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The Secretary's Report

Mariological Society of America

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THE SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Forty-Fifth Annual Meeting
The Mariological Society of America
Loyola University, New Orleans, Louisiana

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
Wednesday Afternoon, May 25, 1994

Present were the following members of the Board of Directors: Fr. Matthew E. Morry, O.P. (president); Fr. Walter T. Brennan, O.S.M.; Bro. John Samaha, S.M.; Fr. Theodore Kochler, S.M.; Fr. James Parker; Fr. Bertrand Buby, S.M.; Fr. Johann Roten, S.M.; Fr. George F. Kirwin, O.M.I.; Fr. Emmanuel Sullivan, O.C.D.; Fr. Thomas A. Thompson, S.M.

The arrangements for the 1995 meeting were discussed: the theme of the meeting, to be held at the University of Dayton (May 24-26, 1995), will be “Faith, Mary, Culture.” All suggestions for the development of this theme together with names of presenters were to be forwarded to the secretary by June 25, 1994.

General satisfaction was expressed with the schedule of the 1994 meeting. An opening lecture to which the public was invited appeared to be a good innovation. No decision was made on the number of presentations for the next general meeting. In the past few years, the meetings have consisted of four presentations, the presidential address, and the survey of recent Mariology. By exception, the 1994 program, “Mary and Religious Education,” consisted of seven presentations, the presidential address and the survey of recent Mariology.

The suggestion was made that some sessions at the annual meeting be labeled “interest groups,” “working sessions,” or “works-in-progress reports.” Those interested in leading these sessions would need to submit only an abstract or summary of what they wished to talk about, not a fully developed paper. Summaries of these sessions might or might not appear in Marian Studies.

The following proposal by Fr. James McCurry, chairman of the Nominating Committee, concerning nominations was unanimously accepted: “Those wishing to serve in an elected office, as well as those wishing to make nominations for an office, should inform the chairman of the Nominating Committee before April 15.” In this way, ballots could be prepared so that the members could be acquainted with the nominees before the election. This procedure seemed preferable to last-minute nominations from the floor immediately before the election.

The request of the MSA Secretariat for $2,500.00 for the purchase of a computer and printer for editing Marian Studies and for maintaining membership information and mailing lists was approved.

The proposal from the secretary concerning the planning for future meetings was accepted, namely, that the president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer would function as a “working group,” investigating sites and themes for future MSA meetings.
After preliminary investigation, this "working group" would submit to the Board of Directors a few possibilities for future sites and themes.

Fr. Morry suggested two items for future meetings: an update on recent apparitions and a discussion on the movement for the definition of the doctrine of Mary's mediation.

After a long discussion on the purpose, nature, content, and recipients of a proposed "MSA Newsletter," it was decided (eight in favor with one opposed) to take one month to search out an editor for the publication. The publication would be evaluated regularly by the Board of Directors.

MEETING OF THE PROFESSIONAL-ACTIVE MEMBERS
Thursday Afternoon, May 26, 1994

At the meeting of the professional members, the following officers were elected for a two-year term (1994-1996): Fr. Walter T. Brennan, O.S.M., president; Fr. George E. Kirwin, O.M.I., vice-president; Fr. Thomas A. Thompson, S.M., secretary; Bro. John Samaha, S.M., treasurer.

The following were elected to the Board of Directors for a three-year term (1994-1997): Fr. Bernard Confer, O.P., and Fr. Sam Maranto, C.Ss.R. Sr. Mary Catherine Nolan, O.P., was elected to fill the unexpired term (1994–96) of the newly elected vice-president, Fr. George Kirwin.

MEETING OF THE PROFESSIONAL-ACTIVE MEMBERS
Friday Afternoon, May 27, 1994


Admitted as associate members were: Mark Paul Alessio; Leona M. Butler; Fr. Emilio Cardenas, S.M.; Richard D. Culbertson; Msgr. Pasquale Di Buono; Bro. Cadmon Holmes, O.S.B.; James Reid McDonald; Mildred Samaha; Sr. Catherine Mary Shillingsburg, O.P.; Beverly M. Stoller; Annamaria Poma Swank, Ph.D. (Art); Bro. Wayne Threlfo, F.M.S.
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This year, thirty individuals were admitted as professional-active members, and nineteen as associate members. Twenty-seven failed to renew their membership. Total membership (June 1994) was three hundred seventy-seven.

Thomas A. Thompson, S.M.