

A. P. Ozanam

V E T E R A MONIMENTA

"A Newsletter for Vincentians, by Vincentians"

July, 2021 | A monthly newsletter of Tools, Resources and Activities for Vincentians in Contra Costa County

Calendar

Home Visit Training

Thursday, July 8th
6:00 PM - 8:30 PM on Zoom

Knights of Columbus-St. Joan of Arc 15th Annual

Swing for Charity Golf Tournament
Monday, July 19th
10:30 AM - 5:30 PM

Spirituality & Formation Commitee Meeting

Tuesday, July 20th
Noon- 1:00 PM on Zoom

Tuesdays with Vincent

Tuesday, August 3rd
6 PM - 8 PM on Zoom

Ozanam Orientation in Two Parts

Thursday, August 12th - Part 1
Thursday, August 19th - Part 2
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM on Zoom

SVdP National Assembly

August 25th-28th, - Houston, Tx
In Person or on Zoom

**All Links to Above Sessions on
Page 8**

Bob Liles' Corner

We Are Hiring!

SVdP is currently looking to hire a Director of Finance. For more information check out the top of the screen at www.svdpc.org.

Please pass this information on to anyone that you know that may qualify or be interested!

We are also looking for more community mentor volunteers for our Workforce Development Program. Our mentors help teach participants necessary skills, like how to fill out a resume, how to conduct themselves during interviews, and how to find and keep gainful employment.

We have new rounds of classes starting soon, if you are interested in helping "teach people how to fish," as the saying goes, call Ron Costanzo at (925) 487-4986.

Meeting Tip - A Note on Minutes

The Society rarely votes on items. We strive for consensus. This is especially true regarding the minutes. There is no need for a motion to accept the minutes. To save time, the minutes should be emailed to everyone prior to the meeting. Then, per Robert's Rules of Order, time should be allotted to allow anyone to submit corrections to the minutes, and when the corrections are done, the minutes can be accepted.

District Council Needs Sharepoint Help

If you know Microsoft Sharepoint can you help us migrate from Dropbox to Sharepoint? Please contact Claudia Ramirez at c.ramirez@svdp-cc.org or (925) 635-3219.



Continuum of Care - Tackling Homelessness

by Bob Liles



Bob Liles

Those Vincentians that attended the Western Regional Meeting or the mid-year National Assembly saw a powerful presentation by Joe Sabatino. He showed how his District Council, in partnership with other non-profits and the local Continuum of Care program, were able to reduce the number of homeless in Charlotte County, Florida from 828 in 2011 to 169. I think we need to bring him to the Bay Area and work his magic.

Several years ago I was part of a county wide workshop on the homeless. We were all asked our vision of the homeless situation in five years. Many were very optimistic and wrote how there would be no homeless in five years. One of the county's homeless staff was probably the most realistic when she wrote that she was just hoping that in five years the number of people becoming homeless would

equal the number of people getting housed.

Unfortunately, due to the pandemic her view was very optimistic.

Steve Krank and I disagree on what Contra Costa County is capable of. I believe that due to the price of housing in the Bay Area that we cannot achieve what was achieved in Florida. Steve thinks we can. I hope he is right. If you are interested in the Continuum of Care programs their newsletter is can be found at the link below.

[Click Here to Read More](#)

Hope Needs Proper Documentation

by Rick Richardson

At St. Vincent de Paul we hear the "Cry of the Poor." The team at Hope conference are getting slowed down in helping answer the "Cry of The Poor," because of the incomplete information and documentation on the applications.

We want to help you meet your clients needs as quickly as possible. Please help us by filling in the necessary forms as completely as possible. Every missing piece of information delays the client getting help. ALL THE INFORMATION REQUESTED ON THE FORMS IS ESSENTIAL FOR FUNDING. The Hope Conference has the money, but we need your support to answer the "Cry of the Poor."

When you as Vincentians and case managers receive documents from our neighbors in need, it is your responsibility to review them and make sure all the information is filled in properly before you submit the case..

Vincentians Transform lives

by Brian Boyle

I was hired by the St. Vincent de Paul District Council in August of 2020. It hasn't quite been a year yet, but I am still completely floored by the work that gets done here by the hundreds of Vincentian volunteers throughout the county.

I was hired to help with communications and development work. I design flyers, I do social media posts, and I design newsletters such as this one. The main part of my job that has often left me speechless, however, is talking to the various people you Vincentians have helped through your compassion and dedication.

My office at the District Council has a window which looks out over the Free Dining Room we host in partnership with Loaves and Fishes of Contra Costa. Every single day I get to see the hungry get fed. Some come in their cars, some on bikes, but many of them arrive and leave on foot, and those feet are often unshod. They often do not have much, but the free dining room and the community it has spawned around itself provides them a sense of normalcy, dignity and friendship.

I was lucky enough to meet a homeless man named Pablo who came to the free dining room everyday. He is 62 years old, and has been living in his car for the last 3 years. Through a series of lunchtime interviews, I was able to not only learn Pablo's story - he did manual labor until his boss and friend lost his business, and finding manual labor work at his age has been difficult, but also to become his friend. Pablo and I have shared a number of talks and lunchtimes. With Steve Krank, and Thrift Store Manager Willie Moffett, Jr., we were able to help Pablo get a new pair of clothes and new shoes. He was really proud when he told me he was going to use them as his job-interview clothes.

Last week was the last time I saw Pablo at our free dining room. He was happy to tell me he had found a job, and showed me his interview shoes I helped him pick out. I've never had a job I can say that has been as fulfilling as working at SVdP. I just want to take the opportunity to thank all of you Vincentians for the hard work you do, and for allowing me to share in these stories of transforming lives.



Home Visits – The Eucharist of the Society

The Spirituality and Formation committee is hosting a Virtual Home Visit Workshop for all Vincentians!

It's a chance to share your thoughts and perhaps learn tips about Home Visits. If you are new and have never been on a Home Visit, then maybe this workshop is the thing which will assist you on your journey of helping our neighbors.

This is a Zoom Workshop, so you don't have to drive. Just relax and enjoy five videos about home visiting and join in various discussions on this very important topic. Home Visits are the core activity around which Vincentians help our neighbors in need, and they can be both a intellectually and spiritually rewarding activity.

The Workshop is on Thursday July 8th from 6pm to 8:30pm.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9254395060?pwd=N3BxU0w4RjFiUnlQZ1BYWGVVcHIRUT09>

The Workshop ID is 9254395060 and the passcode is Ozanam.

We appreciate your RSVP to 925-200-5952, call or text. Please call Ron at 925-487-4986 if you have trouble logging in on July 8th



SVdP National Assembly - Houston, Texas

The National Council is excited to announce that they will be holding the 2021 National Assembly as a live event once again, though a virtual zoom option will be offered for those who cannot travel!

The meeting is taking place from August 25-28. Vincentians from all around the country will meet to discuss not only the work they do to help their neighbors in need, but also how they are living the mission of personally growing in friendship and spirituality!

[Click Here for More Info](#)

Ozanam Orientation

August 12th & 19th

Ozanam Orientations are the perfect opportunity to learn all about who we are as Vincentians, and the work we do as we live our mission of growing in Spirituality, Friendship and Service.

There will be two Ozanam Orientation sessions, part one on August 12th and part two on August 19th. The sessions will be on Zoom and will be from 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM both days.

New Vincentians benefit tremendously from this program because it gives an overview of history, spirituality, organization, and current endeavors of the Society, as well as an in-depth home visit information segment. Even the most experienced Vincentians have gained new insights by attending the Ozanam

Orientation. Everyone is invited to attend!

For information please contact Joyce Ohanesian at joy1936@comcast.net.



Invitation to Contribute News From Your Conference

You'll notice a lot of material in our newsletters is being written by names many of you have become familiar with over the years.

That is because this newsletter is a newsletter for and by Vincentians. That means YOU.

We both want and need you to contribute. If there is anything that you believe pertains to your life as a Vincentian, please feel free to share them.

Submit stories to Stephen Krank at s.krank@sudp-cc.org and we can grow our little Vincentian corner of the world into a truly bold and vibrant community.

Tuesdays with Vincent Bl. Rosalie Rendu

On August 3rd, Tuesdays with Vincent will focus on the topic “Blessed Rosalie Rendu,” and how she helped form and define what it means to be a Vincentian..

In this session you will learn:

All about Blessed Rosalie Rendu and her impact on the Society.

Sr. Lousie Sullivan, D.C., PhD, will be our guest host to follow up on our study for the August 3rd, Workshop from 6 PM - 8PM on Blessed Rosalie Rendu. You can access the meeting from the link below.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87034403349?pwd=bjJjdHlMSG44RFZ2L2s5bGtKNzZCdz09>

Presenter Bio: Louise Sullivan, D.C., PhD



Louise Sullivan, D.C. is a Daughter of Charity of the Province of Saint Louise USA. She has spent her professional life and ministry mostly in education: elementary, secondary and university. She has a BS in French Education from St. Joseph College, a Masters in French Language and Literature from the Catholic University of America and a PhD from L'Université de Paris IV: Sorbonne. She was Professor of French Language and Literature and Chair of the Department of Foreign Languages at Niagara University.

During her 23 years there, in addition to teaching, she was closely involved with the NY State Association for Foreign Languages and the formation of future language teachers, giving talks, papers and workshops with the group.

During her time living in Paris, while studying at the Sorbonne, she became a translator for the international Company of the Daughters of Charity. From that grew her passion for Vincentian Studies. She would edit, translate and write numerous Vincentian works, such as “The Spiritual Writings of Louise de Marillac (the definitive English Language translation),” and “The Core Values of Vincentian Education,” and she wrote the definitive biography of Bl. Rosalie Rendu, “Sister Rosalie Rendu: A Daughter of Charity on Fire with Love for the Poor,” in The Vincentian Studies Institute monograph series.

In recognition of her work in Vincentian Studies, she was a recipient of The Perboyre Medal from Niagara University, The Pierre Coste Prize from De Paul University and an Honorary Doctorate from Saint John's University

Sr. Rosalie Rendu

Sister Rosalie Rendu, a member of the Daughters of Charity for 70 years, who worked within the confines of perhaps the poorest area of Paris, was buried with the trappings of a state funeral from the church of Saint-Medard on February 9th, 1856. The rich and poor joined the procession behind the crucifix leading her to her final resting place. Religious and government partisans forgot their differences for a few hours to pay tribute to this humble, yet remarkable woman. The mighty and the downtrodden wept together. The following day Parisian newspapers described the singular event and paid tribute to Sister Rosalie.

To this day, a steady flow of pilgrims visits her grave. Many leave flowers or small marble plaques expressing gratitude. These outpourings testify to the truth of the inscription on the tomb, "To our good mother Rosalie, her grateful friends, the poor and the rich." An avenue in Paris where she labored bears her name. Newspaper articles still recall her accomplishments.

On 21 August 1997, Pope John Paul II beatified Frederic Ozanam, the principal founder of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, at Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris. In his homily, the Holy Father evoked Sister Rosalie's name. He stated, "The bonds among the members of the Vincentian Family have been strong since the origin of the Society because it was a Daughter of Charity, Sister Rosalie Rendu, who guided Frederic Ozanam and his companions toward persons who were poor in the Mouffetard section of Paris."

But who exactly is this woman who was herself beatified on November 9th, 2003?

What does her life have to say to men and women of our era who seek to reach out to those in need?

Join Tuesdays with Vincent in July to study Sr. Rosalee Rendu (Blessed) followed by a presentation on August 3rd, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM PT where you will get a chance to meet and talk to Sr. Louise Sullivan who wrote the book on Blessed Rosalee Rendu.

[Click Here to Download Sr. Sullivan's Book](#)

[Click Here to View this Month's Syllabus](#)



The 2021 SVdP Friends of the Poor Walk is Saturday, September 25

By Barb Hunt, SVdP Development Director

St. Vincent de Paul of Contra Costa County, (SVdP), will be hosting Friends of the Poor Walks across the county this year, on Saturday, September 25.

This is the 14th year that SVdP National has sponsored this program in order to support local Conferences. Any SVdP Conference can conduct their own local Walk, intended to raise funds and awareness within the parish and the local community about the work that St. Vincent de Paul does to support neighbors-in-need.

If your Conference is interested in hosting a FOP Walk, please register your Walk at the SVdP FOP Walk national website, www.fopwalk.org. The SVdP National FOP website has a toolbox for Walk Coordinators to use which includes tips on hosting a fun and successful Walk. The \$150 Walk registration fee will be reimbursed by the District Council upon proof of registration. Most Conference FOP Walks are held on the church grounds, with permission of the local pastor.

The District Council and SVdP National will be publicizing the FOP Walks through social media, flyers, the SVdP Contra Costa County website, press releases, national radio and more. If you need help registering your Conference Friends of the Poor Walk, please contact Barb Hunt at b.hunt@svdp-cc.org.

100% of all proceeds from your local SVdP Conference FOP Walk goes toward funding your local Conference programs.



Links

Tuesdays with Vincent

August 3rd 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87034403349?pwd=bjJjdHlMMSG44RFZ2L2s5bGtKNzZCdz09>

Dropbox:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/yfj70vzjy3bj5ky/AADDxY9E5ywnpl0DarZEVMrTa>

St. Vincent de Paul of Contra Costa County:

<https://www.svdpc-cc.org>

National Council Site for Vincentians:

<https://www.svdpusa.org/members/>

St. Vincent de Paul of Contra Costa County YouTube Page:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMKjgpCZOYqdmXRF0kn0tUg>

Formation & Training Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9254395060?pwd=N3BxU0w4RjFiUnlQZ1BYWGVVcHRUT09>

Meeting ID: 925 439 5060 Passcode: Ozanam

California Tenant and Landlord Housing Resources:

https://landlordtenant.dre.ca.gov/tenant/protection_guidelines.html

<https://landlordtenant.dre.ca.gov/landlord/resources.html>