



# Not So Far Afield

A NEWSLETTER OF THE MARYKNOLL AFFILIATES

May/June 2015

Volume 24 Number 3

## SURVEY OF THE AFFILIATE MOVEMENT: A CALL TO DIALOGUE FOR ALL AFFILIATES

Ann Carr – Board President *and* Rich Lessard –  
Board member, Survey Committee Chairman

*“God exists as the mystery of persons in communion...Only in communion can God be what God is, and only in communion can God be at all...The mystery of divine love is hidden in the other, and it is precisely in the other that God shines through (or hides) in the unbearable wholeness of being.”—Ilia Delio*

When asked, “What is a Maryknoll Affiliate?” Affiliates often say they struggle to find the right words and yet they know being one is something terribly important. Last fall, the Affiliate Board began some preliminary work on visioning, discernment, and needs assessment for today’s Affiliate movement—a work which cannot effectively be completed without full Affiliate participation and input. And so, we now invite you to enter this process together with us.

We ask you first to participate in an individual survey/ reflection and then later as part of a Chapter discernment and reflection process.

### The Survey

A committee composed of Board members, Regional Coordinators, and the Executive Coordinator crafted an individual survey that focuses on three main themes: **Maryknoll Affiliate Identity & Visioning** – How do you understand the unique Affiliate expression of the Maryknoll Charism? What is your/our vision for the future of our movement? **Engagement & Connection** – How do we define and strengthen our relationships as Affiliates to Affiliates, Affiliates to Maryknollers? And, **Mission Experiences & Demographics**.

### Why a Survey Now?

1. The Board, Regional Coordinators, and Executive Coordinator want to strengthen connections with the Affiliate membership and to invite members’ greater ownership in shaping our future. We are seeking new and creative ways to foster communication among the Board, Regional Coordinators, and Affiliates.

2. At recent general meetings, the Maryknoll entities stressed “collaboration.” Most significantly, they have invited us to join the **Joint Meeting of Leadership (JML)**. The input gathered from Affiliates now will help us as we participate in this new model of engagement.

3. As the Affiliate movement approaches its 25th Anniversary next year, we hope this survey can help us learn together who we are now.

### Completing the Survey

The survey is accessible online at <http://goo.gl/forms/VcWta6fikB>. Your responses will be anonymous, although we do ask you to note your region. If you have access to a computer, please complete the survey online. To ensure your responses have been recorded, be sure to hit the SUBMIT button at the end.

If you do not have access to a computer, please ask your Chapter contact person or Regional Coordinator for a printed copy. Mail it to: Maryknoll Affiliates, P.O. Box 311, Maryknoll, NY 10545-0311.

Including time for reflection, we think you can complete the survey in 30-45 minutes.



**Survey: to take a general or comprehensive view of or appraise, as a situation, area of study, etc.**

### When?

We ask that the survey be completed and submitted by **June 30, 2015**.

### From Survey to Chapter Reflection

We are currently working on the second phase of this call to dialogue, the Chapter Reflection. For many Affiliates, deeper questions facing our movement will be explored most meaningfully within our chapters. Feedback from the individual survey will help us shape the upcoming chapter reflection process.

### Thank you!

We realize the time it takes to complete the survey may seem substantial, but know that your input is essential to helping us understand what’s happening in the broader Affiliate movement now and how best to move it forward. As we move into the future and celebrate this great gift of our charism as Maryknoll Affiliates, we very much look forward to hearing from you.



New Beginnings and Renewal

**N**Easter and this issue are about new beginnings and renewal. Your co-editors are celebrating our third anniversary of the month we began our role on the NSFA in response to Fred Goddard's planned departure as the Affiliates' executive coordinator. Since then we have surveyed Affiliates about our communications, we have introduced some new features to the NSFA, such as the Easy Meeting, page 6, and Paula has increased our web presence by posting the NSFA on a blog, recently moving it to our updated website.

The Affiliates are now updating and expanding our database and email list. Please respond to your Regional Coordinator and contact person, updating your and your chapter's contact information. Also, be sure to complete the Board's survey, introduced on page 1. We hope that every Affiliate who uses email will receive Affiliate email communications. If you wish, you may also receive the paper version of the NSFA.

An Affiliate has challenged us in what Bob Short characterized as a love letter to the NSFA. The letter said in part, "I have never enjoyed an issue of the NSFA as much as March/April 2015... Do it again, if you can."

**O**nly with your help can we do it again, and again. Please share your mission activities with us at [NSFA@MaryknollAffiliates.org](mailto:NSFA@MaryknollAffiliates.org).



**Not So Far Afield** is a bimonthly publication of the Maryknoll Affiliates. The name is a play on the title of the original Maryknoll Magazine: *The Field Afar*.

Maryknoll Affiliates are a faith-filled people responding in community to God's call to participate in Jesus' mission. We express the Maryknoll Spirit in the context of Chapters which gather for prayer, reflection, and action. We challenge one another to go beyond borders, locally and globally, to walk with the poor and excluded, and to strive for peace and justice for all of God's creation. We recognize that the Spirit who guides us on our journey moves without boundaries and that God's unconditional love is present in all cultures and peoples.

Affiliates share in the mission and family spirit of Maryknoll Sisters, Fathers and Brothers, and Lay Missioners living lives of service around the world. If you would like further information or an opportunity to attend a local chapter meeting in your area, please contact the Executive Coordinator of the Maryknoll Affiliates at P.O. Box 311, Maryknoll, NY 10545-0311 or e-mail [rshort@maryknollaffiliates.org](mailto:rshort@maryknollaffiliates.org)

**RED SEAS**

Al Drinkwater – Seattle Chapter

*Each of us  
has a Red Sea*

*Problems so terrifying  
no exit we see*

*When placing our requests  
on wings to Thee*

*Then trusting God,  
He parts our sea*

*Providing safe passage  
for you and me*

*No need to fear  
the pounding waves  
of life's problem sea*

*Upon placing our lives  
in the hands of Thee*



Co-editors: Mary Ryan-Hotchkiss & Paula Schaffner

Editorial Board: Kris Neufeld Penny Robinson

David Stocker

We welcome submission of articles by Maryknoll Affiliates and Maryknoll Missioners, as well as suggestions for articles. All submissions are subject to editing. We publish articles as appropriate in conjunction with issue themes.

Articles in *Not So Far Afield* do not represent the opinion of any of the Maryknoll entities.

Please send any letters to the editor, articles, photos or inquiries to the address below. You may also contact us if you no longer wish to receive Affiliate mailings, prefer to receive them by e-mail or read them on the web, or if you have changed your address.

Maryknoll Affiliates, PO Box 311

Maryknoll, NY 10545-0311

[nsfa@maryknollaffiliates.org](mailto:nsfa@maryknollaffiliates.org)

**WESTERN REGIONAL AFFILIATE CONFERENCE**

August 7-9, 2015 – Seattle, WA

**LOVE IN ACTION –  
MISSION ON THE MARGINS**

The Seattle Chapter of Maryknoll Affiliates invites all Affiliates to connect with fellow missionaries at the Western Regional Conference. We will discuss both the importance of Mission and the role of lay people in Mission.

Saturday opening prayer: Sr. Janet Srebalus, MM

General session speakers:

- **Bob Short**, Executive Coordinator of Maryknoll Affiliates
- **Gloria Burton**, CCS Director of Farmworker Initiative for Catholic Housing Services
- **Renate Schneider**, Executive Director of Haitian Connection.

Breakout sessions:

- Fair Trade Coffee – Barb Luxenberg*
- Skagit Valley Migrant Workers – José Ortiz*
- Micro Financing – Tom Mailhot*
- El Salvador – Joe Hastings*
- Earth Ministry – Jessie Dye*
- Human Trafficking – Anna Clarke*

Conference location: Seattle University’s LeRoux Conference Center. Housing in Bellarmine Hall.

Conference fees—3 days, including meals & lodging:

	Early-Bird	After
	by June 30	June 30
Double – per person	\$220.00	\$250.00
Single	\$250.00	\$280.00
Commuter (no lodging)	\$150.00	\$180.00

Questions? Please contact Al Drinkwine:

Email – [AlDrinkwine@outlook.com](mailto:AlDrinkwine@outlook.com)

Phone – 425-821-1737

The registration form is now available at <https://fs22.formsite.com/fromu2v/form1/index.html>. Register before June 30th to take advantage of the Early-Bird rates!

We’ll see you in Seattle!



**MIDWEST AFFILIATE RETREAT**

August 14-16 – Green Lake Conference Ctr., WI

*Renewing the Joy of Mission—  
Shifting Into the Future*

See: [www.glcc.org](http://www.glcc.org)

Four chapters are collaborating on this summer event, with 36 participants from eight of our eleven Midwest Affiliate Chapters already registered. We also welcome anyone interested in learning about the Affiliates.

We will reflect and dialog on our Four Pillars, priorities, key values, changes, challenges, hopes and concerns. Emmaus walks and sharing of our local and global activities will help us find renewed hope and joy in living our dreams. We plan to get to know our Maryknoll Affiliates in the Midwest and take time to reflect on where we individually, and we together, will go from here.

Spend this mid-August weekend at a lakeside retreat enjoying sumptuous healthy food choices, elegant historic and natural surroundings, and gracious hospitality. To receive your registration form, e-mail Kathleen at [kathg109@aol.com](mailto:kathg109@aol.com).



**SAYING GOODBYE TO BOB METZGER**

Joe Santos – San Diego Chapter

In early March, the San Diego Chapter of Maryknoll Affiliates met in the home of **Erin and Spencer Rickwa** to remember **Bob Metzger** with stories, songs, and prayer. Bob, who had been attending our Affiliate meetings for a number of years, was found dead in his apartment this past December 31st.

Bob, a retired teacher, lived alone and loved to travel. He had been a Maryknoll Seminarian years ago and maintained contact with some of his former classmates. He especially loved to talk about his visits to Maryknoll and with Maryknollers.

Photos courtesy of Joe and Peggy Santos



RIP – Bob Metzger

Listening to “Let There Be Peace On Earth,” we noted that he had been a calm and peaceful man, even to the end! **Pat, Spencer, Jim,** and **Peggy** talked of Bob as being in the next door room, or, better still, in our midst, as we heard the song: “I will not leave you comfortless, I will not leave you alone. I will come to you in the silence; Do not be afraid, I am with you.”

**Margie** read John O’Donohue’s poem, “For Death,” as well as various quotes on death, including the Irish Proverb, “May you get to heaven a half hour before the Devil knows you are dead.” Joe’s aunt had written a prayer on the occasion of his brother’s death. It ended with, “Oh sweet Jesus... that we be reunited together with you in heaven to live eternally united in your heart.”

We finished our meeting with the song: “I am the Bread of Life... And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up...” But the wake was not over until we toasted Bob with some brew before sharing a meal. May he rest in Peace in the arms of our Mother Mary!



Wake attendees, l. to r.: Erin Rickwa, Margie Carroll, Peggy Santos, Michele Dunne, Pat Reilly, Fr. Bill Headly, Spencer Rickwa, Jim DeHarpporte. Inset: Joe Santos, photographer.

Our gathering began with the prayer, “Teach me Lord,” by Fr. Joseph Veneroso, MM. Erin recalled Bob’s visit to Cochabamba and his difficulty in finding the Maryknoll Language School. Then **Michele** shared her collage of photos and words that reminded us of Bob. such as:



**Pope Francis**, asking us to pray with him, has suggested these special intentions:

**MAY**

That, rejecting the culture of indifference, we may care for our neighbors who suffer, especially the sick and the poor.

**JUNE**

That immigrants and refugees may find welcome and respect in the countries to which they come.



## A DAY WITH PEACE ACTIVIST AMOS GVIRTZ

David Stocker – NSFA Staff Editor

Photo by skip schiel @ teeksaphoto.org



**A**mos Gvirtz is an unassuming Israeli man. A peace activist and pacifist, his personal moral choices have come at a cost, being labeled a “self-hating Jew” shunned by family and community. Yet he leads tours for international humanitarian visitors and joins

demonstrations in the Negev and in the West Bank to expose the atrocious human rights violations against the Palestinians. He has had a long time to think over his position. I was excited to find out he was going to tour the US and Canada this April, and I made sure to bring him to speak in Rockford, Illinois.

Amos is a documentarian, for almost ten years publishing an email newsletter called, *Don't Say We Did Not Know* (to subscribe, email him at [amosg@shefayim.org](mailto:amosg@shefayim.org)) wherein are revealed facts of the systematic home demolitions, beatings, arrests and dispossessions, confiscation of land, crop destruction, theft of animals, and well poisonings. Amos connects these events to the places and names of the families economically ruined and the children made homeless. An unimpeachable witness to the human rights violations and apartheid, he tells only of what he knows first hand.

Amos presented at Emmanuel Lutheran Church and at the mosque of the Muslim Association of Greater Rockford. It was a teaching of a suppressed history, refreshingly free from political agenda. Amos gave clear answers to our questions. But he also commented on the nature of community, and he shared a message for all peace activists in our struggles to Think Globally and Act Locally. He said,

*For peace activists on the front line, it is true you can feel small, alone and ineffective. But still you demonstrate to bring issues to light. This makes authorities uncomfortable, and you may feel like well...we are just three people protesting. You will probably never know that maybe your action just prevented a massacre from going forward.*  
**—Amos Gvirtz, Israeli peace activist**

*What was very special for me to see was this church that is so much about peace. Where peace is central to it. It was wonderful. And to see Muslims visit the church and Christians visit the mosque to be together is really peace itself. For me this was impressive.*

After his presentation, we talked until late about the power of conviction, the polarization and militarization of identity groups, and the terrible consequences of letting loyalty take the place of moral judgment.

Next morning at the bus station we ran into a Rockford philanthropist who was a sponsor in the creation of Rockford's Keeling Puri Peace Plaza in 2000. As a music educator who is also a peace activist, I performed music and led children's activities at the Keeling Puri Peace Plaza on International Day of Peace since the first event 9/21/01 (imagine that time) thru 2010. But I challenged the absence of the Palestinian flag from the circle of flags representing those immigrant populations that have made Rockford their home in America. The Peace Plaza policy regarding displayed flags required “statehood.”

What could I say to Palestinian friends here? Same as world politics...you do not exist; you must wait and be patient. I was advised by Day of Peace event organizers that my selections of peace music should not carry an anti war message. At the time I was preparing the song, “Imagine,” by John Lennon, with a group of children.

In this chance encounter at the bus station—introducing the Israeli peace activist and the Rockford philanthropist, I asked if the UN's recognition of Palestine as a state would mean the Palestinian flag could fly over the Peace Plaza. She said maybe this could be reconsidered. A new day...



*In all our lives, but especially as we ponder where and how to invest our mission efforts, we face a discernment process. What is our role in God's plan?*

**EASY MEETING: A TALE OF DISCERNMENT**

Jim and Karen Halberg Weaver – Returned Maryknoll Lay Missioners

**Preparation:**

1. **Read** through these two pages.
2. **Plan** who will read the passages.
3. **Determine** which discussion questions to use at your meeting and who will lead the discussions.

**Meeting Plan**

**Opening Prayer:**

*My Lord God,  
 I have no idea where I am going.  
 I do not see the road ahead of me.  
 I cannot know for certain where it will end.  
 Nor do I really know myself,  
 And the fact that I think that I am following  
 Your will does not mean that I am actually doing so.  
 But I believe that the desire to please you  
 Does in fact please you.  
 And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing.  
 I hope that I will never do anything  
 Apart from that desire.  
 And I know that if I do this,  
 You will lead me by the right  
 Road though I may know  
 Nothing about it.  
 Therefore, will I trust you  
 Always though I may seem lost  
 And in the shadow of death, I will not fear, for you  
 Are forever with me, and you will never leave me  
 To face my perils alone.*

— A Maryknoll Book of Prayer, p. 100, by Fr. Tom Marti, MM, from a prayer by Thomas Merton from *Thoughts in Solitude* (Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1958)

**Reading:**

*While still in Bolivia but having completed their work with Maryknoll Lay Missioners, the Halberg-Weavers paused to discern what their next stop would be.*

**Discernment** is one of those words we use often as missionaries. It's a way of trying to be in touch with what really gives us life and paying attention to how God is present in that.

As we began 2014, we committed—as a family—to spending each Sunday afternoon during January

examining our hopes and dreams for the next stage of our lives. Taking steps into the unknown future can be daunting for an individual, so we were well aware of how difficult it would be to meet the hopes of five people. However, our sharing of those hopes fell into place, like a harvest following a good growing season.

**Discussion questions:**

**Think of a time you had to make a major decision. Were you able to set aside time to discuss your options? How many other people did your decision affect? Were these people part of the decision-making process? Did you consciously make prayer part of your discernment process? How long did you ponder your decision?**

It was immediately clear that all five of us wanted to live closer to Grandma and Grandpa Halberg, which would mean leaving Bolivia and moving to Washington State. We were also in agreement that our last year in Bolivia would be lived to the full. For the kids, it meant one more school year with their Bolivian friends. For

Karen, it meant leaving her work responsibilities and focusing on “tending the hearth.” And for me, it meant that I would continue my commitment to form a primarily Bolivian parish team.



Photos courtesy of the Halberg Weavers

Halberg Weaver children and friends.

And so our three children began a new school year: Jake in 1st grade, Emma in 5th, and Daniel in 8th. They had a great year.

Besides their studies, they participated in traditional Bolivian dancing and learned to play traditional Bolivian instruments. They played basketball with friends and continued to form life-long ties that I'm sure will endure, wherever we live.



First day of school photo.

My work of creating a parish-based community agriculture project continued to solidify and expand. Our parish garden produced enough vegetables to support a full-time gardener who sells its produce twice a week at the church. The German foundation,

Miserior, has become a partner in a full-time team that visits families and acts as a resource for nutrition and gardening advice. Funding for this project is necessary for its continuity. Significantly, this ecological work is now included in the parish vision, formally structured in the pastoral plan.



Ayde selling produce in wheelbarrow.

**Discussion Questions:**

**It is said, “Maryknoll Missioners go where they are needed but not wanted and move on when they are wanted but not needed.” Have you ever faced a transition, a time of moving on, when you could see that what you had achieved would survive and grow in the hands of others? Or conversely, did you ever need to make a change because a position was so frustrating it was not healthy for you? How did your previous experience influence your decision about what to do next? Did you seek out counsel while making the decision?**

Our family lived the year of 2014 appreciating all the beautiful, enriching eccentricities and cultural



Jim and son Jake count blessings at Carnaval.

celebrations/customs that make Bolivia and its people so special: the *Carnaval* parade in March; the trip Daniel and I made to southern Bolivia; watching Daniel’s best friends playing on Cochabamba’s team in the national youth soccer tournament; all the parish activities for young children. So many threads of our life in Bolivia were weaving themselves together!



Jake and classmate play soccer.

At the end of the school year, we began the process of packing up and sorting out the things we had collected over the years. Without the help of our Maryknoll friends, our neighbors, and our co-workers, it would have been overwhelming. Casta and Alejandro made many trips in their little car, hauling fridge and stove and rabbits to new homes. One family from the store where we bought most of our groceries showed up



Alejandro, Casta, and their little car.

unexpectedly on our last day with chicken dinners not only for us but also for all who were there helping out. We will forever remember how Bolivians know what to do in the moment, and offering *everything*, with no holding back for what may be needed the next day.

We are now in Washington State, still discerning our next steps. We are in the process of purchasing some farmland near the area where Karen grew up. I am excited about pulling together my mission work by engaging in the growing movement toward local food economies and sustainable, community-supported agriculture. The chance to return to farming offers so much towards our rooting ourselves in the fabric of this rural community.

Over our 20 years in mission, our family has enjoyed an amazing web of relationships. We are grateful for the love and support of so many friends and marvel at the grace of the life we have lived thus far. We are thankful for the support of all who have joined us in our journey, as well as for the awesome Mystery that bumped us together along the way.

**Discussion Questions:**

**Having read the Halberg Weaver family’s story, what will be your approach the next time you are faced with a life-changing decision?**

**Closing Prayer:**

*“God, if this is your will, help me. If not, stop me.”*

—Father Joseph Veneroso, *A Maryknoll Book of Prayer*, p. 100

To communicate with the Halberg Weavers, please send your email to [info@mklm.org](mailto:info@mklm.org), and your message will be forwarded.



Partners in mission as in life, the Schiltzes share stories of their annual time in Tanzania.

**RETURN TO FIELD OF DREAMS**

Roger and Kitty Schiltz – Seattle Chapter

**R**oger: When we go to Tanzania for two or three months, we take books with us as part of our spiritual journey.

Two years ago, reading two Orbis books by Franciscan sister Iliia Delio—*The Unbearable Wholeness of Being* and *The Emergent Christ*—and being with the people in Tanzania, we remembered that we are stardust and co-creators with our God in this beautiful cosmos. This year we brought with us two books by Richard Rohr OSF: *Eager to Love* and *Hope against Darkness: The Transforming Vision of Saint Francis in an Age of Anxiety*. And we learn that God is love and God is in our DNA and in everything.

We hope these pictures of our time this year in Chipole, along with the readings, will give an idea of our journey.



Children call Sr. Tuzinde Mama Miti —mother of trees. She is pulling the earth toward love and sustainability.



Roger feels like he is sitting on top of the world in the Field of Dreams.



Kitty and Sr. Tuzinde, in the 10-acre Field of Dreams, are elated by seeing trees 5, 10, and 20 feet tall after years of fires. Sunflowers grow between the trees.



To prevent fires and to compost the soil, Roger cultivates the ten acres by hoe each year.



We do have a little fun out here in this spiritual dreamland where God's DNA is in everything. St. Francis would say, looking up at the stars and at all the creatures, "If these are the creatures, what must the creator be like?"



**Kitty:** While staying at St. Agnes Abbey in Chipole, Tanzania, this year, I decided to spend time with the youngest orphans. Since the older orphans were at school and pre-school, five of the youngest spent their mornings waiting for their older siblings to come home and play with them.

These young ones were just waiting for me to come each morning. They would be sitting on the floor, not yet walking. I came at porridge time when they were enjoying a cup of warm uji.



Mama feeding uji to Rosie. Joni is watching.

What do you do with five little children who can't talk or walk yet? By the time I had their diapers changed, they were wet again, so I did not concentrate on dry babies. I wore old clothes and changed when I went home.



Lighty and the soccer ball.

I found an old soccer ball, and we learned to roll it to one another; but mostly I sang songs and held them on my lap. It became so natural to be with them each morning. Most of them were lively, and I picked them up and made them giggle. When I sang they would smile and move to the rhythm of the songs—except for one of them.



Kitty singing to Joni, Rosie, Lighty, and Omega. Antony has crawled off somewhere.

My challenge was to get that one to smile. Lighty was her name, shortened from Lightness. One of the first things I noticed about her was that she was not at all like her name.

She did not smile and she was chubby, not interested in moving or walking even though she was two years old. The ball was the one thing she really liked, so we played ball. Lighty began to smile and respond to the rhythm of the songs, to attempt to go after the ball. Finally, when I urged her to hold my hands and try to walk, she smiled up at me and tried. I felt joyful; now I miss the babies and wonder how they're doing.



Kitty and Lighty and ball. Joni and Antony in background.



## A RETURN TO GALILEE

John Moritz – SE Regional Coordinator  
& Ann Carr – Board Chair

*In the life of every Christian, after baptism there is also another “Galilee”, a more existential ‘Galilee’: the experience of a personal encounter with Jesus Christ who called me to follow him and to share in his mission. In this sense, returning to Galilee means treasuring in my heart the living memory of that call, when Jesus passed my way, gazed at me with mercy and asked me to follow him.—Pope Francis*

As Holy Week approached, the Affiliate Board and Regional Coordinators (RCs) gathered for our annual joint meeting. This time embraced both the somberness of Lent and the joyous anticipation of Easter. Like the disciples returning to Galilee, we reflected on important moments of our history as a means of welcoming new Maryknoll entity members—**Russ Feldmeier, MM, Norie Mojado, MM, and Teruko Ito, MM**—to the Affiliate Board and our most recent Regional Coordinators—**Jerrie Drinkwine** and **Patty Hinton**. We also shared our hopes and dreams for the future of the Maryknoll Affiliates.

Opening session. **Patty Symkowick** led the *Migrant’s Way of the Cross*, a prayerful reminder that we are intimately connected to the crucified peoples of our modern world. Then, reflecting on our **shared orientation to the Affiliate movement**, we identified the core concepts that have shaped us as Affiliates. We are a movement rather than a program: an expression, not an entity of Maryknoll; a **network of small mission communities** that relates to all three entities; Chapters living out the four pillars with emphasis upon building **relationships and promoting local mission**. Our 24-year-old movement, influenced by

challenges within and beyond Maryknoll, is growing more international, responding to the wider prophetic voices of our Church and world.

Latin American Trip. Executive Coordinator **Bob Short** and Board Latin American liaison’ **Patty Barneond Garcia Tres**, reported that on their December trip they were deeply moved by the Latin American Affiliates’ level of commitment to mission, communal life, and spirituality, as well as their incredible hospitality. Repeatedly, the Affiliates spoke of having been deeply influenced and formed by Maryknollers who have worked among them over the years and of their commitment to carrying on Maryknoll mission legacy.

Maryknoll Affiliate Conference (MAC). Convening the next MAC in Latin America had been suggested at MAC 2014, and the **Guatemalan Chapter** has offered to host **MAC 2017**. Some Board members explored this possibility with the Guatemalan Chapter, and many positive developments have emerged. The Board and RCs have gratefully and enthusiastically accepted Guatemala’s offering! Please stay tuned for more details.

New Chapters. We also moved to recognize two new Bolivian Chapters—Misión Vida (Cochabamba 2) and Renacer Misionero (Santa Cruz). To help us welcome these latest members of the Affiliate movement, you can send a message via Facebook at [www.facebook.com/maryknollaffiliates](http://www.facebook.com/maryknollaffiliates) or [www.facebook.com/centromisioneromaryknoll](http://www.facebook.com/centromisioneromaryknoll) (Spanish).

Asia: **Russ Feldmeier, MM**, told of his February visit with the **Korean Affiliate Chapter** and his participation in their covenant recommitment ceremony. **Norie Mojado, MM**, and Russ described their accompaniment during the Chapter’s formation history and were grateful to now bring the voice of the Asian Affiliates to our Board in a special way.

Formation. Reflecting on this wonderful growth, we felt an even greater need to help fulfill the regional coordinator’s aspirational job description. How do we strengthen regional connections? How do the RCs encourage and support this? The RCs shared their challenges and discoveries, noting the diversity of the regions, strategies for connecting and serving the Affiliate movement, and the essentially pastoral focus of their work. **John Moritz** commented on his ongoing work in formation and proposed that we consider a Maryknoll-wide resource center for formation materials.



Affiliate Board and RCs—front: Russ Feldmeier, MM, Patty and Joe Symkowick, Norie Mojado, MM; sitting: Tenuko Ito, MM, Mary Massaro, Margo Cambier, Ann Carr, Beth Begley-RC, Mary Moritz-RC; back: Jerrie Drinkwine-RC, Patty Hinton-RC, Patricia Barneond, Rich Lessard, David Schaffner, John Meyer, Ken Epps-RC, John Moritz-RC.

Collaboration. Collaboration, within and beyond Maryknoll, has been an Affiliate priority for several years, but we are now being invited into collaboration within the Maryknoll family in a new way, as was strongly affirmed in the recent Society Chapter and Congregational General Assembly. **We now have standing representation on the Maryknoll Joint Meeting of Leadership (JML).** Affiliates have been invited to participate in such activities as the Maryknoll Sisters' Mission Institute Planning Committee. And all four expressions of Maryknoll and the MOGC participate in the ongoing partnership with JustFaith.

Survey. We also finalized the **Affiliate survey.** Going out to all on May 1<sup>st</sup>, it will "take the pulse" of the Affiliate movement in order to **discern together where the Spirit is leading us** in this new moment.

New Board Member. **Bill Murphy**, a longstanding Boston Chapter Affiliate who brings a wealth of mission experience and is gifted in group discernment, was selected as the latest member of our Affiliate Board.



Building Community. Several activities nourished our bodies and spirits: We remembered Jim Madden, MM, in prayer at his gravesite. We socialized with the local Maryknollers, enjoying lively conversation and robust singing with Paul Masson, MM, and Bob Short on guitars. And we celebrated Palm Sunday with the Sisters, a sharing in the outpouring of the Spirit and at the Eucharistic table that led us into Holy Week.

At the close of our meeting, it was clear that we had spent important time together. We were grateful to learn more about the organic unfolding, along with the many challenges, of our Affiliate movement.

*May we all be inspired by the words of Pope Francis and go back to our own Galilees.*

*May we open ourselves to the beauty of the resurrection in order to see the gift of mission fire that is very much alive in the Maryknoll Affiliates.*

**MISSION INSTITUTE 2015 – MARYKNOLL, NY**  
*A forum of adult learning and reflection on world church and mission*

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

June 7-12 **Diarmuid O’Murchu, MSC**—*The Spirit Leads Us Forth: Mission Reconsidered*

June 14-19 **Laurie Brink, OP**— *No Longer Servants: Toward a Biblical Theology of Friendship*

June 21-26 **Michael Morwood, MA**—*The New Universe Story: God, Jesus and Prayer*

July 5-10 **Albino Barrera, OP** – *Everyday Holiness: Sacred Scripture’s Teaching on Economic Life*

July 12-17 **Ched Myers, MA** – *Denial or Discipleship? Bioregional Theology and Practice in a World of Ecological Ultimatums*

**For details,** visit <http://maryknollsisters.org/maryknoll-mission-institute>.

**SELMA: MORE THAN MOVIE FOR SISTER MADDIE**

**F**or Sister Madeline Dorsey, it was a day in which she and another Maryknoll Sister were placed on the front lines of that march, representing the Black doctors who worked with them at Queen of the World Hospital, the nation’s first interracial hospital, located in Kansas City, MO.

Read the back story of her involvement in the May/June issue of *Maryknoll* magazine, page 20.

**PHILIPPINES: MAMASAPANO CLASH THREATENS PEACE**

Fred Goddard\*



**P**rior to January 2015, few people in the Philippines had heard of Mamasapano, a small municipality on the southern island of Mindanao...

Read the complete article at: <http://www.maryknollogc.org/article/philippines-mamasapano-clash-threatens-peace>.

\*A returned Maryknoll Lay Missioner who served for several years as the Executive Coordinator of the Maryknoll Affiliates, Fred has returned to the Philippines and now works with the Mindanao Peacebuilding Institute Foundation, Inc.



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*What is Roger Schiltz doing?  
Find out on page 8!*

