

SFO History – Volume I (1917 – 1942)

By William Wicks

Every fraternity should have a copy of this important chronicle of the beginning of the history of the Secular Franciscan Order in the United States. Every Franciscan in this country should have the opportunity to learn of those glorious times, the challenges and the fraternal spirit that brought us together as an Order in this country. Read about those friars and Tertiaries who were instrumental in this history: some were heroic. Please see the back cover for information on purchasing this book.

Book Review

By Anne Mulqueen, SFO

Seeking a Gospel Life

By Lester Bach, OFM Cap

Published by Barbo-Carlson Enterprises

In *Seeking a Gospel Life*, as in all his previous books, Fr. Lester Bach provides us with the fruits of his life and understanding of Franciscan gospel living. This is a book with limitless possibilities for anyone seeking to live the gospel life.

My first impression was *Seeking a Gospel Life* would be the *perfect* book to hand a prospective member before entering orientation. It would provide exposure to Franciscan spirituality and be a first step in the discernment process. If they said, “This is what I want with all my heart,” orientation would begin. If this entire Gospel living was too much for their particular *charismatic* soul, we could point them in another direction and part brothers and sisters in Christ. This book meets that need.

In addition I realized that *Seeking a Gospel Life* satisfies another desire: the desire for a Franciscan Bible Study. This book is not a formation text, although it can be used to supplement formation. *Seeking a Gospel Life* shows us how to live the gospels in a Franciscan manner. I plan to use it for gatherings with the newly professed in my fraternity.

It is exciting to see Fr. Lester set sail in a new direction - one with a wide horizon. In *Seeking a Gospel Life*, he has produced a book with universal appeal. This is a book for Franciscans and the Franciscan at heart. Saint Francis appeals to every faith expression. He is the saint of the people, and this book is a book for all people.

To Set Themselves Free

By Teresa Baker, SFO

Published by Barbo-Carlson

Presents a beautifully done continuous guide to the life and Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order.