

# UIW Mission News

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July-August, 2004

## Summer Heritage Experience

A group of 16 from UIW, SACHS, IWHS, and IWA



spent two days in June visiting the Texas sites where the first CCVI's began their ministries. The retreatants heard talks on CCVI history, enjoyed the ambiance of Villa de Matel and discussed the challenges involved in actualizing the UIW Mission with Fr. Nesti, C.S.Sp.

## UPC Retreats to Mountains at Sangre de Cristo

During a long weekend at Sangre de Cristo, a retreat house near Santa Fe, the UPC planned, prayed and played together as they considered tasks needing to be completed for the 2005 SACS visit.



UPC members, Renee Moore and Maritza Stewart outside Santa Fe Cathedral.

## "I'm Engaged" Theme Runs Through Freshman Welcome Week

As new students, many with parents in tow, moved into dorms and struggled with class registration, the Division of Student Life tried to ease their transition through a full schedule of activities which inducted them right away into the UIW spirit of caring and community.

Dr. Renee Moore, Dean of Student Life, urged the newcomers to "get engaged," to enter into the vibrant community that is Incarnate Word.

The week opened with a welcome dinner and a pinning ceremony at which the students were asked to commit themselves to the UIW academic community and to be open to listening for

the living Word in their lives and in the shared lives of the community.

Movies on the Lawn, a welcome Mass, new student retreat, UIW's own version of the Olympics, and a leadership institute all led up to Wordstock, a night of music, food and fun and the official opening ceremony of the new academic year: the Mass of the Holy Spirit in the Chapel of the Incarnate Word.

UIW joins Beth Villarreal, Director of Campus Ministry, as she prayed: "let us take peace with us. Let that peace permeate our lives, our world and all we do" during this coming academic year.



Bunnie Saathoff pins a new student during Welcome Ceremony.

## UIW Blesses New CCVI Associate Community

Lorraine Ewers, Mendell Morgan, Tom Duckworth, Mary Beth Swofford, and Diane Howard publicly expressed their commitment to the Congregation's spirituality and mission during an August 22 ceremony recognizing them as the Clarion Circle Associate Community. They join 15 other lay Associate communities (about 90 persons) in the U.S. Province.

## Mass of the Holy Spirit Officially Opens Academic Year 2004-2005

The entrance song for the liturgy, "All are Welcome" set the tone for the official opening of this academic year. The readings of the day, Father Lamberty's homily and the music invited all to be

*Dr. Agnese urged the honor students present to be diligent in developing their talents and to be grateful for the blessings they receive each day.*



mindful of the least among us, to make all feel at home and engaged in the community of the Incarnate Word: "Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live." —Marty Haugen

# Mission in Action: Headwaters Project

**“For the mystery of the Incarnation of God is the salvation of the whole of Creation.” St. Ambrose**

One of the Directives of the 2002 Acts of the CCVI General Chapter is a commitment to “work to integrate an ecological dimension in our living out the mission, preserving the earth and its resources.”

Sister Helena Monahan used that statement to open the prayer at the Fall Faculty Workshop. She went on to connect this to the concept of the Headwaters Project on which a large group of faculty and staff, led by Dr. Bob Connelly, has worked for over a year.

The Headwaters Project coordinators believe that their mission is “to preserve and restore the land including and surrounding the Blue Hole, headwaters of the San Antonio River, whose stewardship rests with the Congregation of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word.



“Blue Hole”—headwaters of the San Antonio River

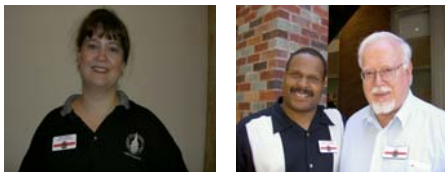
This fragile location, rich in history, spirituality, and ecological diversity, presents a unique opportunity to balance the many needs of the community.”

Stewardship of the land and ecological concern in general is featured prominently in the social teaching of the Church. In a 2002 joint declara-

tion on the environment, Pope John Paul II and Patriarch Bartholomew I of Constantinople wrote: “*Respect for creation stems from respect for human life and dignity. It is on the basis of our recognition that the world is created by God that we can discern an objective moral order within which to articulate a code of environmental ethics. In this perspective, Christians and all other believers have a specific role to play in proclaiming moral values and in educating people in ecological awareness, which is none other than responsibility towards self, towards others, towards creation.*”

In recognizing the sacredness of the Headwaters land, in seeking to foster a “land ethic,” in establishing appropriate community uses of the land, the Headwaters Committee is exercising the kind of environmental justice so needed today.

## New Campus Ministry Team



UIW welcomes Beth Villarreal (L), Director of Campus Ministry, and (R) Trevor Alexander, Assistant Director who join Father Philip Lamperty, OP, Chaplain, and Diane Berlanga as the new campus ministry team for 2004-2005.

Campus Ministry has a full schedule of activities planned for the fall semester, including retreats, free dinners, bible study, and a variety of religious services. Each year, Campus Ministry organizes international mission trips, Theology on Tap, RCIA, and is responsible for helping students find community service opportunities needed to complete graduation requirements.

To stay in touch with these events, check the Campus Ministry website at [www.uiwtx.edu/~ministry](http://www.uiwtx.edu/~ministry) or visit their offices in the Chapel Building.

*“We need to learn to understand ourselves in relationship to place and to the story of that place.” —*

*Rich Heffern, NCR, 8/27/04*

## UIW Vocabulary

**Façade of Original Motherhouse:** When the original Motherhouse, built in 1900, was taken down in 1986, the stone entrance designed by Alfred Giles was preserved and used in the new Incarnate Word Retirement Center.



## September, October

### Mission Calendar

**September 17:** Spirit and Life Series Conference, “Incarnational Spirituality and the Table of Eucharist.” Rev. Michael Crosby, OFM. Cap.

**September 21:** Share the Word: Simone Brown discussing “Your Vote in 2004”—issues that will

affect your future.

**September 30:** Meet and Greet—Faculty and Staff of the Gorman-Mitchell Building and Incarnate Word House will hold an open house from 2-3 p.m. for the entire community.

**October 1-2:** Genomic Research Technology Ethics Conference

**October 13:** Heritage Day