a publication by and for Young Lasallians

February 2010

RELAL Youth Network

In June 2009 the "**RELAL YOUTH NET-WORK**", officially began and its objective is to organize all Lasallian youth movements in Latin America for the purpose of sharing experiences, reflecting together and taking on greater commitment to the needy.

The proposal was approved by the Regional Leadership Community. Some youth groups shared their experiences and all of this has been summarized in the publication of a monthly electronic bulletin which is distributed to many members of the Lasallian family month after month.



A profile on *Facebook* has been opened to integrate some contacts through that media. As of the present date, excellent results have been obtained in contacting other movements throughout our Region.

The logo was designed by D. G. Laura Serrano, a student from La Salle University Benavente in Puebla, Mexico. Ángel González and Brother Moisés Matamoros from the District of Antilles-South Mexico are the once who headed the work for these first 9

months and now D. G. Alejandro Alanís, from the District of North Mexico, has joined them in collaborating with the staff of the RELAL YOUTH NETWORK.

For further information, do not hesitate to contact us at: *redjovenrelal@gmail.com* or on Facebook at HI 5 and My-Space.

The RELAL Youth Network Staff

National meeting of Pre-Lasallian youth

The Delegation of Chile had a second formation day for the youth monitors of the National Meeting of Pre-Youth of MOAEL. They reviewed all the materials used for the meeting and enriched the day with their experience and creativity.

These young people had a very important task, namely, to be "older brothers and sisters" for the diverse pre-youth fraternities that carry the names of our Lasallian blessed and saints.

It was meeting filled with emotion since pre-youth from all our educational works gathered together **RED JOVEN - LASALLISTAS DE AMÉRICA LATINA**

You are the light of the world (Mt 5:13)

and discovered that Jesus calls us all to happiness and that De La Salle inspires us on this journey.

> We are grateful to God for this meeting and we ask that He continue to multiply the good results obtained.

> > Br. Jorge Funke, fsc Advisor for Pastoral Ministry, Delegation of Chile

Youth Council for the District of Antilles-South Mexico

The Youth Council for the District of Antilles-South Mexico came into being as a response to the commitments established by the delegation of Mexican youth and young Brothers who attended the Second International

Symposium of Young Lasallians that was held in Rome in 2006. With enthusiasm, they created an entity that would coordinate, support, lead and offer identity to "Lasallianism" within the District Council and this has been made up of people from different educational institutions and of all different ages in our District.

Throughout these years Statutes have been set up that give us

identity and these Statutes offer governance as an important part of MEL. We want our work to be known and we want this entity to be a link between young people and the Lasallian world so that later an entity such as this one could be offered to the Districts in our Region (RELAL) – an entity in which young people participate and commit themselves to the needy.

We trust that the projects we have in mind will develop under the force of the Holy Spirit and the protection of Mary our Mother.

> Alejandro Mayoral Baños La Salle University, Mexico

The history of "Cachibache"

Once, during a peaceful moment in 2006, I decided to make a drawing of my Postulancy community in the unique style of Brother Felipe Ocádiz (designer of the logo for the 44th General Chapter) and that drawing in time was misplaced and somehow ended up in the hands of a Brother who promoted the idea of using it as a generational symbol. Starting from that moment different forms of it have been seen in the programs of certain liturgical feasts. Specifically, a card in honor of Saint Joseph found its way into the hands of a Brother who was accompanying us for the patronal feast of the Pre-Novitiate and he invited me to give expression the



Meditations for the Time of Retreat and from then on I was not drawing for just special occasions anymore. I was thus encouraged to create a gallery that would reflect the special living out of our faith and, especially, our vocation as Brothers of the Christian Schools.

That is how my activity with graphics began and with the help of my Brothers in the Novitiate community I was able to extend myself and be in touch with even more people

through the Web (*http://cachibache.webcindario.com*), thereby achieving greater recognition of something that began with a simple drawing and a few words of encouragement.

Shortly after my first proasked me about the for an Institute graphics was happy to see my fession, the Auxiliary Visitor possibility of making drawings library and soon afterwards I work in the Lasallian Clipart section.



It can be said, therefore, that the "Cachibache" project is not entirely mine, it is something that developed under the influence of many persons, where God's action was seen guiding us with his imperceptible but steady hand. I am grateful to God the Father for allowing me to be an instrument that functions under the inspiration of his Holy Spirit and in function with the Gospel message, thereby giving me a sense of the person to whom I have consecrated my life.

Brother José de Jesús Alcalá Anguiano, fsc (Palluy)

International Day for Peace in the Dominican Republic

One year ago I learned from the official Institute web site that Young Lasallians the world over were dedicating a day to pray for peace. I was moved by this and I decided to promote the activity at the Saint John Baptist de La Salle Liceo-Escuela in the Simón Bolívar neighborhood in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. The school's pastoral ministry team took on the project and we got the entire educational community involved not just for one day, but for an entire week of prayer.

We decorated the school with murals that made reference to peace and they served to inform and make people aware of the need for peace in the world and importance of uniting ourselves in prayer as a Church and as Lasallians.

The experience was a significant one and this year it has caught on in other schools in the country. We are certain that small prayers are joined to other small prayers of thousands of Lasallians throughout the world, to make real a culture of peace and fraternity that we would all like to have.

Brother Arístides Peralta Henríquez, fsc



International Day for Peace at La Salle University Nezahualcóyotl

October 21, 2009, Peace Day, ended with a call for harmony and world peace. This initiative launched a clear message to the world Lasallian community to assume, by prayer and action, leadership in the different Districts and Regions in terms of a commitment to this cause.

In solidarity with this invitation, the entire La Salle University Nezahualcóyotl joined in this call and participated in civic ceremonies by making peace posters, among other initiatives.

In the area of Cultural Diffusion, headed by Israel Velasco Alfaro, the day came to a perfect end with an event in the multi-purpose room, a program that included a performance for peace by a rock band for enthusiastic young people.

This Day of Peace concluded with the Prayer for Peace in the presence of all students, coordinators and administrators and a Lasallian hymn was sung at the very end of the ceremony.

> Ángel González Caballero of the university pastoral ministry team

From Brazil



Our Brothers in Brazil shared the joyful news with us that on December 13, 2009, Brother Novices Eder Polido, Douglas Justen, Andrei da Silva, Edenilson Tatsch, Dirceu E. Linden and Sebastião L. Pereira pronounced their first vows in the Saint Joseph of La Salle, Canoas chapel.

After having completed the Novitiate, our newly professed decided to follow the radical call of Jesus in their lives by consecrating themselves entirely to him.

All Lasallian youth in Latin America are rejoicing for this event, a sign of hope for all those who are waiting for the Gospel message.

¡Congratulations!

Lasallian Encounter



We met at the Salesian House on January 8, 9 and 10 in Hombre Nuevo, Tlazala, Mexico. There were more than 50 of us Lasallians who work in University Pastoral Ministry and we came from ULSA Mexico, Morelia, Laguna, Chihuahua and Nezahualcóyotl.

In an atmosphere of joy and friendship we reflected on being Lasallians and doing Lasallian things in University Pastoral Ministry work under the special charism of Saint John Baptist de La Salle and, in order to do this, we were grateful for the invaluable presence of some Brothers.

This event was organized by the ULSA Mexico Pastoral Ministry team, along with that of Morelia, Pachuca and Nezahualcóyotl. Overcoming the adversities of climate, the participation was good in games, dynamics and intense moments of prayer.

In the end, the young people from ULSA Chihuahua encouraged us to participate in the next meeting in their university in order to continue our reflection and to strengthen our national Lasallian university identity.

DELIA: Towards the 10 year mark

The process of leadership formation in the District of Medellín, known as DELTA, is close to completing its first ten years of existence. It was in June of 2000 when the first session was held.

Before the DELTA process, Youth Ministry formation tried some different experiences, using as a point of reference the Colegio de Campoamor and some Brothers who were devoted to that task. The youth process in the District did manage to be consolidated in 1984 and it received official recognition from the Youth and Vocational Ministry team.

In 1986 a first proposal was drawn up by the Youth Pastoral Min-

istry team, as they were thinking about a gradual and systematic youth movement, starting from the idea that each institution should appoint a youth ministry and vocation coordinator who would accompany those groups.

The youth movement was begun with 7 formation "communities," with 3 levels of leadership formation and 2 intermediate levels. Then some figures such as DELTA communities were created with names coming from Lasallian values and functions such as Faith, Fraternity, Service, Happiness and Awareness). Community animators were appointed, a community advisor (adults in general) and the general event coordinator.

DELTA meant a radical shift in the structure and development of leadership formation meetings not in the formative structure (I understand, I

share, I celebrate) nor in the organization of the youth movement created in 1986 by gradual formation stages.

When we had the challenge of changing DELTA into a complete youth movement that not only would protect young people who intend to belong to traditional groups of youth pastoral ministry but it would also do pastoral ministry work with young people based on their diverse interests and proposals. The was that this group would be an inclusive one and it would propose programs for the development of the abilities of young people and the understanding of different cultures.

It is good to begin the celebration of the 10-year anniversary of DELTA and of the District Pastoral Ministry and Human Development project while constructing changes, because DELTA in chemistry means change; its logo is the fourth letter of the Greek alphabet (Δ , δ). Its form in uppercase is similar to a triangle, and then each side would represent one of the dimensions of the formation process, where each one cannot be disconnected from the other (in the same way that each side of the triangle is united to the other two) and where a determined area is enclosed (in this case the integrity of the person).



Also, when a river approaches its mouth, it expands over a great area forming what geographically is known as a *delta*, and in this way the process should invite all those who wish to multiply and expand the seed of the Gospel throughout the world, certainly just as more than 900 young people formed by DELTA have done and continue to do.

Christ of Haiti

In solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Haiti, we young Lasallians from Latin America gathered together in prayer and we shared one of the photographs – a testimony of a photo journalist who, as he passed by the facade of the Cathedral, shared his expe-

rience:

"When my eyes saw it, I was stunned and for a few moments I forgot what had happened, my ears ceased hearing the cries, my eyes ceased seeing the demolished constructions, my tears turned into a great smile...and I took the photograph and I knew that we were not alone, that we would get out of this, that we were being invited not to lose faith, to not let ourselves be demolished like the buildings, to stay on our feet, to take up our Cross and to follow him..."

We continue to support our brothers and sisters in Haiti and for more information please consult the RELAL web site: *www.relal.org.co* y la página web del Distrito Antillas-México Sur: *www.lasalle.org.mx*.

