



## SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER Five Franciscan Martyrs Region

*Florida, South Georgia, Lower Alabama*

[www.ffmr-ofs.org](http://www.ffmr-ofs.org)

***Annual Local Fraternity Report for the Year Ending December 31, 2023***  
Complete *and* approve at a Fraternity Council Meeting *and* submit before **February 14, 2024.**

**Send to: Jeane Swaynos, OFS, Regional Minister**  
**216 East Sweetwater Creek Drive**  
**Longwood, Florida 32779**  
**or email to [swaynos@cfl.rr.com](mailto:swaynos@cfl.rr.com).**

**Please send a copy to your area Family Councilor, as well.**  
*(Use additional pages and attach if there is not enough space.)*

**Name of Fraternity:** **Our Lady of Guadalupe**

**Meeting Place, Address, Phone:** **Blessed Sacrament Church, 624 Miccosukee Rd, Tallahassee FL 32308**  
**(850) 222-1321 (fraternity and council meetings here)**

**Council Meeting Day(s), Time, Place:** **3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday following fraternity meeting, 11am-12pm**

**Monthly Gathering Day(s), Time:** **3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, 9-11am**

Any changes in your Fraternity Council in 2023? **Yes** If not due to an official election, give reason for change: **Andy Buchleitner resigned as councilor at large in June 2023**

### **SPIRITUAL ASSISTANT INFORMATION**

Does your fraternity have a SPIRITUAL ASSISTANT YES \_\_\_ NO X \_\_\_

- Name \_\_\_\_\_
- Address \_\_\_\_\_
- Phone \_\_\_\_\_
- Email \_\_\_\_\_

In what year did this assignment begin? \_\_\_\_\_

Was he/she formally assigned by your provincial? \_\_\_\_\_

How many of your local fraternity meetings has your spiritual assistant attended this past year? \_\_\_\_\_

How many local council meetings has your spiritual assistant attended this past year? \_\_\_\_\_

List all the Books used for initial and ongoing formation:

- INITIAL—**Franciscan Journey**
- ONGOING—**Praying the Secular Franciscan Rule, Soul's Journey into God (Bonaventure) with Meet Our Brother Bonaventure (Mary Esther Stewart OFS), This Is My Body (Bishop Robert Barron)**
- What topics in the FUN Manual have been used and are useful for Ongoing Formation? **JPIC (see below)**
- How often has your fraternity discussed the Status of Instrumentum Laboris? **Once**
- What initial goals has your fraternity made as a result of Instrumentum Laboris? **Ongoing discussion**
- Do you have a local fraternity Newsletter and how often is it published? **Yes, monthly**
- How is it distributed? **Email**
- Have you thought of sharing your newsletter with the bishop, regional executive council, etc.? **Goes to Family Councilor**
- What Apostolic work does your fraternity do as a whole fraternity? What percentages of the fraternity participate?
  - ✓ **Monthly distribution of groceries to seniors in low-income housing: groceries provided by local food bank (Good News Outreach) and often supplemented by the fraternity with canned meat or other goods, and Easter and Christmas cards. 2-6 participants each month, so up to 1/3 of our professed members.**
  - ✓ **Monthly collection for those in need: canned goods for Good News Outreach at least quarterly; industrial-sized cans for Kearney Center (shelter for unhoused) at least twice a year; other charities such as clothes and hygiene items for Grace Mission Episcopal (see below under Ecumenical Outreach), dog and cat food for St. Francis Wildlife, and hygiene items and bug spray for unhoused (via regional meeting). About 10 participants each month, so up to 2/3 of our professed members.**
  - ✓ **Occasional monetary offerings: more than \$500 given to Aid to the Church in Need for persecuted Christians in Pakistan. Up to 2/3 of our professed members.**
  - ✓ **Monthly contributions from general fund to relief in an Amazon diocese (\$25) and clean water through Sisters of St. Francis (\$25), year-round.**
- Does your fraternity attend Mass or prayer services outside the regular meeting times? **Bag delivery and fraternity meeting follow 8:30am Saturday Mass (2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays respectively) at our host parish. We also gather for Mass and evening prayer on the Feast of St. Francis and occasionally other times.**

### **JPIC, YOUFRA, ECUMENICAL OUTREACH, VOCATIONS**

- Have you had personal contact with the youth in your area this past year? Explain: **No.**
- Who is your current contact for your Youth/Young Adults/YouFra Animator for your fraternity? **None.**

- Has anyone in your Fraternity, including the Minister or Youth Animator, attended any National or Regional Youth/YouFra Zoom or in-person workshops/meetings? **No.**
- List your Fraternity “JPIC” projects and activities for 2023. **Monthly JPIC article in newsletter and discussion at fraternity meeting led by councilor Susan Trogon (from FUN Manual and other sources).**
- Have you taken part in any Ecumenical outreach activities in 2023? Explain: **Gift to Grace Mission (Episcopal) for their ministry to unhoused (showers, clothes, job application assistance) involved tour of their facility, meeting their pastor, and joining for worship.**
- What activities have you done to increase vocations to the Secular Franciscans in your fraternity? Explain: **Advertising bag delivery and fraternity meetings in multiple area parish bulletins has generated attendance at both events.**

### GENERAL QUESTIONS

- What programs has your Fraternity participated in during 2023 (Retreats, Days of Recollections, special celebrations)? **All were invited to attend Family meetings in Crestview in March (2 attended in conjunction with a discipleship conference) and Debary in November (1 attended by Zoom). Feast of St. Francis Mass/Evening Prayer (5 attended).**
- What programs/events has your Fraternity Council planned for 2024? **In development.**
- Is there anything you wish to share with the Regional Executive Council? **(1) Need spiritual assistant. (2) We are 2.5+ hours from our closest neighbor fraternities (Milton, Fleming Island) and 4 hours from the center of our Family grouping (Daytona/Orlando)—nearly impossible for most of our members to attend events. (3) Throughout our fraternity’s existence, we have held visitations and elections simultaneously. At our last combined event (September 2022), we were urged to split these up. We need a visitation in 2024 prior to our election in 2025.**
- Have you found it easy to connect with the Region when scheduling elections, visitations or when having problems within your fraternity? **Yes.**
- What has been your fraternity’s greatest challenge this past year? **Aging, shut-in, and snowbird membership. Geographic distance—multiple members an hour or more from center of Tallahassee.**
- What is your fraternity’s strongest asset(s)? **Active formation team.**
- If you are meeting electronically, how many members take part only in these electronic sessions? **At initial formation meetings, 1-2 professed members attend by Zoom (candidates always in person). At fraternity meetings, 1-5 professed members attend by Zoom.**
- Do you see your ZOOM meetings decreasing over this past year or have they become meetings in addition to your person to person meetings? Explain. **Hybrid meetings only, roughly stable numbers, see above.**

- During the past year, how often have you been in touch with your family councilor? Was this connecting to your family councilor through personal contact, zoom, or phone conversations? **3-4 times by phone or Zoom (previous councilor Susan Deshotel and current councilor Kelly Otero).**
- How often have you or your delegate attended your family meetings this past year? **Twice, see the first question under "General Questions" above.**
- How are you keeping in touch with your shut-in members? **E-mail, phone, Zoom option for meetings, occasional visit especially to deliver formation materials.**
- When was your last profession? How many were professed? **November 22, 2023; 2 professions.**

**We may have to increase dues this next year 2025. NAFRA has increased the dues for each member this year to take effect 2025.**

- **Are you opposed to the increase in dues for our region? No.**
- **We have not increased dues for over 10 years. What do you see as a fair amount for the increase? \$5-10**

**Keep copies of this Annual Report and your Annual Treasurer's Report in the Fraternity's records**

***IF YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND SOMETHING OR NEED HELP, CONTACT US! WE ARE HERE TO HELP!***

**\*\*Please mail your Fraternity's 2023 Treasurer's Report and your Fair Share Contribution in the amount of \$55 times the TOTAL NUMBER of Professed and Candidates to:**

**Karen Rooney, OFS  
Regional Treasurer  
1315 Mirror Terrace NW  
Winter Haven, FL 33881  
Cell (863) 224-5919  
[karenrooneyofs@outlook.com](mailto:karenrooneyofs@outlook.com)**

**\*\*PLEASE MAIL YOUR ANNUAL REPORT TO:**

**Jeane Swaynos, OFS  
FFMR Regional Minister  
216 East Sweetwater Creek Drive  
Longwood, Florida 32779  
Cell 407-462-0808  
[swaynos@cfl.rr.com](mailto:swaynos@cfl.rr.com)**