



Newsletter

October 2008

Dignity & St. Ignatius Liturgy Schedules

Ravenna United Methodist Church	5751-33 rd Ave NE	Seattle
Every Sunday	→	10:30 a.m. St. Ignatius (UPSTAIRS)
Oct 12, Nov 9	→	6:00 p.m. Dignity/Seattle

Another reason to attend St. Ignatius: A pancake breakfast following Mass is held every 4th Sunday--a shared fellowship with our host congregation, Ravenna UMC.

35th Anniversary Celebration!

Saturday, October 18th, 5:30—10:00 p.m.
Rock Salt on Lake Union, 1233 Westlake

Please join Dignity/Seattle as we celebrate 35 years of service to the GLBT community of Seattle and Western Washington. Festivities will be highlighted by a dinner and dance. A \$50 donation is requested; RSVPs are due by October 10th. Dinner selections include Salmon, Prime Rib, Chicken Cordon Bleu and Penne Primavera.

Invitations have been mailed out to everyone on Dignity/Seattle's active contact list. If you have not received one and would like to help us celebrate, please see p.3 for contact information.

Silent Auction Fundraiser

A silent auction fundraiser to benefit the DignityUSA is being planned during our celebration. We are looking for Dignity/Seattle members to make gift baskets or provide services that people can bid upon. We already have a couple items to auction, but more are needed. Please contact Leo: Legashira@yahoo.com or 206/723-4759.

Other Events

Northwest AIDS Walk

Saturday, October 4th, 9:00 a.m.

Volunteer Park, Seattle

www.lifelongevents.org/site/PageServer

Retreat for GLBTs with Cancer

Friday—Sunday, November 7-9, 2008

Harmony Hill Retreat Center, Union WA

Harmony Hill offers a wide range of programs for people with cancer, including yoga classes. They will be offering a free retreat (with a \$50 deposit refunded in full at the end of the retreat) specifically for GLBT persons living with cancer. More information: www.harmonyhill.org.

President's Report 2007-2008

(Given at Annual Membership Meeting, Sept. 27, 2008)

This has been a quiet year for Dignity/Seattle. Our roster stands at around 28 active members. We have lost some members, but have also gained some new ones. It is hard to know if the drop in membership has to do with DignityUSA's reinstating the dues requirement, or if it is just through natural movement of people. We would like to remind everyone that the board of directors reinstated the John Peterson Scholarship Fund which is available for anyone wishing to become a Dignity member, but needing assistance with paying the dues.

We have continued meeting for liturgy on the second Sunday of each month. We have been blessed to have Fr. Philip Knowles as a presider most months. We have been invited to join Fr. Philip's parish of St. Ignatius. They meet on Sunday mornings also at Ravenna United Methodist Church. Most major feasts of the year have included an invitation to join St. Ignatius and Ravenna United Methodist for a combined ecumenical celebration.

We celebrated our 20th Pride Week Breakfast in June. It was a great success. We donated \$900 to MultiFaith Works. Our other recipient was to be Verbena, but because of some internal problems on their part, they are no longer in existence. They had hoped to reorganize and reopen, but it does not look like that is going to happen, so the board is looking for another organization to donate to. We are open to any suggestions by members.

The board started having quarterly birthday/anniversary celebrations this year. We decided to have these celebrations at the local restaurants that have supported our Pride Week Raffle. We have met at Mae's Phinney Ridge Café, Julia's, and The Rosebud. Our gatherings have been a fun time for current and former members and friends to come together. We have plans to continue these gatherings in the year to come, and to have other social events also. *(continued on page 2)*

President's Report*(continued from front page)*

We will be celebrating our 35th Anniversary as a chapter on October 18th. Contact the board if you did not receive an invitation yet. We are planning a dinner and dance at the Rock Salt on Lake Union. Also in the plans is a silent auction to benefit DignityUSA.

The DignityUSA National Convention will be held in San Francisco on July 2-5, 2009. We would like to have as many Seattle members attend as possible. Dignity's 40th Anniversary will be celebrated and it will be a great gathering for all. We are exploring ways to help get members there and will welcome any suggestions. This is a great opportunity for members to attend a convention if they have never been, especially since it is practically in our backyard. Mark your calendars now and plan to join us there.

I would like to give a special thanks to the some of the people who have given of their time and talent this year. First to the board, Denise, Delia, Alan and Jim, thanks for your leadership and commitment. To Denise for keeping our liturgies organized and a presider present. To Paula H., Marc and Mike for their gift of music and leadership during the liturgies. To Jim W. for making the bread for the Eucharist. Thanks also to Jim R. for keeping us in coffee and food after every liturgy. Thanks to the many people who helped out at our Pride Week Breakfast and made it the success it was. And a very special thanks to Leo for continuing to be our newsletter editor and keeping us all aware of what is happening locally and nationally in the gay community.

I look forward to a new year and new opportunities for Dignity/Seattle to grow and thrive. I welcome any suggestions or input from members. Thanks for a good year.

Paula Lavallee
President, Dignity/Seattle

Dignity/VancouverBC/Dignité

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Our sister chapter to the north sponsors liturgies, potlucks and other events monthly. As of press time no information for the fall quarter was received. If you are heading across the border, please contact Dignity/Vancouver BC.

Treasurer's Report: FYE Sept. 27, 2008

Submitted by Delia Vita. Treasurer

CHECKING ACCOUNT:

Beginning Balance 09/24/07		\$835.58
Scholarship fund		
J. Petersen Scholarship fund transferred		
from savings account	\$200.00	
Scholarship fund: donation	50.00	
Subtotal		250.00
Monthly Collection		1733.00
Donation from members & friends		1575.00
PW Breakfast & raffle ticket sales	2432.50	
PW Donation from members & friends	465.00	
PW Deposit refund	100.00	
Subtotal		2997.50
Total scholarship fund and donation		<u>6555.50</u>
Subtotal		<u>7391.08</u>

Operating Expenses

PO Box Rental	108.00	
Telephone	457.21	
Advertising	330.00	
Liturgy	270.00	
Newsletter	654.66	
Rent	825.00	
Subtotal		2644.87
PW breakfast expenses		
Supplies	77.71	
Food	236.67	
Rent	200.00	
Subtotal		514.38
Donation Multifaith	900.00	
Donation Verbena	0.00	
Subtotal		900.00
Total Expenses		4059.25

Ending Balance	<u>\$3,331.83</u>
Donation to Verbena	-900.00
Membership Scholarship fund	-250.00
Total Available fund	\$2,181.83

SAVINGS ACCOUNT:

Beginning Balance	\$1,795.92
John Petersen Scholarship fund	
transferred to checking account	-200.00
Interest income	2.88
Ending Balance	<u>\$1,598.80</u>

Official Business

Dignity/Seattle Board Members

Paula Lavallee	returning
Denise Arceneaux	re-elected
Delia Vita	returning
Alan Scott	returning
Michael Linden	newly elected

DignityUSA Board Member from Seattle

Leo Egashira At large (Communications)

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We provide a safe environment for people to reconcile our God-given gifts of sexual orientation and our Catholic faith through gay-affirming liturgies. Being part of the Dignity/Seattle family means claiming ownership of our faith and living up to the responsibilities of that ownership.

Board Minutes Summary, Sept. 10, 2008

(Edited. For complete minutes, see Secretary)

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at Delia Vita's house. Dignity prayer was read. All board members were present, except Alan Scott. Minutes were read.

M/M/S/C: To approve the July 9, 2008 meeting minutes as submitted.

Treasurer's report: (Delia Vita—See Annual Report)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Social Committee: (Delia V.)

About a dozen people attended the Summer Quarterly Social at Mae's on August 16th.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Annual membership meeting and elections: Jim Rankin, Denise Arceneaux and Mike Linden are running. We need a third of the members to make up a quorum. The parlor is available then. Jim W. and Bob M. are chairing the Election Board. Delia V. and Paula L. will present reports. There will be time given for members to ask questions of candidates before there is a vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 35th Anniversary Party: (See front page for details) Invitations—Paula & Delia. Silent auction: We are currently soliciting items for Leo for his National Board

Member requirement. Cake: Delia. Decorations: Delia. Music: Delia & Paula. History booklet: Denise.

- Convention in San Francisco: The convention starts on July 2nd. The Pride Breakfast is currently scheduled for June 27th.

Next Board Meeting: 6:00 p.m., Thursday, October 9, 2008, at Delia's home.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.
 Respectfully submitted by
 Denise Arceneaux, Secretary

Annual Membership Meeting, Sept, 27, 2008

(Edited. See President's & Treasurer's reports.)

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at Ravenna UMC. A quorum was present.

Paula Lavallee distributed the President's report. She asked for input on three items:

- Since Verbena is no longer in existence, she asked for input on where the money should go. Among the suggestions were the women's shelter and the Pride Foundation.
- 35th Anniversary Party: The Rock Salt is in the same building as that which was used for the 20th Anniversary. Since the restaurant has a sound system, we decided that a DJ was not necessary.
- The Convention in San Francisco: Since it's so close, how we can get more people from Seattle to attend Convention 2009? She also asked the membership whether or not we should still do the breakfast since it coincides with the Gay Pride Parade in San Francisco. The membership decided that we were still going to do the Breakfast.

Delia Vita distributed the Treasurer's report. Our average operating expenses was approx. \$144/month and our average collection was approx. \$155/month. We kept our operating expenses down to \$2644.00 for the year and that although \$3331.83 is currently in our checking, the total available funds from checking (minus the money set aside for Verbena and money for the Anniversary Party) is actually about \$2100. She also indicated that we netted \$2500 from the Breakfast and thanked everyone for donating to Dignity/Seattle.

Mike Linden, who is running on the Board, introduced himself to the membership. Votes were tallied and Jim Rankin received 4 votes, Denise Arceneaux received 13 votes, and Mike Linden received 15 votes. Thanks were given to Jim W., Bob M. and Tish C. for helping with the elections.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.
 Respectfully submitted by:
 Denise Arceneaux, Secretary