



## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR—

Dear brothers and sisters in St. Francis,

I am exceedingly grateful to the National Executive Committee for entrusting me with the amazing opportunity to serve as your new editor of TAU-USA, I am joyfully honored and profoundly humbled.

The TAU-USA has been a part of our Franciscan lives for many years, providing us with information, inspiration, education, and networking opportunities. It has always given us excellent examples of how we lovingly respond to our Franciscan mission— going from gospel to life and life to gospel.

Heartfelt writing and fraternal sharing allow us to experience one another's response to "preach the Gospel always, use words if necessary". These engaging examples of our brothers and sisters accomplishments decidedly inspire us.

I look forward to continue building upon the communication excellence of my esteemed predecessor, Frances Wicks, SFO, whose labors over the past 7 years helped bring Franciscan members throughout our nation together as the one family that we are. She was truly blessed with the friendship and support of a wonderful staff.

I am already much indebted to many of you for your wonderful support and welcoming emails. Now I look forward to working together with our TAU-USA staff, all our contributors, and our entire Franciscan family. I know that together with your prayers and contributions, we will make Frances proud, and we will continue to offer you a communication vehicle of the highest quality.

I am particularly glad to be given this opportunity at this time where there has never been a more exciting or challenging time to be in communications. Today we have far greater demands for information, education, collaboration and involvement. As Secular Franciscans it is one thing for us to believe in our Franciscan mission; it is another thing to live it and see it lived out. In this issue, (see page 12) we have such a shining example in Brother David Buer, OFM, our 2010 Nafra Peace Award winner.

As the official publication of the National Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order, we are wonderfully inclusive. We do not seek submissions by specific geographical or membership status. Whether you are from New York, Washington, Florida, Texas, California ... we want to hear from you!



ANNA GERACI, SFO



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*TAU-USA* is aiming high to reach out and further improve our communications with one another. The National Executive Committee has initiated a new effort to translate key documents and materials such as our new formation manual. The translations will be made and reviewed by specific language and translation teams in the SFO. This issue of *TAU-USA* marks the launch of this initial project by having our National Minister's letter translated into four (4) languages: Spanish, Korean, Vietnamese, and Polish. *These translations may be found on the NAFRA Internet web page.*

A special thanks to Michelle Kim, SFO, for being instrumental in having initiated this new effort, and leading in the creation of the 4 specific and separate language teams. Many thanks, equally, to all the individual members of these translation teams who have embraced this new effort and agreed to become a part of an exciting new endeavor.

Before closing, I must offer a few words of special thanks ...  
to Bill Wicks, SFO, for his generous support and guidance;  
"I'll do my very best to maintain Francis' legacy.

to Connie Quatrano, SFO, for helping "lift me up" during the most challenging of times this past year; and whose gracious letter of nomination to the Executive Committee, got the ball rolling in what would ultimately lead to my becoming *TAU-USA's* new editor.

to my "mentor", Fr. Daniel Morey, OFM, who many years ago, patiently taught me a desk-top publishing program that would open up so many new worlds. "You've given me far more than I can ever offer in return."

And last, but never least, to my wonderfully supportive husband, Joseph, and my Mom, Marie, who willingly double up on any and all household chores, and tip-toe around the house so as not to distract me when I'm on a deadline with my varying projects.

I look forward to meeting and greeting a great many of you over the course of time and learning, laughing, and loving together. Whether it be in person, phone, letter or simply email communications—let's get together, and let us begin now for we have much to share.

Your sister in Sts. Francis and Clare,  
Anna