



The Q was invigorating, inspiring and exhausting, thanks to the many sisters and brothers who made it a fabulous experience. Before we knew it, it was over. But is it really? Not if we keep talking about it and applying what was learned there. Here is a summary from the Vocations perspective.

Of course, our focus was on how to spread the word about our Order. Social Media is one easy, cost-effective means of spreading the word, but we have to use it for it to be a benefit. Members of the Vocation Committee and Social Media Subcommittee prepared a breakout session titled: “U.S. Franciscans and Social Media: NAFRA’s Presence on the Internet.” More than 50 participants attended the breakout sessions including two of our international visitors. The presentations and the handouts “How to Stay Safe on Facebook” and “Email Etiquette” are available on the NAFRA website at:

[http://www.nafra-sfo.org/Q2016/201607\\_FranciscansAndSocialMediaPresentation.pdf](http://www.nafra-sfo.org/Q2016/201607_FranciscansAndSocialMediaPresentation.pdf)

<http://www.nafra-sfo.org/Q2016/HowToStaySafeOnFacebook.pdf>

[http://www.nafra-sfo.org/Q2016/20160703\\_Handouts.pdf](http://www.nafra-sfo.org/Q2016/20160703_Handouts.pdf)

Diane Menditto, Kathleen White, John Clem and I walked through the website (and all the great information available there) and the NAFRA Facebook page. The team shared tips to alleviate concerns about participating in social media and offered handouts for later reference. The main message was, of course, we are all responsible for fostering vocations. so try social media to get the word out to family, friends, co-workers, co-parishioners. Kathleen also invited everyone with email addresses to subscribe to receive the TAU-Daily emails — a daily vocation boost. For more than 10 years, Kathleen has been posting a daily reflection rotating from the Rule, Admonitions, Little Flowers, General Constitutions, National Statutes, Franciscan Saints, etc. The “TAU-DAILY” list is open to ANYONE interested in receiving daily post(s). (It is not a

discussion list and is configured not to post anyone’s comments, requests, etc.) If you are interested in receiving the daily posts — no matter what office (or no office) you hold, send a blank email to [TAU-Daily-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:TAU-Daily-subscribe@yahoogroups.com).

A second effort was recording Vocation Testimonials — short videos documenting vocation journeys. Again, more than 50 people agreed to record the testimonies, and they are posted on the FranciscanVideos.com Secular Franciscan You Tube Channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/user/SecularFranciscans>. Help us to highlight the channel, so the stories can inspire potential family members. If you’d like to share your story, send it (if it is small enough to be emailed) or post it to the Cloud and send me the link at [OFSVocationscommittee@gmail.com](mailto:OFSVocationscommittee@gmail.com) so we can post it with the others. If you aren’t sure what to say, practice responding to one of the following:

1. Describe the most important moment of your Secular Franciscan vocation.
2. How would you describe the OFS to someone who knows nothing about it?
3. During your Secular Franciscan life, who/what has inspired you most? Why? How?
4. If you had it to do over, would you become a Secular Franciscan? Why?
5. How did you learn about the OFS?
6. What does being a Secular Franciscan mean to you?

The Q theme was Revival. Even if you weren’t able to attend, there is much you can do to help us continue the revival! Share about the OFS in your families and parish communities. Prepare yourself by reviewing the NAFRA website and like us on Facebook. But most importantly, thanks for witnessing to others about this important calling.

As usual, share your success stories and vocation testimonials at:

[OFSvocationscommittee@gmail.com](mailto:OFSvocationscommittee@gmail.com)

Important sites:

[www.nafra-sfo.org](http://www.nafra-sfo.org)

<http://www.nafraformation.org>

FACEBOOK: [Secular Franciscans – NAFRA, USA](https://www.facebook.com/Secular-Franciscans-Nafra-USA-128856987168774/) (<https://www.facebook.com/Secular-Franciscans-Nafra-USA-128856987168774/>)

TWITTER: <https://twitter.com/SecFranNAFRA>