

North Coast Spirit TEC The Pelican

Winter 2008

Unless a grain of wheat falls to the earth and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit. John 12:24



A word from our Chairperson...

Greetings Everyone!
Welcome to our first edition of the Pelican Newsletter in a very long time! My thanks to Nick Naugle and all others who stepped forward to put forth the idea & get it started, figured out the details, worked to update the TEC database, wrote articles and challenged individuals like Fr Barry and me to write a column!

It is never just one person to complete but it is always one person to begin! Please bear with us as we work out the kinks...you can help us!

- * send any address changes, additions, deletions
- * share what's happening so we can walk with you...joyful times, difficult times.
- * offer to help with some of the detail stuff that goes along with putting out this newsletter.

All you have to do is contact us at pelican@northcoast.com. A few months back I began

reading The Apostles by Pope Benedict XVI for an email book club. In it, our dear Poppa spoke of the apostles as a community of faith, hope and charity who through their words and witness came to know and share Jesus Christ, our Savior. I couldn't help but think of the many encounters North Coast TEC has had in the weekend retreats, the prayer experiences, service projects, and community events. Yes, the truths of this Catholic faith are our cornerstone but it's in the burning desire of our hearts and the vibrancy of a fellow Christian walking along side that our relationship with God deepens... and for me that's what keeps me coming back!

Teens Encounter Christ is such an amazing movement. The focus on Paschal Mystery is challenging whether it is your first weekend or your most recent one! Haven't you been asked... "What's the big deal with TEC? I already go to retreats...what makes it so special?" Yeah so do I so what is it? It's that Paschal Mystery... being open to it, understanding it a bit more, and being willing to live it! I remember being discerned for the SIGNS meditation and coming to the realization that since we were created God loving us as totally as He does simply seeks to gather us together to be in union and communion with us to communicate His love with us!

The way He does that is all around us through people, events, and experiences...all signs! And aren't there beautiful and clear, concrete signs of God's Presence within TEC? **Did you know...** there's a North Coast Spirit TEC Board of 13 teens, young adults, and adults that meet every month to work through all the logistics of having 4 weekends a year? They are an amazing group of servants who love TEC and we are so blessed for their commitment. **Did you know...** our Spiritual Director, Fr Barry, in addition to his already involved parish responsibilities said Yes to being responsible for our spiritual development as a community... not an easy task to balance I assure you! We are blessed to have a community that desires to share their personal encounter with each other, to grow and fall in love more deeply with God and one another, and to go forth inviting and welcoming others to encounter Jesus!

As with every ministry it might be easier to just enjoy the fruits of this community but we are challenged to step out and invite ...to GO! Let us not forget why we are here. Continue to invite others ESPECIALLY our Catholic teens... at your parish, in your family, in your youth group to experience this encounter. God bless,

—Pat Counselman

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ... 1Peter 1:3

North Coast Spirit TEC Board

Fr Barry Gearing—
Spiritual Director

Pat Counsleman—
Chairperson

Rich Liptak—
Adult Rep

John Psaras—
Adult Rep

Kathy Scullin—
Facilitator

Donna Hawk—
Treasurer

Hope Marcum—
Secretary

Stephanie Kess—
Registrar

Lisa Manocchio—
Young Adult Rep

Kurt Zabor—
Young Adult Rep

Rachel Borden—
Youth Rep

Gabe Bewley—
Youth Rep

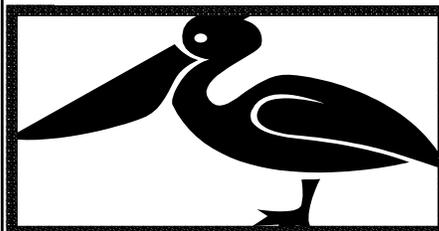
Lauren Cook—
Youth Rep

The Pelican is back...

Yeah! After a hiatus since 2003...the Pelican is back! What is the Pelican? It is North Coast Spirit TEC's newsletter! It is TEC's way of reaching out to the community. The newsletter will contain news columns, insight, and very interesting information for you. In the coming year we will determine when the pelican will fly out to your home!

Any questions or if you would like to help with publication in any way, please email:

pelican@northcoasttec.com



A word from our Spiritual Director:

Some reflection on the Season of Lent:

This penitential season of six Sundays and forty weekdays prepares us for the high feast of Easter. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends with the beginning of the Mass of the Lords Supper on the evening of Holy Thursday (Not on Holy Saturday as was formerly practiced).

Historically, Lent was the retreat-like final preparation for catechumens, those people who

were being initiated in the Church at the Easter Vigil. Naturally enough, it also became a time of spiritual renewal for those faithful who were already baptized! This was also a time of penance for those who were enrolled in the order of penitents, (an early form of the Sacrament of Penance), which was limited to “serious” sinners. However later on the whole Church came adapt Lent as a penitential season for not the catechumens and “serious”

sinners, but ALL of the faithfully baptized as well.

The word “LENT” comes from the Anglo-Saxon “lencten” which means “spring”. “Lenctentide” was the Saxon name for March because March is the month in which days begin to lengthen (also a root of the word “lent”!)

—Father Barry Gearing



The Legend of the Pelican

The pelican is a favorite symbol of the Eucharist and redemption. There is an ancient belief that the female pelican would rip open her breast to feed her young with her own life blood to aver their starvation in famine. In another legend, the pelican is the enemy of the serpent whose stings bring death to the young. The mother pelican, mourning over her dead brood, incinerates herself, and her warm blood restores their lives.

—From Devotions in Catholic Traditions

North Coast Spirit TEC

We have placed the safety of teens as a high priority, aligning ourselves with the diocesan VIRTUS requirements for anyone reaching their 18th birthday who wants to work a weekend. All reports must be completed and turned in BEFORE the weekend.

Here are the requirements:

- The live training completed with either a copy of the certificate or Online record submitted.

- A copy of Online training Report showing all bulletins completed up to 24 submitted OR the hard copy of all 24 bulletins read with the appropriate sign-off submitted
- Fingerprinting/background checks: Please know that it is not enough if you had this check already done unless you can provide

us with a copy of the actual report. Every person who wishes to work MUST have a background check on file with NCS TEC.

There is a cost of approximately \$15.00 to complete this and individuals will be responsible for the cost. Fr Barry will receive all reports and keep record of them.



TEC Board News . . .

Your TEC board members are listed on the front page of The Pelican. This past December ended the terms of three of our board members. We would first like to take this time to thank them for their service: Julie Vavroch (Adult Representative), Nick Naugle (Young Adult Representative), and Grant Winney (Secretary)! Now we would like to

welcome our new members John Psaras (Adult Representative), Kurt Zabor (Young Adult Representative), and Hope Marcum (Secretary)! All three have big shoes to fill but are definitely up for the challenge.

The board is constantly working to continue the growth of our community. Be sure to keep all of them in your daily

prayers. If you have any questions or concerns regarding TEC, feel free to contact any of them.

Board Meeting Dates:
February 11, 2008
April 7th, 2008
May 5, 2008

All board meeting are open to the community. They are currently held at St. Leo the Great from 7-9PM!

I want to work...
Applications to work a TEC weekend can now be sent in two different ways. Apps can be emailed to applications@northcoasttec.com or mailed to Rich Liptak at 5845 Lotusdale Drive Parma Heights, OH 44130 Applications can be found at www.northcoasttec.com. Applications are due the Wednesday after comeback.



Upcoming Events:

*Saturday, March 8th, our Lenten reflection will be lead by Father Barry at Saint Joe's Parish in Strongsville. It will be an in-depth look at the Passion, through the movie the Passion of the Christ. It will be from 6-9:30PM. **(Because of the popularity of this event it will be limited to the TEC community and families).**

***Tetelestai:** a passion play starring several TEC members. The doors open 1hr before every performance. All shows for Friday and Saturdays begin at 8PM and Sunday at 3PM, EXCEPT where noted:

- Holy Name Church, 8348 Broadway Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44105: Feb 1, 2, Feb 3rd at 2PM
- **Divinity Lutheran Church, 11877 Blossom Ave, Parma Heights, OH 44130: Feb 8,9,10**
- St Martin of Tours Church, 14600 Turney Road, Maple Heights, OH 44137: Feb 29, March 1, 2
- **Our Lady Chapel at Gilmour Academy, 34001 Cedar Road, Gates Mills, OH, 44040 March 7, 8, 9**
- St Peter's High School, 104 West First Street, Mansfield, OH 44902: March 14, 15, March 16 at 2PM
- **St. Vincent-St. Mary High School, 15 North Maple Street, Akron, OH 44303: March 20, 21**

For more information and other dates visit their website at: <http://www.tetelestai-cpam.org/default.htm>

*Upcoming Festival of Praise (FOP), similar to adoration we share on Saturday night of TEC, are being held at Saint Joe's Parish in Strongsville from 7-9 pm. Dates are February 18th, March 24th, April 21st, and May 19th.

If you have any suggestion for TEC events or would like to have your event listed please email Lisa Manocchio (angel11883@yahoo.com) or Kurt Zabor (kurtzabor@yahoo.com) our Young Adult Representatives.

Come to HELP Clean-up...

We need help after every TEC. If volunteers do not come to help, the very tired team members must stay and clean. There are a few volunteers who come after every TEC. Now its time for you to lend a hand. Clean-up crew meets around 2:00PM in the kitchen of the retreat center. Remember there is still a retreat going on when you are there, please do not interfere with the completion of their weekend.

Remember: If you work Main Team on the previous weekend, you committed to clean-up on the next weekend!

WELCOME TO THE SHIP...

The Pelican has been on hiatus since Winter 2003, so that is a lot of TECites to that will not be listed below. So at this time, all those from TEC 61-77 WELCOME! Welcome to the community the following individuals from TECs 78 and 79. We welcome you and pray that you will continue to grow in your faith!

Hanny Awalludin	Manolo Manalo	Maureen Moscarino
Angie Crotty	Diana Moorman	Nancy O'Dea
Dan Fitzmaurice	Krista Sison	Jun Sison
Gerad Hensley	Maura Stepanski	Susan Sposit
Amanda Houska	Isabella Traylor	Desiree Rodriguez
Steve Kiel	Sheena Dean	Dolores Grabowsky
Emily Lanzola	Kevin Jerse	Doug Januszewski
John Travis	Maria Stopak	Kevin Berry
Mike Moscarino	Debbie Riedel	Lauren Wooten
Theresa McAlpin	Michelle Kramer	Julia Trask
Joanie Bova	Christine Furfari	Meghan Rowley
Norman Bennett	Krystle Menefee	Nicholas Resar
Carolyn Kertis	Tyler Lorenzen	Colby Popik
Rachel Ignasiak	Claire Doman	John Gallagher
	Christine Barholomew	

A special thank you to the following in the community who have graciously given up their time and time to serve TEC 78 and 79!

Nick Naugle, Kristin Fennell, Father Barry Gearing, David Liptak, Sarah Wedel, Nate Bewley, Greg Yurick, John Psaras, Ed Talboo, Peggy Slavik, Matt Bewley, Amy Brown, George Hensley, Kelsey Slavik, Amy Stevens, Rachel Borden, Marcus Naugle, Leigh Cullen, Rich Ciarrone, Maury Petrak, Hope Marcum, Shaun Fennell, Matt McDonald, Kayleigh Hawk, Doug Novak, Ed Suszynski, Krysten Cotone, Erin Naugle, Jurell Sison, David Hoover, Kurt Zabor, Sam LoFaso, Frine Sison, Matt Gould, Desiree Rodriguez, Gabe Bewley, Ashley Fiffick, Jeff Liptak, Emily Lanzola, Tom Meyer, Dana Colacarro, Angie Arumpanayil, Pat Counselman, Bryan McCarthy, Eric Sidol, Jim Cosgrove, Tom Kurtz, Cathy Kolovich, Kelly McCoy, Alyssa Conti, Megan Walsh, Alicia Riedel



We apologize in advance for any errors, omissions, or spelling errors!

TEC # 80

Isn't it hard to believe that TEC #80 is approaching in March?! We at the Pelican would like to commemorate that special milestone, by having the community send it funny stories, memories, or what TEC has meant to you over the years. We would love to hear from TEC 1-TEC 79. The Pelican would love to share these memories and stories in our next issue, which will be out in mid-April! Please email any of this information to pelican@northcoasttec.com.

Spirit of TEC Award...

Every year the TEC board awards two members of the community with the spirit of TEC award. The 2007 award winners received their awards during Reunion of TEC 78. Congratulations again to Marcus Naugle and Amy Stephens. Here is an account from Amy Stevens and Marcus Naugle about their thoughts on the Spirit of TEC Award:

One cold Friday in January of 2006 I walked into St. Leonard's retreat house never expecting my life to completely change. Walking through those doors I felt so different. In meeting all these new people of the TEC community I felt extremely loved. After having the best weekend of my life, I finally felt like I had found some place in my life where I belonged. My whole life I was searching for some place to fit in, somewhere I could just be myself. I finally found that in the TEC community.

Once I made TEC I just couldn't get enough of it. I have tried to work as many TEC's as I possibly can. I try my best to make it to every TEC sponsored event. I was on the TEC board for a year. TEC has become one of the most important things in my life. Every single one of my best friends is from TEC. There is just something about this loving community that I just can't get enough of. This

Prayer Corner...

We ask that as you look at this corner of the Pelican...that you take a moment to say a prayer for the intentions of all those in the TEC community. In a special way say a prayer for the formation of TEC 80! Prayer intentions can be emailed to the TEC community via the TEC list-serve. If you are currently receiving emails from the TEC community and would like to be part of the list, please email Grant Winney at : grantwinney@sbcglob.net Peace in Christ!

community has taught me to live out my faith and be a leader in Christ. I can now show my love for the Lord everywhere I go. I have truly become the person I want to be.

This past October I received the spirit of TEC award. This award meant more to be than anything else I have ever received in my life. This is such a special award given to only two people in such a large community just once a year. I never imagined myself receiving this award. At reunion Pat was announcing the winner. She described this young lady as, "A responsible, mature, young adult whose passionate relationship with Christ is reflected in the way she treats each person she meets with love and gentleness



Pictured above: Rachel Borden, Marcus Naugle, Amy Stephens

DON'T FORGET YOUR WHEAT LETTERS!

Throughout the TEC weekend, letters from the TEC community are read out loud to the TECites. These letters, which are meant to show support to the new TECites, are not written to individual TECites but rather to the group as a whole. Letters to individuals TECites are given on Rise Day (Saturday) only and are given as part of the Wheat bags. Letters will not be given to individuals TECites at any other time during the weekend.

When sending letters for the wheat bag please remember that the focus should be on the new TECites. With this in mind, please make writing letters to the TECites your priority over writing to the Main Team. Please do not send letters for Wheat.

Please get your Wheat, Die, Rise, and go Day letters to the Lay Director of the weekend or someone on the team. (This information is normally emailed out a week to two weeks before the weekend) Hand-written letters are always preferred.

Remember: When sending in items for Wheat bags, please limit them to letters, notes, and prayer cards. Please do not send in any type of food or individual gift for TECites.



whether at TEC, school, home, or Church. She shows great compassion towards others and courageously perseveres through life's obstacles; she is unique young lady who is not afraid to be her own person." When I heard this I never imagined it would be me. I never realized that people see all these amazing qualities in me. I feel so honored to have received this award. I would like to thank you all for giving me this award; my life would truly not be the same without any of you. I am praying for each and every one of you every day!—Amy

Dear Pelican, Winning the Spirit of TEC award was a complete shock to me. Then after receiving the award and all the shock had settled, I was finally able to understand why I was chosen to receive the award. I was overwhelmed with pride, I was not proud of myself, but instead I was proud to be surrounded by such a great community, friends, and family.

I would like to thank a few people, my brother Nick, the McCarthy family, Cyndi Shipley, Hope, Amy, Rachel, Donna, Dave Novicky, Father Barry, Father Tim, the TEC board, and a whole bunch of other people. If it weren't for you and your welcoming personalities, I would have never made such a Metanoia. For that, I hope all of you take this as an award for all of you because you deserve it as much as a I do.—Marcus

Congrats and such...

- Mike McCandless, Ed Susinski, Joe Brankettilli and the other seminarians that were ordained deacons in November.
- Desiree Rodriguez and Matt Gould on their engagement.
- Sarah Wedel and Doug Novak on their engagement.
- Condolences to the Kurtz family on the recent death of their (grand)-father.
- Congratulations to Grant Winney on his stardom in his recent Lakeland Community College Ads!

We would like to include birth, wedding, engagement announcements to this area of The Pelican. Those types of announcement may be sent to pelican@northcoattec.com. Thanks!

A reflection on TEC's Day of Reflection...

A call to prayer

It was such a blessing to be able to spend Saturday, January 12th with about 60 members of the TEC community at the Discipleship Day of Reflection at St. Joseph Church in Strongsville! Pat Counselman started the day with prayer and Father Barry Gearing presented a wonderful theology of "Finding Nemo". While watching the fishing net scene we were reminded of our sinfulness and how we were before TEC. After Nemo went in to save Dory and the others, they were all set free. This scene also stressed the importance of community and especially that of our North Coast Spirit TEC Community.

The day was divided into three main parts –

1. A Call to Prayer
 2. A Call to Hospitality
 3. A Call to Responsibility
- Kelly McCoy's reflection on prayer helped us realize that all prayer acknowledges the Lord. She mentioned that C.S. Lewis said "Our bodies need God (which is like fuel) to keep our bodies running!"

Then, Eric Sidol gave a witness where we were reminded that prayer leads us to focus on the Main Thing – Jesus! Using his God-given talents, he played and sang one of his own songs for us!

Jim McCarthy led us on a guided meditation using the Gospel of John – Feed my Sheep passage. The focus was on how Jesus calls us by name to care for and love His people and to do justice in the world. We had an opportunity to journal and go to Eucharistic adoration.

During the Call to Hospitality, Ashley Fiffick stressed how we are called to make others feel welcome at TEC and instructed us on how we can do so, especially, at Reunion. Rich Liptak shared a humorous and heartfelt hospitality witness with many "pearls of wisdom". One of the best ones

A call to hospitality

was that we must learn how to be gentle and kind with one another because deep inside we all bruise as easily as peaches.

During the Call to Responsibility, Ryan Mann, a Senior at Borromeo Seminary, reminded us that Christ works in us during the silence of our prayer time. He stressed that God is always with us and that Christianity is about the encounter or dialog we have with Him.

We had the chance in smaller groups to discuss about how TEC calls us to change and how after having an encounter with Christ we are held accountable to love others and lead a fuller life.

At the end of the day, we wrote down our spiritual goals and our prayers to work on for 2008. With someone we didn't know very well, we made the sign of the cross on each other's hands with oil as a symbol of the holy strength we would need to go forth in our world.

Fr. Barry ended the day with a powerful homily at the 4:30 p.m. Mass, ending the Church's Christmas season with the celebration of the Baptism of our Lord. He emphasized how Jesus always went first in everything. Christ was the first one to respond to his Father's call. Jesus is always offering the powerful gift of forgiveness. We need to ask ourselves WWJD? – What would Jesus do if He were in our situation?

Overall, this day was full of prayer, fellowship, and time for self-evaluation and reflection. It was a great focus and reminder that our Teens Encounter Christ weekends are a good start or continuation of the Prayer Life we must have, the Hospitality we must offer, and the Responsibility we must take to evangelize the Paschal Mystery of Jesus. I also would love to offer a special THANK YOU to all those involved in helping to coordinate the day!

—Stephanie Kess

A call to responsibility



Application for Serving on Teens Encounter Christ Retreat Teams

Name:	
Address:	
City, State, Zip:	
Phone #:	
Email address:	
Parish:	

Practicing Catholic: YES__ NO__
(Sunday Mass and regular sacraments)

Check One:
 Teen____
 Young Adult (18-30)____
 Adult____
Prior TEC Information: I
 made TEC#: ____ Last TEC I
 worked #: ____

Applications must be received by the Wednesday after Comeback to the prior TEC to be considered. Please mail or email the following address:
 Rich Liptak
 5845 Lotusdale
 Parma Heights, OH 44130
applications@northcoasttec.com
 Remember the new regulations regarding finger-

Prior Teams	
Roles	
Talks	

Desired Position: (Please Mark 1st, 2nd, 3rd, choices using numbers)

	Main		Wheat	Reunion
Lay Director				
Asst. Lay Director				
Spiritual Director				
Asst. Spiritual Dir.				
Team Member				
Musician				
Gopher	Main	Wheat		
Peace Talk				

Talk: (Growth & Ideals; God Experience; Paschal Mystery; God, Community of Love; Church, People of God; Christian Life; Signs; Mary, Mother of God; Young Christian as Disciple) _____

Explain why you want to work this TEC:

If you have any questions please contact: Fr Barry Gearing at 440-238-5555, Pat Counselman at 440-255-5861, or Rich Liptak at 440-888-4081.

If you would not like to receive the Pelican newsletter, we ask that you please take the time to opt out of the mailings. You can do this in two ways by sending your name and address via:

1.) Email the Pelican at pelican@northcoasttec.com

OR

2.) Regular mail

The Pelican

348 Paul Street, Bedford, OH 44146

We at the Pelican thank you in advance...for this will help save time and money. It will also give North Coast Spirit TEC the opportunity to update or mail List serve.

