



The Thomas More Society of America

CHRONICLES

December 1988

ANNUAL DINNER AT BETHESDA

The Columbia Country Club in Chevy Chase, MD was the setting on November 1, 1988 for the Annual Dinner of the TMSA.

Seventy-five members and friends were greeted by Anthony J. Obadal, President of the Society and master of ceremonies for the evening. The Honorable Lynne Cheney, Chairman, National Endowment for the Humanities spoke on the current status of the teaching of humanities today.

Miss Laura Bonner, a student at Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Bonner of Rockville, MD received the Society's \$1000 Scholarship Award for her winning essay, "St. Thomas More: Utopia and the World Today." Dr. Anne Devereux, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, presented the award.

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The Society offers a big vote of thanks to Jim Bierbower for his efforts in obtaining the Intercultural Center at Georgetown University for our Lecture Series.

10TH ANNIVERSARY LECTURES

Members and Friends of the TMSA are cordially invited to attend a distinguished lecture series devoted to a discussion of the American Family Under Siege: Changing Values and Mores.

The lectures will address the disturbing fact that family life in America has been subjected to serious challenges by an array of cultural, political, economic and legal influences over recent decades.

Dr. Allan Carlson, director of the Rockford Institute will speak on December 8th at Georgetown University's Intercultural Center, at 37th & O Streets, N.W. (entrance at O Street) at 6:00 p.m. Dr. Carlson's topic is: "The Family and the American Tradition: A Review of How Protestants, Catholics, Mormons and Jews Have Looked at the Family." For further information phone TMSA: 457-0260.

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

It is my hope, as your new President, to further the dissemination of those principles and objectives held in such high esteem by our patron, Sir Thomas More.

Among the goals one must reckon with is the need and utility of an enlarged membership. Surely, one of the measures that may rightfully be applied to suggest either success or failure is the degree to which the Society attracts others to its objectives, and correspondingly, the willingness on the part of the present membership to participate in this endeavor.

I request, therefore, that each member carefully select and extend a membership invitation to not less than five candidates whom they believe will join us in our determination to make Sir Thomas More widely known.

In this same vein, and in the name of the Thomas More Society of America, I believe it is appropriate to express our profound thanks to Commissioner and Mrs. Lee for the extraordinary effort exerted to the success of our "Gala" honoring Judge Bork in June of this year. Thank you, Bob and Rose, from each of us.

In closing, I urge the membership to publicize, attend, and demonstrate your support for the fine work done by Mary Ellen Bork, Bob Silano, Regina McGranery and Bob Dufek, in developing our lecture series, "The American Family Under Siege" to be held at the

Intercultural Center of
Georgetown University,
commencing December 8th.

Best holiday wishes for
peace on earth to all.

James P. Keenan,
President

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Judge Howard Markey, founder of TMSA has travelled recently to Switzerland, Los Angeles and New York speaking before gatherings of European judges and lawyers.

Mary Ellen Bork, Program Chairman will bring greetings from TMSA and report our activities at the Thomas More Symposium, St. Thomas More College, Saskatoon, Sask. Canada on May 18-21, 1989.

Joseph McGrath is currently studying for the diaconate. Life partner, Anne also is a full participant in the training process.

Judge Jim Belson, Hospitaller, Sovereign Military Order of Malta, Federal Association, U.S.A. will be representing the Association at a seminar which will discuss future spiritual and charitable directions for the Order, worldwide, in December.

SPECIAL THANKS to Sarah MacLeod, newly-elected Executive Secretary for her many efforts on behalf of the Society concerning membership records and lists. We sincerely appreciate the work this has entailed.

C. NORMAND POIRIER

The Society mourns long-time friend, devoted husband and father, scholar and first President of the TMSA, C. Normand Poirier who died in Fairfax, VA on June 28, 1988.

Poirier, Acting General Counsel of the U.S. Information Agency, and Director and Former President of the Federal Bar Association was an expert in communications and international law. He received the meritorius Honor Award from the USIA and was a 1985 recipient of the Presidential Rank Award.

A graduate of Assumption College in Worcester, MA, Poirier received a law degree from Georgetown University. He was a governor of the Antioch School of Law in D.C. and a trustee of Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Colorado.

As Chairman of the TMSA Scholarship Committee he spearheaded the 1988 expansion of the Scholarship Essay Competition to include seven area schools.

A true student of Moreana, and one who espoused in his daily life adherence to the highest ethical principles, Poirier's devotion to family life, his wit, keen intellect and gentle spirit will remain his lasting legacy.

The Society extends condolences to his wife, Françoise and their four children.

SCHOLARSHIP GALA BENEFITS SOCIETY'S FUND

Chaired by Commissioner Robert E. Lee and Mrs. Lee, the first TMSA Gala to benefit the Society's Scholarship Fund was held on June 8, 1988 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel, Washington, D.C. The event netted \$25,300 for the Fund.

The elegant evening, attended by 200 friends and supporters of the Society, honored The Hon. Robert H. Bork, former Judge U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. Introduced by the Honorable Chief Justice Warren E. Burger, Judge Bork spoke on the topic, "The War for Control of the Legal Culture."

The festive, black tie evening concluded with dancing to the Gene Donati Orchestra.

1989 SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Chairman Anne Devereux announces that letters of invitation to compete in the 1989 TMSA Essay Competition have been sent to 15 area schools. The theme: "The Significance of Thomas More for our Times." A winner is expected to be announced in May. For further information contact Dr. Devereux, 485-7360.

ORDER COMPLETE WORKS ST. THOMAS MORE

Before Dec. 16th. From G. Marc 'hadour. \$105 by check, at 180 No. Road, Kingston, R.I. 02881. Phone: 401-792-5931 University of Rhode Island, English Dept.

BOARD ELECTS NEW MEMBERS

Voting members of the TMSA attended the Annual Meeting of the Society on Saturday, November 5, 1988 held at the offices of Casey, Scott, Heggstad and Canfield. The following officers and directors were elected:

Officers: 1988-1989

Anthony J. Obadal, Chairman
James P. Keenan, President
Ralph H. Brown, Pres. Elect
Sarah MacLeod, Ex. Secty.
Brian Crooks, Treasurer

Board of Directors

William D. Byrne, M.D.
Anne R. Devereux, Ph.D.
Robert A. Dufek
The Honorable Robert E. Lee
Louis L. Martz, Ph.D.
The Hon. Regina C. McGranery
Joseph A. Morris
John O'Neil
James A. Parker
Michael A. Uhlmann
The Hon. Gerard D. Reilly

Chronicles: M.E. Bork, Editor
James P. Keenan, Pres., TMSA

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

10th Anniversary Lectures

*Tuesday, January 31, 1989
The Social and Economic Fabric
of Modern Family Life
The Hon. Ann McLaughlin

*Wednesday, March 29, 1989
U.S. Supreme Court and
Traditional Family Values
Dr. Carl Anderson

*Tuesday, May 16, 1989
The Portrayal of the Family
in Contemporary Literature
Dr. Carson Daly

*June: to be announced
Thomas More and the Family
as a Spiritual Institution
Dr. Louis Martz

*Tuesday, September 19, 1989
Family and State Under
Communism
Wanda Spasowski

For Complete Information phone
TMSA at 457-0260
Send your membership news to
Chronicles.

JOIN THE TMSA * CONSIDER
MAKING A BEQUEST 457-0260