



*God is Love!  
Whoever lives in love lives in God and God in him!  
(1John 4:16)*

**January/February 2015**  
**The Newsletter of the Northern New Jersey Tres Dias Community**

The purpose of **TRES DIAS of NNJ** is to glorify God through Jesus Christ by developing Christian leaders who will influence their environments to be more Christ-like.

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## **MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT**

Dear Friends,

As we begin 2015, I am reminded of the words we read in 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:17 “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here!” I am always excited to begin a new year, and I look forward to the new things that God has in store for our Tres Dias community. We have been both blessed and have been a blessing over the years, and I believe 2015 will be another year when we can bring others closer to Jesus.

We can look forward to four of the “best weekends ever” this coming year. Our first weekend will be Men’s 115 with Allan Hunte as Rector, and will take place April 9<sup>th</sup> through April 12<sup>th</sup>. Women’s 112 will be led by Nancy Baker serving as Rectrix, and will take place April 30<sup>th</sup> through May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Fall weekends will start off with Men’s 116 with Kevin Mahoney serving as Rector, and will take place November 19<sup>th</sup> through the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Women’s 113 with Karen Hunte serving as Rectrix will be held December 3<sup>rd</sup> through December 6<sup>th</sup>.

Allan, Nancy, Kevin, and Karen are all Godly members of our community, and will serve the teams and candidates in a manner that will reflect His love. Let’s keep them in our prayers, and start thinking about who in our lives could use three days in the company of Jesus, our Lord and Savior!

It is a snowy January evening as I write this letter, and my thoughts are anticipating the warmth of spring. Our weekends, like the spring time, will be here before we know it. Let’s start to prepare now for the new things that wait for us in the coming year.

God bless you all,  
Bruce Kemmerer  
President TDNNJ

## **A LETTER FROM THE EDITORS**

Michelle McKeown and Laurie Market have teamed up, working together to freshen up the Agape Newsletter and improve the overall communication within our Tres Dias Community. Although the Agape Newsletter is a separate committee (did you know that?) from Communications, you would not know it from the joint effort. Michelle is providing her creative ideas to the newsletter. You will notice we now have regular articles from Pescadores in our “Fourth Day Corner” and “Spotlight On a Reunion Group”. In the last edition we featured Cathy Thompson (Women’s #111) and the newest addition to our Reunion Group list from Lisa Marcus, who leads the Twisted Sisters. If you missed reading these articles, in the Christmas edition, they are posted on our web page, under Community ([www.tresdiasnj.org](http://www.tresdiasnj.org)). Please read on for fresh articles.

A special thank you goes out to Lisa Balewitz and Nancy Bloodgood for contributing to this edition. Read on to see what they have to share! As you read this edition, please let us know if you have any

ideas or suggestions for ways to improve the Agape Newsletter. Also, If would be willing to share your personal testimony of what our Lord is doing in your life, please let us know.

Communications has also been hard at work. A mailing of Christmas cards went to out to over 800 addresses in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and New York. And because of those cards, we heard a number of stories from Pescadores about how those cards sparked a renewed interest in the community, and added to the wonderful turnout at Our Christmas Secuela. We are hopeful for a similar response in February, and we hope that we will see you there!

As you might guess, returned mail is a part of any large campaign. Our Christmas card mailing was no exception. Follow on emails were sent to reach those whose addresses were no longer valid. All of this, in the effort of ensuring that our active member list is as current as possible!



### **If your contact information changes:**

Email Nancy Bloodgood at: [tomnanc@embarqmail.com](mailto:tomnanc@embarqmail.com).

Or call 973-875-8765, or mail information to:  
115 Wantage Ave. Branchville, NJ 07826

\*Married couples: be sure to include home, work, email addresses for both husband and wife.

\*Newly married women: include your maiden name, as it will be a helpful reference.

*Laurie Market* (Agape News) and *Michelle McKeown* (Communications)

## **NEWS FROM MEN'S #115**



Dear Community,

The team of Men's #115 is very close to being completed. We are looking forward to having our first team meeting on February 13<sup>th</sup>. Please continue to pray for us in getting the team fully completed and that the Lord will bless us with candidates. The date for our weekend at Sacred Heart is April 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 2015.

The verse for the weekend is taken from Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand. (NKJV)

My assistant is Meyer Pincelli and our prayer warrior is Bruce Sinclair.

The Chief Aux is Greg Hartline and I am sure he can use some help from the community on Thursday afternoon, Agape and Sunday clean up, just to name a few things. Greg can be reached at 908-343-5889. Our Chief Kitchen is, Peter Sanchez, and all are welcome to attend our Thursday night dinner. Peter can be contacted at 609-893-8895.

Ladies, please come out to the Mañanita on Sunday morning and please don't forget to send Palanca. This will make the men very happy. We are looking forward to a blessed weekend. Please continue praying for us.

God bless you all,  
Allan Hunte (Rector Men's #115)

## NEWS FROM WOMEN'S #112



Dear Community,

The team of Women's 112 is almost complete. I'm getting more excited every day as I see the wonderful team God is putting together and looking forward to seeing who the Lord will bring as candidates.

My Assistant Rectrix is Judy Fadden and our Prayer Warrior is Nancy Bloodgood. My verse is from Galatians 5:22-23: The Fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. I pray God will fill our bowls to overflowing with fruit to give to others.

Our Tres Dias weekends would not be possible without YOU! There's too much to accomplish even for the most amazing team. **We ask you:**

- For your faithful prayers for the team, the candidates
- To invite & bring candidates to Sacred Heart on April 30 between 6 and 6:30 pm
- To please come to the closing on Sunday at 3 pm to share in our Joy & praises!
- For your gift of palanca:
  - **Marcia Brands**, Chief Auxiliary, will be blessed by your help with set-up Thursday afternoon, Agape on Saturday, and clean-up Sunday. Contact Marcia at 973-983-2527.
  - **Patty Kavalier**, Chief Kitchen invites sponsors and helpers as our guests at dinner on Thursday night. Contact Patty at 732-619-1120.
  - The **Mañanita** is our favorite! Men: we love to hear your singing and see your smiling faces! (Come Sunday before 7am) 😊

In God's love joy, peace,

Nancy Baker, Rectrix Women's 112

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR APPLICATIONS CHAIR

Dear Community,

Today is Groundhog Day - how many more weeks until the end of winter? Who knows?

But I do know that it is only \*nine\* weeks until Men's Weekend #115 begins; and, Women's Weekend #112 only four weeks after that. That is right around the corner. \*Now\* is the time for you, the community, to consider potential candidates for those weekends. The Lord has already selected those He will call for the weekend; we must prayerfully discern His will and invite those of our fellow believers who might benefit from a weekend.

Applications can and should be submitted well in advance of the scheduled dates for the weekends. This allows all concerned the opportunity to share the good news with the community and to prepare

Palanca well in advance. It also permits me, as Application Chair, sufficient time to send information to the candidates, to prepare themselves for the weekend.

Details on the applications process can be found here: <http://www.tresdiasnj.org/how-to-attend-a-weekend/>. Please use only the new editions of the Candidate and Sponsor applications; these can be downloaded from the Tres Dias Northern New Jersey web site ([www.tresdiasnj.org](http://www.tresdiasnj.org)). I can provide copies to you; if you prefer. Please send me your request through email. When complete, applications should be mailed, together with any funds being remitted, to the address below.

Bruce Sinclair  
Applications Chair  
848 Woodmere Drive  
Cliffwood Beach NJ 07735  
[bduncans@verizon.net](mailto:bduncans@verizon.net)

## FOURTH DAY CORNER



Happy Valentine's Day!

I was invited to write about my Tres Dias weekend and my 4th day. "How exciting!" was the first thought that came to mind. My second thought was "Why me?"... I really don't have anything so profound to say that could possibly be encouraging to anyone, including me! I found myself at a loss for words (truly a rare occurrence for me!) until the eleventh hour. So, here goes!

My weekend began as a trying one; the open mind I believed I had was tested, and as the weekend went on, I questioned WHY I was there and I wanted to go home - then God showed me WHY he wanted me there - and I couldn't have felt more relieved. Amen!

My fourth day for the next three weeks was awesome. My spirit was renewed and I was free! I was released of the demons that taunted me for what seemed like an eternity - and I was blessed and happy and again, free! Then, my spirit was tested, yet again, and I am pleased to say I reached into that barrel of love from our Lord and the wonderful women I met on my weekend and I kicked those demons to the curb and shouted Amen! from the highest roof top the Holy Spirit allowed. While I may not always be successful, and I allow myself the "moment", it's OK - because I know when I call on my Savior I will always succeed - and be blessed - and that allows me to continually embrace the spiritual peace and freedom of weekend #111.. Life can be trying, as we all know, but God's grace conquers all.

DeColores!  
Lisa V. Balewitz  
Women's #111

## SPOTLIGHT ON A REUNION GROUP



By Michelle McKeown

2/4/15

When I first approached Nancy Bloodgood (pictured) to speak with her about her Reunion Group, *Soul Survivors*, she cautioned me about writing a spotlight piece on their group. She told me it was because the group is “on hold” for right now. Nancy began to tell me a story of beautiful intervention of how she was destined to stand in the gap.

“Judi Murray anticipates having the last of her 10 surgeries in the next couple of months” Nancy told me. The surgeries that began in May of 2012, and would only mark the start of many that Judi would endure, to reconstruct and have a transplant of her small bowel. A relationship that would start between these two women, as virtual strangers, attending the same church, would grow into one of encouragement, support, and help in her times of need. This would happen as meals were prepared, cards with well-wishes sent, and on the occasions where Nancy would care for Judi physically. She even stayed overnight in the hospital with her. This relationship would grow into the humble beginnings of the *Soul Survivors*. Their theme verse is Psalm 23:3 “He restores my Soul” (NKJV).

“On hold” it is not!! There are currently four members of the faithful *Soul Survivors* reunion group, but at this time Judi is unable to attend for medical reasons. The other member, Judy Bond does not travel at night in the dark, making it hard for her to attend in the winter months. Currently, Nancy and her husband Tom meet daily, speaking to each other on the phone, while Tom drives to work. “It is a time of prayer and Bible Study” Nancy said. It is not what would be thought of as a traditional reunion group, but it is a powerful force for the Lord! The *Soul Survivors* Reunion Group is a flourishing source of hope and inspiration!

In this season of love, where February 14<sup>th</sup> is quickly approaching, the verse of 1Corinthians 13: 4 of what love is, is plastered over every Valentine’s card sold in Christian bookstores. In fact, many of us have even used this Bible verse in our wedding vows. Yet, this verse is not as it appears. It was not intended by Paul to be words of encouragement, or words exchanged in commitment of vows to one another, rather Paul meant these words of correction to the church in Corinth. In these words of correction, I see an opportunity for growth and change in myself. And that although it is true that our own ideals for our life may be different than what the Lord intends for us, His plan is for much better purpose, and is with our best interests in mind. Similarly, you may feel like this verse speaks to you, as it does me. I would encourage you to seek out 1 Corinthians 13:4, and replace your own name in the place, where the word love is found. When you read it aloud, perhaps you will hear God speaking to your own heart, with His words of correction. I would implore you to act on this opportunity for personal growth.

If you are not involved in a Reunion Group I would encourage you to pick up the phone and call Nancy. The *Soul Survivors* is ready to support you in your growth, walking with the Lord. It is a group that cares for, and nurtures God’s children. Be inspired, join the *Soul Survivors*! The *Soul Survivors* is scheduled to meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm, in Branchville at the Bloodgood’s home.

Is Branchville too far away? There is a listing of active reunion groups on our Tres Dias website at <http://www.tresdiasnj.org>, under the Community tab. If there isn’t one near you, start one! Pray about helping to gather interested folks together. Please call Janet Beam ([973-227-4531](tel:973-227-4531)) for more information or to start your own group today!

## SECUELAS

7pm Food &  
Fellowship  
7:30 Music &  
Meeting

# SECUELAS!

Wear your  
name tag &  
Pilgrim's  
Cross!

Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another (Hebrews 10:25a). From the Spanish word meaning "sequel," the Tres Dias term secuela refers to regularly scheduled meetings of the community as part of the fourth day.

We all agree it is great to meet together! Secuelas are an evening of fellowship, worship in song, a fourth day speaker, and of course food! It truly is like a "mini-weekend". Small group discussions are a great part of the Secuela that offers a time to focus on the scripture and fellowship with others

Come out to a Secuela and be encouraged! Be strengthened in your Fourth Day walk with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! We look forward to seeing you at our next Secuela on February 14<sup>th</sup> at Jacksonville Chapel in Lincoln Park. Come out and join us.

Hosting a Secuela is a great opportunity for you to provide a place to meet for our community. If you would like to host a Secuela, please reach out to Marcia Brands or Lee Hasse ([lfhllc@verizon.net](mailto:lfhllc@verizon.net)).

Upcoming Secuelas are scheduled as follows:

| Date              | Church                         | Town         | Host                |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| February 14, 2015 | Jacksonville Chapel            | Lincoln Park | Jeanine Michel      |
| March 14, 2015*   | First Congregational Church    | Chester      | Jen & Kevin Mahoney |
| April 18, 2015*   | St. Peter's Episcopal Church   | Perth Amboy  | Meyer Pincelli      |
| May 9, 2015*      | Clinton Church of the Nazarene | Clinton      | Laurie Market       |
| June 13, 2014     | St. Peter's Episcopal Church   | Perth Amboy  | Meyer Pincelli      |

\*Fund Raisers

## A SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Fellow Pescadores,

For those of you who would like to provide general palanca letters or individual cards for the weekends, but are unable to bring them yourself to the weekend. Paul Markowitz has graciously offered to bring them to the weekend for you! Simply mail the palanca to his home, and Paul will deliver it to Sacred Heart. His address is:

Paul Markowitz  
307 Ashley Ave,  
Hackettstown, NJ 07840  
[pmarkowitz@comcast.net](mailto:pmarkowitz@comcast.net),  
or call: (908) 852- 2680

## **A WORD FROM OUR TREASURER**

Well, the winter has been challenging so far, and Punxsutawney Phil predicts another six weeks of cold and snow. Take heart! The winter will pass before we know it and soon we will be enjoying the colors of spring and the joy of the spring weekends! Bruce likes to remind us that we really know how to put on a weekend. With that said, we don't want money to keep anyone away from the blessing of attending a TDNNJ weekend. We continue to hold the line at a suggested contribution of \$250 (even though the actual weekend cost comes to about \$300 per person). How can we do that? Only with your help! The average weekend in 2014 finished up about \$1600 in the red, but by the grace of God we are still solvent. If you can, will you make a generous donation toward the 2015 weekends? We've been asking team members to contribute more than the \$250 if they can, but the bottom line remains that it is only through contributions by faithful community members like you that we are able to hold the line.

Thank you for your past and continuing generosity. Your ongoing prayers and financial support are essential to the health and growth of our community. Pray about it, and then respond as the Lord provides and leads. Your support is appreciated and never taken for granted!

De Colores!  
Rich Cantwell

## **TRES DIAS PRAYER LINE**

Would you like to know what's happening in Tres Dias of Northern NJ? If you are not one of the 410+ Pescadores who are already members of the Tres Dias of Northern NJ YahooGroups, join now! You can sign up by emailing:

George & MaryAnn McGehrin at [georgemaryann@hotmail.com](mailto:georgemaryann@hotmail.com)

To join, please include your full name, email address, your phone number, & what weekend you made (mm/yy & Number). Do this, and you'll be enrolled directly in the Tres Dias of Northern NJ Yahoo Groups. The following guidelines apply to use of the Tres Dias of Northern NJ YahooGroups:

The Tres Dias Prayer chain will be used only for Specific prayer concerns and requests, distribution of information about upcoming Secuelas, distribution of information about upcoming weekends & other information that has been approved by the Secretariat.

## **FIND US ON FACEBOOK**



My name is Nan Acevedo and I made Women's #65. I am currently your Tres Dias Facebook Administrator. Our page is used as a way to to share, trials, triumphs, prayers, concerns, joy, and announcements. Please know our Facebook page is just a tool to communicate with other Tres Dias Pescadores within the community. It is by no means a substitute for the Tres Dias website in itself.

If you are a current Facebook user and know someone who has made a Tres Dias Weekend, and is on Facebook have them friend me, and I will be happy to add them. If you have any questions please feel free to e-mail me ([acevedonanette@yahoo.com](mailto:acevedonanette@yahoo.com)), or private message me at the Tres Dias page.

God bless you!  
Always in God's Love and Service,  
Nanette Acevedo, Women's #65



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

### SECRETARIAT MEETINGS

- February 12, 2015 Jacksonville Chapel, Lincoln Park, NJ
- April 16, 2015 Location TBA
- May 7, 2015 Location TBA
- June 11, 2015 Location TBA

All members of Tres Dias are welcome and encouraged to attend Secretariat meetings. Meetings start at 7:30 and run until no later than 10:00 PM. For more information, please contact Bruce Kemmerer @ [brckem@yahoo.com](mailto:brckem@yahoo.com)

### Members of the Secretariat

Bruce Kemmerer – President  
 Tom Bauer – 1<sup>st</sup> VP  
 Mary Gallinot – 2<sup>nd</sup> VP  
 Carolyn Jackson - Secretary  
 Rich Cantwell – Treasurer  
 Lee Haase & Marcia Brands–Secuelas  
 Ken Baker - Nominations  
 Tom Bloodgood – Education  
 Jim Leeming - Outreach  
 Laurie Market - Agape Newsletter  
 Judy Fadden – Member at Large  
 Carol Goodrich – Member at Large  
 Greg Hartline – Member at Large  
 Anne Tummey – Member at Large

Edna Wene – Women’s Team Selection  
 Dean Hollister – Men’s Team Selection  
 Brigitte Pincelli - Women’s Spiritual Director Selection  
 Denny Wene – Men’s Spiritual Director Selection  
 Nancy Bloodgood - Membership  
 Herb Eigenrauch – Purchasing  
 Paul Markowitz – Palanca  
 Kris Hoffmann - Trailer  
 Janet Beam – Reunion Groups  
 Michelle McKeown- Communications  
 Neil Breen – Housekeeping  
 Bruce Sinclair – Applications  
 Tom Nace – Member at Large

### UPCOMING WEEKENDS

#### ❖ Spring 2015 – at Sacred Heart, Newton

April 9 – 12, 2015 – Men’s #115: Rector – Allan Hunte  
 April 30 – May 3, 2015 – Women’s #112: Rectrix – Nancy Baker

#### Fall 2015 – at Sacred Heart, Newton

November 19-22, 2015 – Men’s 116: Rector – Kevin Mahoney  
 December 3-6, 2015 – Women’s #113 – Rectrix, Karen Hunte

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**Check out our new web page at:** [www.tresdiasnj.org](http://www.tresdiasnj.org) – this is Northern NJ’s website. Check out [www.tresdias.org](http://www.tresdias.org) for the Int’l Tres Dias website.  
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In His Service, Laurie Market, Editor  
 Michelle McKeown, Assistant Editor

#### Agape

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