

Parish HD Group To Aid Old, Young

By MARY ANN GINNERTY

Auburn — The elderly and youth received first priority during the diocesan sponsored human development training course completed recently at St. Alphonsus Parish.

Projects selected for immediate followup include helping the Cayuga County Action Program to open a recreation center for youth by raising funds within the community to be matched by a grant secured through CCAP resources.

The human development committee will provide manpower to pre-test a survey questionnaire to be used by the Office of the Aging to locate and determine needs of residents throughout the county over 60 years of age. When the questionnaire is in its final form, the committee will lead parish efforts to survey an assigned area.

The training directed by Dr. Joseph Torma, Martin Palumbos and Sister Alice Cooney of the Office of Human Development introduced the committee members to decision making and priority setting techniques crucial to committee work.

In addition to 24 hours of formal sessions held over a seven-week period, participants explored general topics of Auburn concern in the areas of youth, parochial attitudes, the elderly, political parties and medical services. Developing skills were put to work as possible projects were considered in the light of their value to the community, how successfully the committee could carry out a particular

proposal and how meaningfully parishioners could be involved.

Mrs. Kathy Fox was re-elected chairperson of the human development committee. James Cowen and Mary Faerrara share the vice chairmanship. Helen Flanagan is secretary, and Jack Alrutz, treasurer.

CHD Board Reorganized

Lay people will be added this year to the board that plans the local Campaign for Human Development. Judy Wehrin, communications coordinator, explained, "We had become much too internal." She credited lay people working on the Task Forces since their inception five years ago with acquiring as much expertise as the Board members.

New members of the Campaign Board to date include Jim Donnelly from Cayuga County, Jim Shaffer from Steuben County, and Steve Carroll from Wayne County. Judy Wehrin and Sister Josepha Twomey will continue to serve on the Board. Father Wiant and Sister Alice McLaughlin will attend meetings alternately to provide new members with a historical perspective.

The Campaign Board, which meets four or five times a year, acts as a liaison between local task forces and the national campaign, and is responsible for publicity.

Senator Edward Kennedy provided Mr. Maloney's office with the government's official list of 192,000 names once marked for prosecution by the Justice Department. Only 4,400 are still sought; charges against the other 187,600 have been dropped and these are needlessly still in hindering.

There are additional thousands who deserted military service and legal discharge can be arranged for most of these, without the hazard of imprisonment, Maloney stated.

He said confidential interviews can be arranged for resisters or deserters to clarify their legal status but that the National Council of Churches has set Dec. 31 as the cut-off date for his Special Ministries project. Inquiries may be made collect to 212-870-2116 or, in Canada, 204-774-9323.

Information is also available from the peace and Justice Education Center (PIEC), 713 Monroe Ave., Rochester, phone 244-7191.

President Ford, now nearing his first anniversary in the White House, has frequently urged Americans to put the Vietnam war "behind us" and get on with the task of making our country once again "one nation." What he asks, and what the Pope asks, is something that is very American and thoroughly Christian. Our national bicentennial and our Catholic Holy Year observance urge us toward reconciliation.

We fulfill a great duty when we respond to both Pope and President.

TOWARD TOMORROW



Fr. Henry Atwell

Holy Years are traditionally highlighted by trips to Rome. Pope Paul has invited us to keep that tradition during this present Holy Year, but he has a string tied to it — reconciliation.

Jesus himself said we had to be reconciled to one another even before we took the much shorter trip to our local altar.

Most of us like to take trips, but few of us like reconciliation.

One immediate and vast opportunity for reconciliation is that enormous group of young Americans who for various reasons refused to take part in the Vietnam war.

Mr. Timothy Maloney, coordinator of special ministries for the National Council of Churches, came to Rochester recently to confer with relatives and friends of resisters. He said thousands of young Americans are still "underground" because they think the government is still after them. He also said President Ford's "earned re-entry" program met with negligible response.

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200 Couples Attend ME Meeting

By DICK & DIANE BAUMBACH

New York — More than 200 Southern Tier couples joined 11,000 other persons at a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Convention at St. John's University here a week and a half ago.

The theme of the weekend was Family. More than 900 talks on such items as Parent, Family and the World, The Graces of Maternity and Paternity were presented by 324 couples and priests.

The Southern Tier Marriage Encounter community was responsible for the liturgy for a Saturday night Mass, celebrated by Father Charles Gallagher, one of the heads of the Worldwide Marriage Encounter movement.

Because of the large numbers attending, simultaneous indoor and outdoor Masses were held on the university campus.

Paul and Mary Ann Wehrung and Don and Bobbi Simmons from the Owego area provided the songs along with guitar-playing for the Saturday night service. Bob and Joan Dizer, executive couple for the Southern

Tier, were responsible for one of the presentations dealing with the awareness of the sacrament of matrimony.

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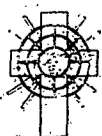
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