

Financial Contributions

The Coordinating Committee of the International Association met together once again in Assisi to reflect on the future of Lay Cistercian Communities and the Coordinating Committee. It is apparent to us now that we must face the need to ask for economic support from you to be able to continue our work.

In the Bonds of Charity That Unite Us, the document that was unanimously approved at the meeting at Huetta in 2008, it was stated: In order to allow the proper functioning of the Association, a financial contribution from the members of the Lay Communities represented in the Association is appropriate. We believe that it is necessary that we begin to make this a reality.

Financial issues are never easy to discuss and all the more so because our union is spiritual. But we remember the words of St. Paul: "If anyone will not work, let him not eat" (Thess 3:10). After much discussion, we have concluded that a contribution from each individual Lay Cistercian in the amount of one hour's salary or pay per year is a fair and equitable way to face this problem.

We suggest that each Lay Cistercian make a contribution in this amount (one hour's salary or pay) to the treasurer of your community and that the total amount collected by your Community be sent to the Coordinating Committee once a year. As a reminder, all the Lay Cistercian Communities listed on the web site are considered members of the International Association.

These contributions from individual Lay Cistercians, both modest and fair because all will participate in a proportional way, will permit us to continue our work and to assist with the expenses of the next international encounter.

We hope to receive your first contribution before the end of this year. For the

next three years, the accounts of the Association will be located in the United States under the responsibility of Dennis Day. He will publish a report of income and expenses every year on the web site.

We want to thank you in advance for your understanding and generosity.

With best wishes to you all....

Dennis Day

Tina Parayre

Marie-Christine Rossignol