



Heritage Happenings

Archives Office
February 2020

Winter Painting done by Sister Benjamin Eriksen in 1959

Lest We Forget...



Work in archives identifying and organizing contents of archive boxes is now centering on the last section in Room 104 titled "Church". It's proving to be a real learning experience. The challenge this month...how many abbreviations of organizations listed around the edge of this newsletter can you describe? The most challenging was: CICALSAL!! (previously known as SCR)



National Catholic Educational Association
Rounded in 1904 its mission is to strengthen Catholic school communities by providing professional development, formation, leadership and advocacy.!

Photo: Sr. Carol Seidl and Sr. Barbara Mathe National Catholic Principals Academy July 1992 "The Power of Our Ideas"



U.I.S.G. = International Union of Superiors General

On August 9-13, 1952 Mother Edna Ryan, Sisters Virginia Marie, Orestes, Mary Dominic, and Salome attended the First National Congress of Religious in Notre Dame, IN. As a result of the meeting, on August 29 Mother Edna received a letter inviting her to a meeting of all Mother Generals of Pontifical Approval in Rome, September 11 –13. On Sept. 1 she decided to attend, to take Mother Agna as her companion, if they could get their passports in time!! Sept. 5 they received them and left for Rome on the 11th!! The first item of business was: the need of religious education of Sisters for an apostolate to meet needs common to all parts of the world. As a result the school, Regina Mundi, was founded as the first pontifical institution which allows women religious to study theology in Rome. This decision planted the roots for the formation of U.I.S.G.



In 1965 SCR (Sacred Congregation of Religious) established UISG. Today its purpose is to promote an understanding of religious life in all of its diversity.

CARA = Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate

Letter to Sr. Natalie 9/9/2014: "The FSCC were one of CARA's original benefactors back in the 1960's to help get CARA off the ground." The mission of CARA, founded in 1964, is to serve the planning needs of church leaders. CARA has three major dimensions to its mission: to increase the Church's self understanding; to serve the applied research needs of Church decision-makers; and to advance scholarly research on religion, particularly Catholicism.



IRL: Institute on Religious Life

Founded in 1974, IRL seeks to strengthen religious life in our country, to guide it on the path to authentic renewal, to educate religious, to support their works, and to inspire vocations in their service to the Church and their consecration to Our Lord, Jesus Christ.



RFC *** IRL *** UISG *** IFC-TOR *** CMSWR *** NRRO *** LCWR ***

WCC ** WITRI ** RCRI ** NRVC ** CHA ** COHA ** CONA ** CICALSAL ** SCR

CMSW *** NCWC *** NSVC *** NCVC *** NCDVD *** CARA *** NCEA *** USCMC **

RFC = Religious Formation Conference.

RFC, a national Roman Catholic Organization, originated in the 1950's as SFC— Sisters Formation Conference. In September 1976 the name was changed to RFC to include both men's and women's religious institutes. RFC educates and strengthens formators in their ministry of initial and life long formation. RFC Publishes a newsletter *InFormation* for members. *We are in Region IX.*



RCRI = Resource Center for Religious Institutes

RCRI is an organization created to serve the needs of Catholic communities of religious women and men, offering advice and providing resources for leadership who are members. RCRI helps congregations to navigate the complexities related to taxes and tax-exemption, corporate structure, internal organizational setup, finances, administration, and canon law.



WCC = Wisconsin Catholic Conference

In September 1974 Sr. Henrielda, Community Director, wrote to the Joint Retirement Funding Project— State of WI, the following: *"...appreciative of the efforts of the WCC to assist us in funding the care of our presently retired Sisters by a statewide approach involving the whole Catholic community of the state, **DECLINE**, for reasons of our own, to participate in or accept the funds from such a project." ...and so it is.*

Religious Life Wisconsin:

We, represent **religious** communities in **Wisconsin** and provide information for education and conversation with those discerning religious life.



NRRO: National Religious Retirement Office

In 1988, Catholic bishops of the United States launched the Retirement Fund for Religious collection to address the profound deficit in retirement savings among US religious congregations. Of 542 communities providing data to the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO), only 33 are adequately funded for retirement. The annual appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious is taken up each December. The bulk of donations to the Retirement Fund for Religious are allocated to assist with the direct care of senior religious. Proceeds from the Retirement Fund for Religious underwrite educational programs and resources that promote comprehensive retirement planning and enhanced quality of life for aging members. Quarterly they publish



Engaging Aging



In trying to figure out abbreviations, the following was the most challenging. In 1988 **SCR**=Sacred Congregation of Religious became **CICLSAL** = Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and of Soci-

eties of Apostolic Life. It took a bit of searching to figure that out...which is why this issue and the March issue focus on organizations and their abbreviations, and their history. Enjoy!



Being a priest and church historian are the two focuses of the ellipse of my life! He is studying history and growth of religious orders especially Franciscans. He has the book on Father Oswald that the monastery Father completed in 2014. Living close to where Father Oswald grew up, more information might be gathered about him for our records.



UPDATE: Last month you met Uwe Scharfenecker from Germany, ordering Sr. Donna Marie's new book. Here's more: I'm responsible for the formation of our pastoral personnel: future priests, permanent deacons and pastoral workers. I accompany them during their first years of studies in their professional life. I'm responsible for the connection between our diocese and the University of Tuebingen (esp. it's catholic-theological faculty) and the Universities of Applied Sciences in Freiburg. My titles: episcopal vicar for formation, canon for chapters of priests who are counselling the bishops, monsignor and doctor of theology (STD) since 1996 and priest since 1990.