



NAABOD Newsletter

January 2015

Mission Statement

The North American Association of Benedictine Oblate Directors provides assistance to and ongoing formation for directors of oblates. It provides a forum for discerning needs and issues associated with this formation activity guidelines for leadership and the oblate way of life.



Greetings Oblate Directors,

May the New Year bring you and your Monasteries many blessings. May the year bring hope and health to our many and diverse Benedictine communities.

With the invaluable assistance of Fr. Mark Stengel and his planning committee, I am ready to provide you with registration and schedule information for NAABOD 2015. I will attach the registration & schedule files to this newsletter. It is our hope that each of you will be able to attend.

NAABOD 2015 Biennial Meeting/Conference

Subiaco Abbey, Subiaco, AR

July 10 – 15, 2015

Nurturing Benedictine Spirituality: From Theory to Practice

Presenters

Sister Karen Joseph, OSB
Monastery of the Immaculate Conception, Ferdinand, IN

Abbot Jerome Kodell, OSB
Subiaco Abbey, Subiaco, AR

Sr. Macrina Wiederkehr, OSB
St. Scholastica Monastery, Fort Smith, AR

If you wish to attend, but the dates do not work for you, please send 2 oblates to represent your community. If you would like to attend, but finances prevent your attendance, please contact me. Scholarship money is available. The NAABOD Conferences provide an opportunity for:

- enrichment and renewal for all who attend,
- more effective networking between and among monasteries with oblate chapters, and

- the development of new leaders not only among our directors but among our oblates.

We have an excellent cohort of keynote speakers and have made every effort to keep our expenses down. As at previous conferences, there will be:

- guided tours of our hosting site, Subiaco Abbey,
- prayer, tours, and an evening meal at St. Scholastica Monastery, Fort Smith, AR, and
- opportunities to visit points of interest in the region.

One of the many attractive features of the Subiaco Abbey campus is a swimming pool. So, remember to bring along your swimming attire. The weather will be warm and a dip in the pool will be delightful.

At our business meeting, Sr. Priscilla Cohen, Sacred Heart Monastery, Cullman, AL, will present the NAABOD financial report. And, we will also have an election of officers. The current NAABOD officers will be completing their four-year term.

President

The President will serve a four-year term, with the possibility of re-election for two more years.

Vice President

The Vice President will serve a four-year term, with the possibility of re-election for two more years. Amended 07-02-2011 to read: The Vice President shall serve a coterminous term with the President. If the President is elected for four years, the Vice President shall serve a four year term. If the President is elected for a second term of two years, the Vice President, same person or new, shall also serve a two year term. In this way each election of officers always includes the election of both a President and Vice President.

(NAABOD Constitution—Revised 2010)

I would be honored to serve as your president of a second term of two more years. However, at this time, nominations are open. Please, prayerfully discern the possibility new leadership for NAABOD and submit your nominations to Fr. Paschal Morlino at (pamorlino@aol.com). Indicate if the nomination is for president or vice president. Thank you.

As we anticipate NAABOD 2015, please send me the list of all oblate directors and oblates who have died since NAABOD 2013 (July 12-17, 2013). If you have already sent me information, please re-send. And, to assure that I receive your email, please require a 'read receipt' confirmation. Thank you.

Please, consult the websites of the other Benedictine Monasteries for retreats, conferences/presentations, etc. that might be of interest to you or your oblates.

In closing, I want to thank you for your dedicated ministry to your oblates. As we all know, this is an work for the Church and for our Benedictine Monasteries/Abbeys. Non-monastics are attracted the Benedictine Spirituality. It is a privilege to be a part of this special ministry.

Blessings & Peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "S. Bonita Gacnik". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

S. Bonita Gacnik, OSB
NAABOD, President