Minutes of the Meeting of the Coordinating Committee
International Association of Lay Ciste5rcian Communities
Asissi, Italy, September 13-19, 2008

- Prepared and presented to the General Chapters on Thursday September 18, 2008, the "Statement of Identity" and "votum" documents created by the delegates at Huerta in June 2008. After discussion in four of the fifteen Commissions and a short exchange in Plenary Assembly, the following two votes were approved overwhelmingly:
  - We recognize the existence of a lay expression of our Cistercian Charism in the lived experience of the lay persons associated with a number of monasteries of our Order.
  - We want the document "Lay Cistercian Identity" to be studied in the Regions so as to see what we, as an Order, can assume.
- Reviewed and approved the recommendation to hold the 2011 meeting of the Association in Iowa, and approved the focus of the meeting as Formation for Lay Cistercians and Lay Cistercian Communities. Reviewed and translated a preliminary survey of all Lay Communities that focuses on the needs of the Communities in reference to Formation.
- Reviewed and updated the document: "The Structure and Functions of the Coordinating Committee of the International Association of Lay Cistercian Communities". (The document is posted on the Committee page of the web site.
- Discussed the need to prepare a document for review and acceptance at the 2011 Encounter which lays the foundations for the International Association.
- Reviewed and discussed the finances of the Association. Approved moving the bank account to the United States. Prepared a letter for all Lay Communities recommending a just and equitable way to fund the Association.
- Discussed past and future meetings with other branches of the Cistercian Family—namely, the Congregation de San Bernardo and the Esquermes.

- Discussed ways to support Lay Communities within each of the three language groups.
- Reviewed the work of the past three years with an eye to preparation for the next three years of work.