



Secular Franciscan Order

Our Lady of the Angels Regional Fraternity

October 5, 2010

Dear Fraternity Minister,

With this letter I am convoking the annual Regional Chapter of Ministers meeting to be held on November 20th, 2010. At this meeting the **National Visitation of our Regional Fraternity which occurs every three years will also take place.** National Minister Deacon Tom Bello, SFO will be the Fraternal Visitor and Father Stephen Gross, OFM Conv. will be the Canonical Visitor. **It is the serious responsibility of every fraternity minister to be present or to send a delegate to the Chapter meeting in his or her place.** The Chapter of Ministers is the meeting of the full Regional Council of our Regional Fraternity—the highest governmental body of our Regional Fraternity.

Article 63 of the General Constitutions of the SFO define the Regional Chapter in the following way. *“The regional chapter is the representative organ of all the fraternities existing within the confines of a regional fraternity, with elective and deliberative power.”* This is the Regional Council which is constituted by all of the local fraternity ministers within our Regional Fraternity together with the members of the Regional Executive Council.

As the elected local minister of your fraternity, one of your most serious responsibilities to the Order is to represent your local fraternity at this annual meeting and in this way participate in the governance of the Regional Fraternity.

This year, the Chapter of Ministers meeting will take place at St. Bonaventure Church, 174 Ramsey Street, Paterson, NJ. The local fraternity should reimburse the local minister or delegate for any expense involved for transportation to and from this meeting.

There will be time for dialogue with your fellow fraternity ministers and Regional leadership, setting the future direction of our Regional Fraternity, and of course, we will also engage in the important business items before the Chapter including the Regional Budget.

In order to prepare yourself for the discussion, I ask that you please review the enclosed documents :

- the proposed agenda/schedule of the day
- directions to reach St. Bonaventure Church, Paterson, NJ

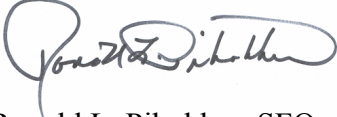
. If you have any items which you would like to propose for the agenda, please send them to me to be in my hands no later than November 1st. My e-mail address is pihokkro@rcan.org or you can send any items you may have by regular postal service to me at 377 Rutherford Blvd. Clifton, NJ 07014-1220.

Please be sure to complete the enclosed form indicating either your attendance or naming a delegate to represent your fraternity. A delegate should be a member of your local fraternity council but if this is not possible, then he or she must, at least, be a permanently professed member. **Every fraternity must be represented at this important meeting.**

Any member of the SFO is welcome to attend this meeting as an observer. You must indicate the name of any observer who plans to attend on the form. There is no cost for attendance at this meeting. You are requested to bring your own lunch.

I look forward to seeing you on November 20th at St. Bonaventure Church in Paterson, NJ. Please pray for the success of our Chapter and Visitation.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald L. Pihokker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R" and "P".

Ronald L. Pihokker, SFO
Regional Minister