



THE NAFRA TRIENNIAL ELECTION

October 24, 2009

Albuquerque, New Mexico

ALL Secular Franciscans are eligible to nominate someone for the NAFRA Executive Council.

TIMELINE:

APRIL	Notice of Election published and Call for Nominations
JUNE	Nominations close
JULY	Nominations Committee contacts nominees, they accept or decline nomination
AUGUST 15	Deadline for return of nomination forms returned from nominees
AUGUST 22	Start 9 week novena for a Holy Spirit-led election
AUGUST 29	Resumes of nominees sent to voting members of the Elective Chapter

PROCEDURE:

For the office of Minister, Vice Minister, Secretary, Treasurer, Councilor, and/or International Councilor, email (preferred) OR snail mail the name, address, and email address to **BOTH** Kathleen White & Linda Grady. (Nominations are sent to both committee members to avoid a nomination being lost. Committee members will continually cross reference nominations.)

Kathleen White, SFO

kdwsfo@verizon.net

612 Front St.

Logansport IN 46947

Linda Grady, SFO

lgradysfo@sbcglobal.net

6001 Harvard Drive

Kokomo IN 46902

DO NOT send nominations to the NAFRA-L list.
Nominations are confidential.

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Letter from Bob Fitzsimmons, SFO National Formation Chair

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As I promised, here is the latest update to our Formation Project. We truly stand at the crossroads of the life of our Order and are being asked by CIOFS to embrace and take complete ownership of it. Once again at General Chapter, CIOFS stated that formation was the number one priority, and with that asked that the nations use the new CIOFS material as the foundation of a standardized formation plan world-wide. We are working to adapt those materials to the Order here in the United States and have also added topics we feel appropriate as the foundation of all those currently professed and those seeking profession. Our aim is to provide all of us

from the oldest to youngest enough information to hold fast to the legacy we inherited from St. Francis and to quicken the heart to seek transformation, moving that basic information into the heart where our Loving God can be met and embraced.

Here is the outline of the National Standardized Formation Plan. I hope that you all will become as excited about this as we are, as we all seek to deepen our understanding of our Franciscan Heritage, our identity as Secular Franciscans and our sense of belonging to our Order. As you look at the outline below, there are subcategories under many of the topics, but due to space constraints they were removed for this presentation. Topics, where CIOFS is listed, indicates a section in which much of the material was developed or recommended by CIOFS. Please comment freely on these materials/topics. It will assist in developing a user-friendly manual for the Local Formation Director and the Local Fraternity.

As always, peace and every blessing to each and all and I ask your prayers for all of your sisters and brothers working on this project. Fitz

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THE FORMATION PROJECT FOR THE SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER - USA

By Bob Fitzsimmons, SFO

ORIENTATION - not less than three (3) months

- O-1 Creed from Catechism of the Catholic Church (in briefs)
- O-2 Ecclesiology of the Laity (BAPTISM) [CIOFS]
- O-3 The Franciscan Movement

INQUIRY - not less than six (6) months

- I-1 Vocation & Discernment [CIOFS]
- I-2 Charism of the Founder / Mission of the Order [CIOFS]
- I-3 Fundamental Elements of Christian Doctrine [CIOFS]
- I-4 Nature of the Secular Franciscan Order [CIOFS]
- I-5 Identity of the Secular Franciscan [CIOFS]
- I-6 Discuss - Biography of Francis

CANDIDACY - not less than eighteen (18) months

- C1-3 Rule of the SFO
- C4-5 JPIC
- C-6 Conversion – Penance & the Penitential Movement [CIOFS]
- C-7 Further Elements on Conversion [CIOFS]
- C8-9 PROFESSION
- C-10 Fraternity As Fundamental Element of St. Francis [CIOFS]
- C11 Francis and Divinity [CIOFS]
- C12 Francis and the Blessed Mother
- C13 St. Clare
- C14-15 Spirituality of St. Francis [CIOFS]
- C-16 History of the SFO and its Rule [CIOFS]
- C-17 Franciscan Saints – Focus on SFO
- C-18 General Constitutions
- C-19 Franciscan Youth & FYFA