His published works of poetry include his books *Midday Shadows*, and two editions of *Wrestling with the Angels*. Twenty-three new poems are included in the revised edition. His poems have been published in a number of publications including the *Double Dealer Redux*, *Aciendo Harte*, and *Ruah*. He has also produced several poetry videos,

some of which were screened in national and international festivals. He is listed in the *Dictionary of Literary Biography*, vol. 209, Chicano Writers Third Series.

Ibáñez serves as president, executive producer and director of Pluma Productions, Inc. in Hollywood, California. The non-profit film production company, which he founded, is dedicated to making films — good dramas that espouse universal values such as life, dignity, peace, and tolerance.

Pluma Productions has recently published the premier edition of a journal entitled *New Wine: Dominicans in Mass Media*. Ibáñez is the Promoter of Media Editor (See www.dominicansinmassmedia.com). Ibáñez, who holds a Master of Fine Arts Degree from The American Film Institute, belongs to the Province of St. Martin de Porres and serves as the Promoter of Mass Media for the Province of the Most Holy Name of Jesus. He also serves as chaplain to the Dominican Nuns of the Monastery of the Angels in Hollywood, where he resides. His bilingual skills have helped him considerably in his profession and his ministry.

Much to the shock of the DIA Board, Ibáñez was taken to the hospital in Dubuque with a heart attack the night before he was to be awarded the Fra Angelico Award. The award was presented in absentia at the liturgy on Sunday morning in the Sinsinawa Chapel. Later in the day, President Joeann Daley and Phyllis Mrozinski surprised him by making the presentation to him in his hospital room.



photo by Jeanne Sticking

Joeann Daley and Phyllis Mrozinski present award to Ibáñez.

The torch has been passed



photo by Barbara Kelley

The DIA expresses gratitude to the outgoing Board who raised the organization to a new level during its time in office: Barbara Schwarz, OP; Joeann Daley, OP, president; Irene Mary Diones, OP; Jeanne Stickling, OP, treasurer; Ann Willits, OP. Not pictured: Joella Miller, OP, and Ann Mrugula, OP, secretary.



photo by Barbara Kelley

The above members were elected to the Board: Jeanne Stickling, OP, treasurer; Jude Bloch, OP; Janice Holkup, OP; Barbara Schwarz, OP, president; Rudolph Lowenstein, OP; and Patricia Daly, OPA, vice president. According to custom, the newly elected board decides among itself who will hold which office.

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DIA Newsletter Vol. IV No. 3 October 2002

Message from the New President



What seems like eons ago in a place called Sinsinawa, the new Board met for the first time. So much has happened in this past month that we would like to update you with lots of GOOD NEWS!

First of all, **CELEBRATE! We are incorporated in the State of Illinois.** The papers came through dated July 31, 2002. It seemed most appropriate to incorporate in the State of Illinois where many of the Dominican offices are located. Incorporation has been in process during the terms of three Boards. Many thanks to Joella Miller for her work on the Constitutions and by-laws; Joeann Daley for her work with Counsel Sean Fox; Ann Willits for being our registered agent; and the recent Board, including Irene Mary Diones, Ann Mrugala and Jeanne Stickling. We also thank previous Boards and all whom we consulted. We are grateful to the Dominican Leadership Conference (DLC) for its support and its attempts to allow temporary incorporation under its umbrella. Soon we will begin the process for non-profit tax exempt status. Dreams do come true!

Next Gathering: We heard a mandate for a yearly gathering at this time, so we set to work exploring options. We took into account our past experience, demographics, space, geography, travel costs and your input given in evaluation forms.

After due consideration and dozens of e-mails, we have scheduled the **DIA Gathering for July 24-27, 2003, in Sparkill, NY.** The facility affords us not only sufficient gallery and meeting space, but air conditioning even in the bedrooms. While you are out East you might even plan some vacation time in NYC. We are grateful to all we have consulted and to the new planning committee which is fast at work with their theme **"Out of the Ordinary, Create the Extraordinary!"** Reserve the dates now!

Finally, we had some very fruitful communication with the **Caracas Gathering of Dominican Artists in Latin America.** As Armando Ibáñez noted, their gathering of 42 artists involved great determination due to the severe poverty of the areas from whence they came. After reading copies of our constitutions translated into Spanish, they want to be connected in some way to us. It was very touching to learn their e-mail to us ended with the phrase, "with brush strokes of love and affection." (See page 12.)

Because we are a grassroots organization, **your thoughts are important to us.** In time, you may be receiving a questionnaire so we can plan more effectively. We ask that you respond to it expeditiously so that we can best serve you.

The fruits and prayers of the Gathering linger in our hearts and we encourage you to continue the holy preaching, living justice, nourish your souls, and celebrate the gift.

We are eager to increase our membership. Please encourage members of your congregation to join us.

Let the preaching continue!

Barbara Schwarz, OP
President

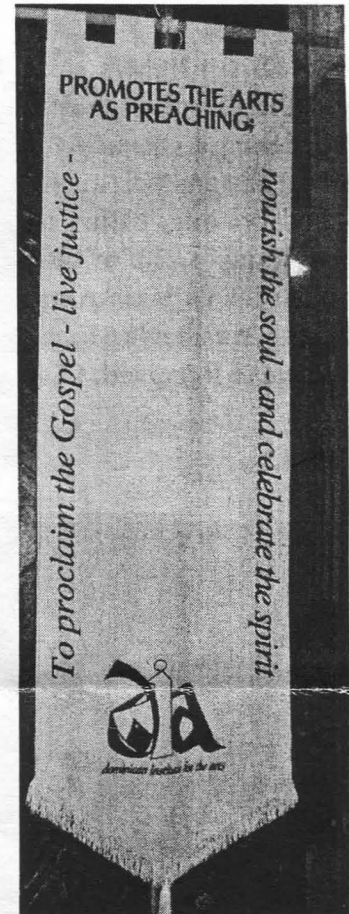


photo by Elaine DesRosiers

This is the new DIA banner created with the help of Mary Irene Diones, OP. The banner contributed to the environment at the Gathering.

Visit our Web site at
<http://www.diaonline.org>

You brought your gifts! You shared your talents! You experimented with something new!

Gathering 2002 Gathering 2002 Gathering 2002 Gathering 2002

DIA members celebrate and share gifts at Sixth Annual Gathering

Some 65 DIA members spent four full days honing skills in their own art; experimenting with new art forms; listening to inspiring messages; affirming and supporting one another; appreciating one another's art work; and praying, eating and socializing together. These were just some of the activities that filled the days of the DIA's Sixth Annual Gathering, held July 18-23 at the Sinsinawa Mound under the theme, "The Gift You Have Received, Give as Gift."

Welcome by Sinsinawa Prioress

DIA members were warmly welcomed to the Sinsinawa Mound Thursday evening by Tony Harris, OP, Prioress of the Sinsinawa Congregation. Noting the keen commitment to the arts felt by their founder, Father Samuel Mazzuchelli, OP, Sister Harris spoke of Sinsinawa Dominicans in the 1850s who traveled to Europe to study art under the masters, of the piano teachers who had been the congregation's "bread and butter" and of her own recent experience in painting and praying with icons. "I welcome you preachers of the Word," she told the DIA Gathering. "You are gifts to the Order ... true gifts to all of us."



photo by Barbara Kelley

Daley addresses group with final message

At the business meeting on July 23, outgoing DIA president Joeann Daley, OP, gave her final report, noting the organization's six-year history expressed in annual conferences, the works of the members, the *DIA Newsletter* and the web site. She sees a bright future for the DIA and a greater role for the arts, with an increasing number of Promoters of the Arts serving along with Promoters of Peace and Justice and Promoters of Preaching. "The DIA will play a central role in connecting with the Dominican family through the Federation, the Dominican Leadership Conference and other groups within the Order and in the broader community."



photo by Jeanne Stickling

Many thanks to the Planning Committee for the 2002 Gathering whose excitement for the theme, "The Gift You Have Received, Give as Gift," made the conference a true gift: Janet Weyker, OP; Jeanne Stickling, OP; Antonetta Martinka, OP; Janet Wright, OP; Pat Daly, OPA. Not pictured, Theresa Ann Palmisano, OP.

You brought your gifts! You shared your talents! You experimented with something new!
Gathering 2002 Gathering 2002 Gathering 2002 Gathering 2002

Keynote speakers set tone



photo by Elaine DesRosiers

Isabel Rafferty, OP, in a keynote address offered her reflections on the conference theme. An art therapist now serving as Sinsinawa's Director of Initial Membership, Isabel used a number of symbols and metaphors – including story and time – to describe the gifts and calling of artists.

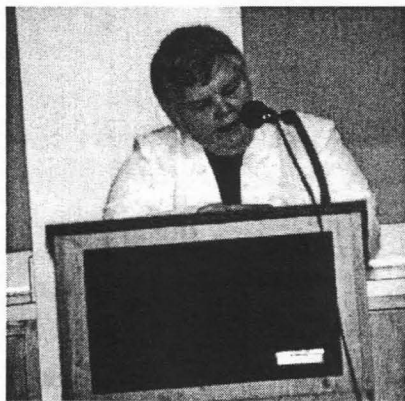


photo by Barbara Kelley

Under the leadership of Ann Willits, OP, keynote speaker, all Gathering participants had an opportunity to reflect on and discuss the spirituality of art during a special discussion session on Sunday evening. A poet and member of the Parable preaching team, Ann noted that artists are called to “see and then to see again,” to see what is beneath the surface of reality. “Artists do not relegate daily life to the mundane” but see every day as gift and grace.

Panel discusses art as therapy

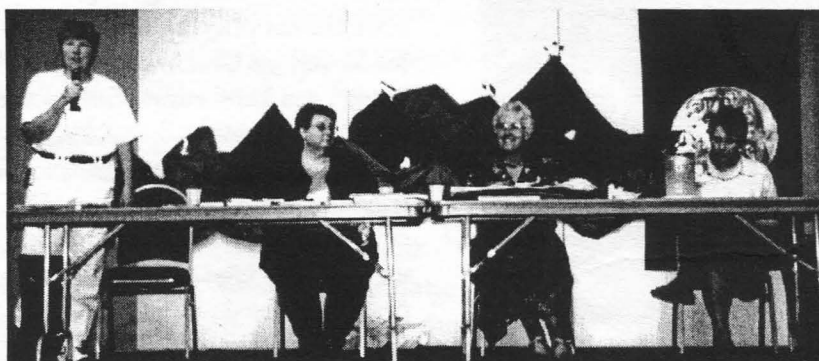


photo by Barbara Kelley

The artists were reminded of the importance of art to society at large when, on Monday afternoon, they listened to a panel discussion on art therapy by Elizabeth Slenker, OP; Peg Gabik, OP; Barbara Kukla, OP; and Isabel Rafferty, OP. The art therapists discussed ways they use the arts to help clients express negative emotions and begin to recover from traumatic experiences.

Concert brightens our night



photo by Barbara Kelley

Music and other performance arts were also not neglected. Musician, composer and singer Jim Marchionda, OP, and friends from his parishes performed a rousing concert Saturday evening of his sacred music and that of other composers. He and his group also led the music for the liturgy the following morning.

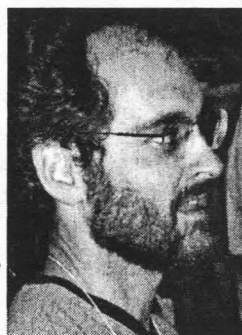


photo by Elaine DesRosiers

Time was scheduled for sharing productions. Dominic DeLay, OP, showed a film he produced, “The Soda Jerk.”

Art is exhibited



photo by Elaine DesRosiers

Conference participants exhibited their art work in the main hall of the Mound for the six days of the Gathering. Gracing the hall were paintings of various media, photographs, pottery, sculptures and weavings – gifts to the eye not only for Gathering participants but also for all who walked the halls of the Mound during the conference. Above, Jean Vianney Norris, OP, and Pat Daly, OPA, admire Isabel Rafferty's painting.



photo by Adele Rowland

Phyllis Mrozinski, OP, carries the Fra Angelico Award in the Offertory Procession.

Prayer reflects art forms

Prayer was an integral part of the Gathering. Morning prayer each day focused on praying through particular art forms. Friday morning's prayer was led by Racine Dominicans Jean Ackerman, OP, pianist; Gayle Bogdanowitz, OP, potter; and Pat Chaffee, OP, poet. Pat read a series of reflective poems – by herself and others – to the background of classical music, the contemplative movements of the potter and the unexpected liturgical dancing of Michelle White, a friend of the Sinsinawa Dominicans. During Saturday's prayer, participants received nature photos from photographer Pat Daly and spent time reflecting on the message God meant to give them through their particular photo. Monday's prayer focused on painting and story-telling. Members experienced Elaine DesRosiers, OP reciting a prayer by noted author Joyce Rupp while participants enjoyed slides of water colors by Janet Wright, OP.

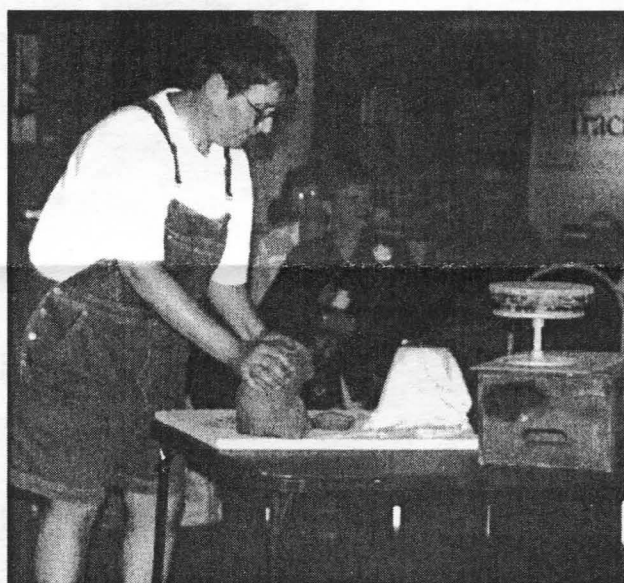


photo by Barbara Kelley

Gayle Bogdanowitz, OP, prays with clay.

Sunday Liturgy includes reflection and procession

Highlighting the group's prayer was the Sunday morning Liturgy, a celebration of the arts as gifts given by God and shared with the world. In her reflection, Jean Vianney Norris, OP, spoke of how an elderhostel trip to the Grand Canyon refreshed her spirits in a time of dry spirituality, led her to pray to God the Creator and helped her to see how all artists – painters, photographers, dancers, potters, weavers, sculptors, dramatists, musicians and poets — can praise God through the wonders of creation. "We, as artists, all of us, are creators, too, and we must continue to use our talents in praise of God, and continue to share them with others." The theme of art as gift was also carried through in the Offertory processions, in which symbols of the gifts of the arts were brought forward: the Fra Angelico medallion, a woven cloth, paint brushes and a blank canvas, pottery, music of the saxophone, the movements of a dancer, and a torch.

You brought your gifts! You shared your talents! You experimented with something new!

Gathering 2002 Gathering 2002 Gathering 2002 Gathering 2002

Studio time opens new talents

Gathering participants also spent a great deal of time doing what they do best – art. In four two-hour sessions, the artists had the opportunity to develop their skills in their own particular art or to try their hand at an art form that was new to them. Art “studios” offered throughout the Gathering were: Children’s Music, led by Rudolf Loewenstein, OP; Graphics, Jude Bloch, OP; Illumination and Calligraphy, Janet Weyker, OP; Music, an all-jam session, Rudolf Loewenstein, OP; Painting/Collage, Alyce Van Acker, OP; Photography, Pat Daly, OPA; Poetry, Armando Ibáñez, OP, and Martha Bartholomew, OPA; Pottery, Gayle Bogdanowitz, OP; Sketching, Pat Lee, OP; Theater/Drama, Elaine Taylor, OP; Video Techniques, Mary Fran Gorman, OP; Weaving, Sarajane Seaver, OP; and Wood-Carving, Grace Dennis, OP. On Monday evening the artists celebrated and shared with each other the art they had completed during the studio sessions.

Hysterical, Spiritual, Rhetorical, Theatrical

What do these four words hold in common? The COFFEE HOUSE, of course! Friday night the members at the DIA joined in as an over-indulged audience to watch the others step forth to share their gifts.

The infamous Ann Willits took the prize for hysterical as she shared her story of My Confirmation. Barb Schwarz gave all of us fair warning about Chicago’s O’Hare Airport by relating all her true yet humorous travel woes. Theatrically speaking, our own Broadway Babes, opened our evening with an array of “oldies but goodies” Broadway hits. A round of applause to Elaine Taylor, Antonetta Martinka (Tink), and Ann Parrish (guest) for all the fun-filled memories.

Anita Smisek and Rudolph Loewenstein combined their musical talents in a duet entitled With a Hook and a Whirl. Rudolph continued with a song With Artist’s Brush and his ever famous children’s songs, including: Lullaby, We Are On Our Own Today and The Sheep Carol (known to some as “Meh Meh Meh”, or to others as “Beh Beh Beh.” Obviously English and American sheep do differ!)

The evening continued with one surprise after another, such as the jokes of Mary Fran Gorman and her gifted voice singing a beautiful solo All Alone from the musical Les Miz. Janice Holkup explained her 3-D sculpture Trickle Down Economics which uniquely portrayed her insight on societal issues.

Martha Bartholomew, Jean Ackerman, Armando Ibáñez and Pat Daly all read their insightful poetry. All the selections were memorable and once more echoed the grace, depth and spirituality of our Dominicans who do indeed Preach through the Arts! Editor’s note: These will appear in the next issue.

Humbly submitted by your Coffee House M.C., Kathleen L. Voss, OP

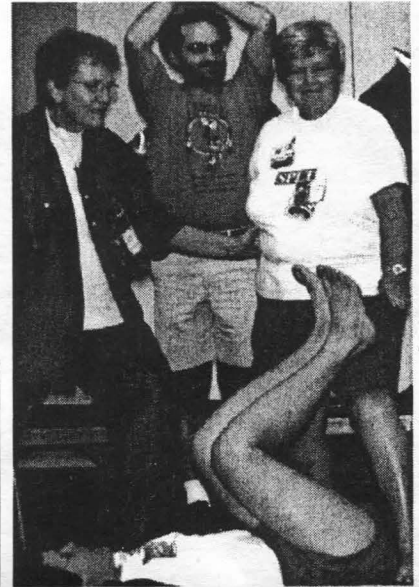


photo by Barbara Kelley

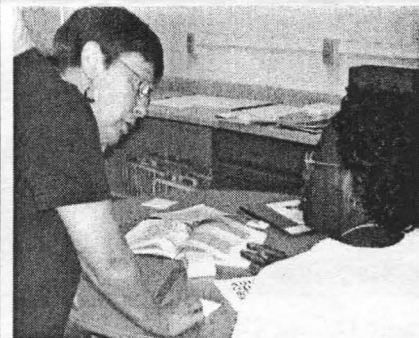


photo by Elaine DesRosiers



photo by Barbara Kelley

Above are glimpses of the “Studios” of Elaine Taylor, OP; Janet Wyker, OP; and Pat Lee, OP.

You brought your gifts! You shared your talents! You experimented with something new!
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< Joella Miller, OP, answers questions about the Constitutions and by-laws before the Membership voted to accept them.

photo by Elaine DesRosiers

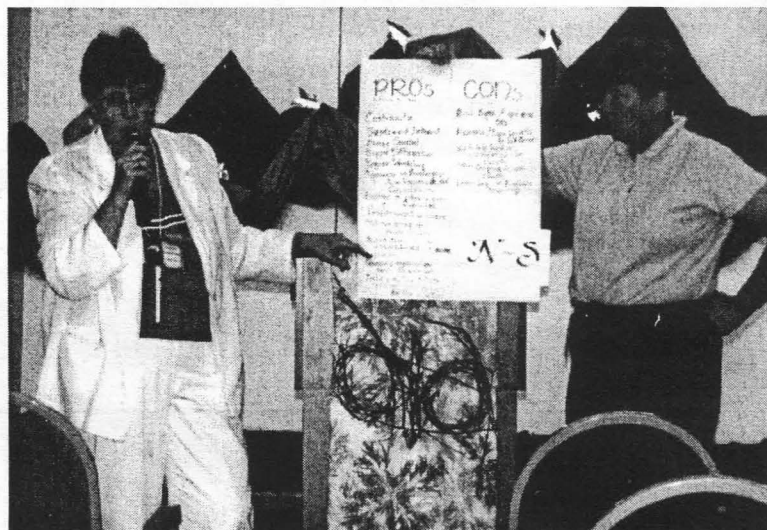


photo by Barbara Kelley

Elizabeth Slenker, OP, holds the chart for Jeanne Stickling, OP, as she gives the results of the discussion on annual or two-year Gatherings. Because more people were in favor of the annual event, the yearly Gathering will continue for the present.



photo by Elaine DesRosiers

Dominic DeLay, OP, announces the illness of Armando Ibáñez at breakfast to a shocked crowd.

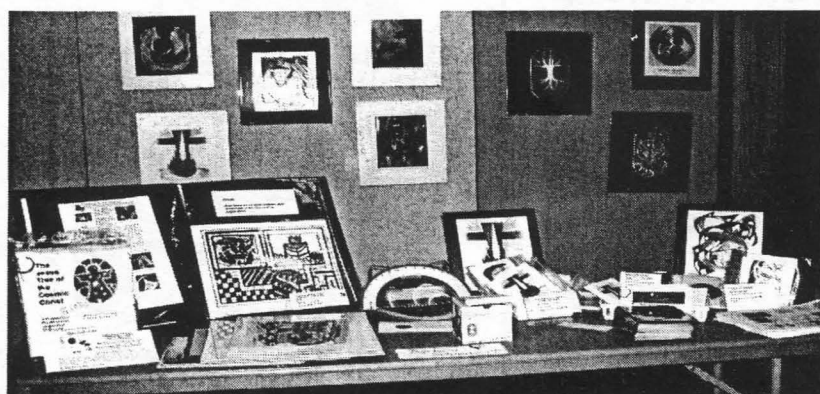


photo by Elaine DesRosiers

Barbara Schwarz's table was one of many displays in the meeting hall.



photo by Jeanne Stickling

Irene Mary Diones, OP, distributes cards to Monica Obongwina, OP, and Janice Holkup, OP, at the Membership Commissioning at the closing.

What's Doing?

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

Joann Niehaus, OP, announces *Art at the Motherhouse: A Prayerful Tour of the Sculptures of Sr. Mary Peter Tremonte*. This Lenten Day of Prayer, sponsored by the Preaching Committee, will feature a walking tour of the Houston Motherhouse grounds to view and pray at 10 sites of the sculpture of Sr. Mary Peter Tremonte, OP. The tours will be guided by a sister/docent giving a short talk on each piece, on the composition, and the artist's inspiration. Parts of the day will be set aside for shared and private prayer for the participants. A gallery of models and smaller pieces will be mounted in the Sisters Meeting Room. The public is invited. Overnight accommodations are available. Saturday, March 8, 2003, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., 6501 Alameda Rd., Houston, TX. For more information, call 713-747-3310 or email jniehaus@domhou.org.

Reid Perkins-Buzo, OP, received the 2002 Award for Excellence in Art and Technology from the Center for Art and Technology at Northwestern University. The Award was given to Reid in recognition of his installation pieces, *Portal* and *En Sof = Ayin*, as well as his contributions to organizing the Center's Symposium, "Spirituality, Art and Technology" (May 23-25, 2002) and "Reality and Art" (May 24-26, 2001). Perkins-Buzo screened his short film *Quantum Memory* (written and directed by him and produced by Lumen Multimedia) at the 17th International Catholic Film and Multimedia Festival in Warsaw, Poland, May 21-24, 2002. It has also been shown at the CIVA Festival, May 2001 and the Dublin Film Centre in June 2001. Critics have found it "deeply moving, a film that probes the meaning of anamnesis and Christian friendship."

Thoma Swanson, OP's, two watercolor hangings *La Mujer Doblada* and *Good News*, were chosen to hang in the Sacred Art Juried Exhibition of the Golden Isles Arts and Humanities Association, July 19-September 1 in Brunswick, Georgia. Thoma's watercolor painting, *Camino Pedregoso*, will hang in the Ohio Watercolor Society's 25th Annual Juried Exhibition which opens September 28 at the Appalachian Gateway, Southern State Community College, Sardinia, Ohio. This painting has also been selected for the traveling exhibition, which will journey throughout Ohio in 2003.

Pauline Quinn, OP, on August 8th, was flown to Victoria, British Columbia where a film crew is doing a documentary about her life and her work in prisons with dogs and how they are used to heal. In addition, inmates at the California Institution for Women (CIW) are being recruited to participate in Pauline's innovative program to benefit mobility-impaired citizens in the community. On September 17 inmates will begin training puppies to become service dogs for the disabled.

Anne Lythgoe, OP, of Elkins Park has been appointed the first National Communication Coordinator for the Dominican Leadership Conference (DLC).

Ann Rozalia Szabo, OP was one of 40 senior artists whose works were exhibited at an art show at St. Bernadette Parish in Albuquerque, NM. Szabo showed two watercolor paintings and five pottery pieces. She also created unique Southwestern hand-built bowls for Albuquerque's Project Share, which will be raising money for meals for the homeless on October 27, 2002 at the Pueblo Indian Cultural Center. Over 100 artists will be featured. Nine restaurants are donating bowls and soup for this event. For a donation of ten dollars a guest can select a bowl, fill it with soup, and listen to live entertainment while creating hope for the homeless.

Janice Holkup, OP, will have three pieces in the Washington Art Education Association educators' show at the Art Institute of Seattle from September 23-October 31. Holkup writes, "I am excited as my work makes more sense to me when it is shown. It is about visual communication with a broader public. One of the pieces will be the *Trickle Down Economics*, work I showed this summer at DIA."

Elaine DesRosiers, OP, will play the role of the old, slightly demented Carmelite Nun, Sister Prudence, in the theater production of *Edith Stein* by Arthur Giron. The drama will have five showings in November at Little Flower Church in South Bend, Indiana.

Artists of the Lord, bless the Lord!

by Thoma Swanson, OP

Advent, with its rich imagery of light and darkness, of anticipation and fulfillment, is a fertile source of inspiration for artists. We are the ones especially gifted by God to make this holy time come alive, become visible or audible to the people of God. We are the ones who push the metaphors, who plumb the depths of history, science, nature, human experience and revelation. Our gift is to find ways to ignite the hearts of our fellow Christians so that the promise of a Redeemer may become a vivid reality as we anticipate Christ's coming in historical time and eternal time.

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.

From earliest time LIGHT has been a sign and symbol of Advent. It is an accessible symbol because we all have experienced what it is to walk in darkness; what it means to carry a lamp. We each have our own knowledge of shadow and gloom, of light and brilliance. Our God has not left us to grope our way blindly through life; God the Artist has given us more than lamps; he has taught us with metaphors of light in scripture. We have the sun and the stars by which we can confidently find our path and banish our fear of the night. Through prayerful art, song and poetry, we light these lamps, we contemplate the sun and the stars to experience again the wonderful truth of Advent: that God shows us our way and showers us with gifts as he awaits us in the fullness of time.

Rise up in splendor! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines around you!

The birth of Christ was not celebrated by the early Christians; it is first mentioned in a calendar of Philocalus, possibly written in the year 324. The calendar is headed *Kal. Ianu. Natus Christus in Betleem Iudae*, or, *Christ is born the 25 of December in Bethlehem of Judea*. In the pagan world the 25th of December was the feast of the birth of the unconquered sun, *Natalis Solis Invicti*. After the winter solstice in the Northern Hemisphere, the sun begins little by little to conquer the darkness. Christians, sensitive to this symbolism, adopted this natural event and made of it a metaphor for the day of Christ's birth. Thus the Church "baptized" the pagan feast, giving us the image of *Christ, Invincible Sun*; and *Christ the Light, Conqueror of Darkness*.

Where is the child born King of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him.

We are awed by the mystery of the star that announced the birth of Jesus, and the understanding which the wise men of the east possessed of this star. The theme of light and enlightenment continues with the evidence of the oldest liturgical celebration of the Nativity occurring in a sermon of Optato of Mileve in the year 360. It appears that the celebration of Jesus' birth also included a feast in honor of the Adoration of the Magi and the martyrdom of the

Innocents. It seems that the Nativity since its origin has been the celebration of the appearance of the Christ as a human person and his manifestation to the Jews and to the nations of the world.

Bless God, sun and moon,

Bless God, stars of heaven.

As we anticipate Advent and try to express its meaning, let us explore in our art the theme of light and its mystical meaning which recur so frequently in nature – the sun, moon, stars, fireflies lighting up the night, the sunflower turning her head to follow the sun, the rainbow, the eclipse of the sun or moon.

The mystery of Advent is Christ who comes, but at the same time, Christ who is awaited.



Christus-Sol

Early 4th century mosaic ceiling of a Christian burial chamber in the Vatican Grottoes, Rome. Christ appears as the sun in his chariot, the Apollo of the ancients.
*Pen and ink drawing,
Thoma Swanson, OP*

Letter from the Editor

Perhaps some of you are looking for the material you submitted for this newsletter? You were so good in your response that we ran out of space in favor of reporting on the Gathering! I also regret that due to the lateness of this issue, I had to eliminate some of the announcements that became outdated. I want to thank Barbara Kelley, OP, for her written summary of the Gathering which, along with the writings of Thoma Swanson, OP; Kathleen Voss, OP; Armando Ibáñez, OP; and Colleen Gallagher, OP, will keep our memories alive. I hope I have correctly credited the photographers, whose contribution was great.

Another issue will be out in February. It will include what we couldn't fit into this one, plus the announcements, achievements, etc. you submit. Many of the poems from the Gathering will be printed. This will be an appropriate time to submit other poems. The new deadline in January 15, 2003.

*I am interested in having additional help on the staff.
If you are so inclined, please let me know.*

Elaine DesRosiers, OP, editor

Bulletin Board

The Liturgical Arts Guild of Ohio has issued its call for entries for the 18th Biennial Exhibition – Contemporary Works of Faith '03. Slide deadline is October 30, 2002. The exhibition will be at the Schumacher Gallery of Capital University, Columbus, Ohio, March 4 through April 4, 2003. To request a brochure, send a SASE to Liturgical Arts Guild, 501 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215, call Joan Marks at 614-235-9652 between 9 a.m. and 7p.m. east coast time, or e-mail: wrkft03@aol.com. This exhibition is open to all, not limited to Ohio Artists.

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

DIA preaches at Dominican Day

Three members gave the DIA reason to be proud at the recent Dominican Day in Philadelphia. On September 14, the day prior to the Catholic Coalition on Preaching Conference at the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel, when the 103 Dominican women and men met for a day of theological reflection, the Promoters of Justice, the Communicators, and the Dominican Institute of the Arts each made presentations. Representing the DIA were Ann Willits, OP; Carolyn Roeber, OP; and Amy McFrederick, OP, who performed the difficult task of improvisation of words related to preaching justice.



photo by Lorena Bole

McFrederick at the keyboard on Dominican Day.

TWO

important dates!

DIA GATHERING 2003

Sparkill, New York

July 24-27, 2003

DIA NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

January 15, 2003

YES! I want to join the DIA!

Name.....

Address.....

Phone.....

E-mail.....

Congregation/Province.....

My artist interests are.....

Annual membership begins in January.

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

Artists gather in Venezuela

When 42 Dominicans from all the countries of South America as well as Mexico and the Caribbean gathered in Caracas, Venezuela, August 5-10 for the First Encounter of Dominican Artists in Caracas, *RUAH* (The Spirit) was certainly at work! The participants decided to create their own version of DIA for South America and the Caribbean. The participants overwhelmingly expressed the desire to establish a close relationship with DIA and collaborate with us in joint projects.

Armando Ibáñez, OP, who was not able to attend because of his recent illness, held a 45-minute telephone conference with the participants. Armando reported, "Their questions and excitement were awesome!" DIA president Barbara Schwarz sent the Caracas Gathering a most inspiring e-mail. The letter was translated into Spanish and read to all of the participants. Barbara's wishes touched those gathered so much so that they responded with the following poem:

La verdad resplandece como estrella,
la contemplación ha fructificado
y el milagro de la comunicación
entre oración y denuncia van.

Truth shines like a star
Contemplation has borne fruit
and the miracle of communication
rises as prayer or exposé.

Because Armando's co-workers Carlos and Patrice Valladares taped the event, the video and DVD of this event will be available in English and Spanish this fall.

Visit our Web site at
<http://www.diaonline.org>

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