

Orange County Tres Dias
Secretariat Meeting Minutes
August 7, 2020

Zooming: Mike Shellman, Brian Aleman, Diane Pangburn, Donna Clark, Joel Kelly, Carl and Jan Coleman, Beau Bruce, Sheila Checkley.

Brian Aleman opened the meeting with prayer.

It is the intention of this Secretariat to be dedicated solely to conversation with **Carl and Jan Coleman** and **Beau Bruce**.

Beau Bruce began by sharing Tres Dias current status and his personal history. Tres Dias International is the guiding body unifying 109 chapters in 12 countries. Under the current model, each new community is provided the benefit of a Sponsoring Community. An advantage that was not available when our chapter began 14 years ago. Accordingly, about 4 years ago, TDI appointed regional liaisons to assist. **Carl and Jan Coleman** from Northern California Tres Dias (<http://www.nctdonline.org/>) are our senior advisors.

Beau has served as TDI VP, Membership, for 5 or 6 years. He has founding affiliation with North Georgia Tres Dias (<https://tdng.org/>), an extremely successful community that has developed a 2 1/2 year waiting period to participate on one of the 7 or 8 weekends given annually. The Community has two Secretariats (“Alpha” and “Omega”), each sharing the planning and responsibility for half the weekends. Almost 30 years ago, North Georgia had an opportunity to buy an 11 acre campground, now featuring a Chapel, dining hall for 125 and dorms holding 2 to 24 – facilities sufficient for the 42 candidate limit and ~85 team members each weekend (including 23 “kitchen Chas”). The campground is used by 5 communities providing 30-35 weekends annually – and is booked out for two years.

Communities in proximity in Texas, Virginia and Tennessee/Kentucky are also evaluating the acquisition of shared facilities. Since we sometimes have difficulty securing a facility, Beau planned to contact some of the persons affiliated with Jentezen Franklin, a prior Tres Dias participant who founded Free Chapel, in Gainesville – to inquire about the use of the Free Chapel satellite in Irvine.

In north Georgia, each weekend is preceded by 8 or 9 2-1/2 hour team meetings on weekday evenings featuring prayer, worship, Rollos, fellowship and preparation for the weekend. Meetings usually include an ice-breaker and Secretariat members are introduced. Breakout sessions, conducted by each “department” head provide each team member with an opportunity to grow in their position. Cooks receive a budget to purchase, prepare, serve and clean up each meeting meal.

The meetings are conducted by the Head Cha, rather than the Rector. Each Rector has a seasoned backup Rector for advice and support (usually the previous Rector). Team meetings are well organized and well managed. Table discussion follows each Rollo. Any team member who misses >25% of the meetings is invited to excuse themselves and serve at a more convenient time. The weekend employs a script, a schedule and stays true to Tres Dias Essentials. 35 or 40 churches are represented on a typical north Georgia weekend. Following the weekend, the Rector calls each candidate and encourages them to serve. About 30-40% of the candidates return to serve.

Tres Dias begins and ends with Jesus. Secretariats and all Community members serve in unity, respectfully and with humility. Most vibrant Communities are alive with genuine joy. **Beau** continued that TDI has evolved away from a leadership emphasis; in favor of preparing each Community member

to serve their local church. Then, since **Beau's** time zone is three hours later than ours, he retired for the evening.

As **Carl and Jan Coleman** stepped in, members of our OC Secretariat outlined various hurdles confronted by our community: paucity of clergy and disconnect with local church, Community members scattered throughout a wide area, inability to plan firm dates or a weekend facility.

In response to the current COVID status of Secuelas and Reunion Groups: Secuelas, since the inception of COVID, have been virtual. Community bring their own meals and Zoom together. Secuelas feature prayer, worship, announcements, a 4th Day Rollo and sharing. After quarantine, since our community is spread out, we may elect to hold Secuelas in differing areas for the each of our community.

Reunion Groups are important, although they have also been virtual during this period. Reunion Groups provide a unity and accountability that are key to Tres Dias. Pescadores are encouraged to try out various Reunion Groups to find the one where they "fit".

How can we get local churches involved? **Carl Coleman** suggested we make a list of our community and their churches, then make an appointment to speak to church leadership. Share what Tres Dias means personally. Invite an associate Pastor or Worship leader to a Tres Dias weekend. Encourage them to see how Tres Dias can benefit their congregation. **Mike Shellman** agreed to provide us with a copy of the new TDI Pastors' brochure.

Again, the **Colemans** emphasized unity – in both our Community and in Secretariat. Perhaps with a half day Secretariat retreat? But certainly in prayer for help and in meditation. We all share the same goal – we all love the opportunity to serve the Lord through Tres Dias - in this powerful and lasting way.

We are grateful for the presence and able assistance of Tres Dias leadership. Indeed, the Lord has provided us with an exciting time of reevaluation, recalibration and relaunching. The meeting was closed by **Joel Kelly** with prayer.