



The Thomas More Society of America

CHRONICLE OF

EVENTS MARCH 1989

THE AMERICAN FAMILY UNDER SIEGE: CHANGING VALUES AND MORES LECTURE SERIES

"The freedom to make our own lives--the essence of democratic capitalism--can flourish only where the family is strong," said Gary L. Bauer, President, Family Research Council, Washington D.C. in addressing members and guests of the Thomas More Society of America on January 31st, in Georgetown University's Intercultural Center.

Mr. Bauer appeared before an enthusiastic audience of some 50 members and guests of the Society, who questioned him at length, following his speech.

Citing that "Thomas More has special relevance to the twentieth century in which governments have pulled off so many takeovers of functions that ought never to be governmentalized," Mr. Bauer added that "the Family Research Council stands with the Thomas Mores of yesterday, today and tomorrow in defending the claims of faith and family against the claims of gargantuan government."

"Everywhere the equation holds true: where there are strong families, the freedom of the individual expands and the reach of the state contracts."



*Gary L. Bauer, President
Family Research Council*

"Where family life weakens and ails, government advances, intrudes, and ultimately compels. Those whose priority in politics is to restrain the growth of government cannot ignore the family."

The decade long "assault on the traditional family and its supporting institutions galvanized a movement... the social conservative movement, better known as the pro-family movement. Ten years after it started, I believe it is bracing for a new wave of growth. To all of us in that movement, Thomas More is an inspiring example of fortitude. All of us hope, like him, to die as good citizens of our country, but as good citizens of God's kingdom first and foremost."

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

Due to the many queries addressed to me regarding the origin of the "Russian" medallion of Thomas More, it becomes obvious that a brief statement to the membership is in order.

In May of 1984, TMSA hosted Mr. William Kinsella, President of the Thomas More Society of Ireland and his wife, Teresa, for four days. Mr. Kinsella had the medallion in his possession. Designed by the artist, Marianna Borisovna Romanovskaya of Leningrad, (where the medal was struck in 1981), it had been a gift from a member of the Russian Embassy in Dublin, then celebrating More's anniversary at a reception at which Mr. Kinsella was a guest.

The truly curious thing about this event is that a Communist nation would have any interest in honoring a man for whom the Christian world holds a most special place; a man especially devoted to his faith, family and profession--indeed, a man who abandoned all and suffered a cruel death in support of liberty of conscience, an Englishman who never confused good manners for virtue or blind obedience to his sovereign with the moral imperative.

It was decided to present the medal to the then president of the Thomas More Society of America, Mr. Joseph McGrath, in the hope the Board of Directors would adopt it as the President's official emblem of office. It was unanimously so

directed by the Thomas More Society Board of Directors at their next board meeting and after arranging for a bezel mounting, it has been worn in that capacity by each succeeding President.

**James P. Keenan,
President**

WELCOME NEW TMSA MEMBERS

We offer a most cordial welcome to the Society of the following new members:

Joseph Reyes, Pete Homan, David Stang, Mike Nugent, Brig. Gen. Michael Scotti, Jeffery Carleton, and Dr. Philip Mazzocchi sponsored by Jim Keenan.

Catherine Pearson and Jonathan Curley (sponsors unknown).

Mary Michels, Leon T. Knauer, William F. Gavin sponsored by Sarah MacLeod.

Peggy A. Hanson, sponsored by Joe Crumlish

Total current membership as of 3/8/89: 110

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Abbe Marc'hadour will visit the United States in April. The Society is planning a reception in his honor.

Congratulations to The Honorable William J. Bennett, chosen as Director, Drug Control Policy in the Bush Administration.

BOARD ELECTS
WILLIAM D. BYRNE,
M.D.



The Society welcomes one of its newest members of the Board of Directors, Dr. William D. Byrne, well-known thoracic and cardiovascular surgeon who practices in Annandale, Virginia.

Dr. Byrne has a distinguished record of appointments and certifications: Chief, Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery at Fairfax Hospital, and Associate Clinical Professor of Surgery at Georgetown University Medical School. He also received special certification in 1984 from the American Board of Surgery for special qualifications in General Vascular Surgery.

A graduate of the University of Notre Dame, and Georgetown University School of Medicine he received his M.S. in Surgery in 1954. Dr. Byrne also served his country with distinction as a Captain in the U.S. Air Force from 1950-1954.

A member of many professional societies, Dr. Byrne and his wife, Mary live in McLean.

MOREANA, GAZETTE #10

If your membership was effective prior to Jan. 1, 1989, you should have received Thomas More Gazette #10. If not received by May 1, phone Sarah MacLeod on 457-0260.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
NEWS

Dr. Anne Devereux, Scholarship Committee Chairman announces that 13 area schools have received the invitation to the 1989 Essay Contest: Paul VI, O'Connell, Bishop Ireton, Friends, Maderia, St. Albans, National Cathedral, Georgetown Preparatory, Stone Ridge, Georgetown Visitation, The Heights, Gonzaga and The Abbey School. Entries must be postmarked by March 15th. The results of judging will be announced on April 15th.

MARCH LECTURE SERIES

Dr. Carl Anderson, Executive Director of the Office of Public Affairs, Knights of Columbus will address the Society on March 29th at 6:00 p.m. in Georgetown University's Intercultural Center. His topic will be: "The U.S. Supreme Court and Traditional Family Values."

Sandwiches and beverages will be served immediately prior to the lecture. Please plan to attend and bring a friend to this important lecture.

THOMAS MORE SPEAKS TO
US TODAY

With this reminder: "Yet for the short while that we be upward and aloft, Lord! how brave and how proud we be, buzzing above busily like as a bumble bee flieth about in summer, never aware that she shall die in winter."

**"THE FAMILY AND THE
AMERICAN
TRADITION"**

"The religion-family
relationship in
America has always
been and remains
dynamic:

ever-changing,"

said Dr. Allan Carlson,
Director, the Rockford
Institute, Rockford Illinois, at
the first in a six-part lecture
series on the "American Family
Under Siege," sponsored by the
Society.



In his address to members and
guests, on December 8, 1988
in the Intercultural Center
at Georgetown University, Dr.
Carlson "reviewed the theologies
of marriage and family that
have characterized
four American faith traditions:
Protestant, Catholic, Mormon
and Jewish."

CHRONICLES: M.E.Bork, Editor,
J.P.Keenan, President,
J.A.Borden, Consultant

Dr. Carlson also reviewed the
developments in the 20th
century, to see how each
tradition has fared as a guide
to behavior. "Religion
retains its important bond to
the family: as religious belief
changes, so does family
behavior. The good news is
that the modern, secular world
has not irrevocably triumphed.
For religious leaders to use
that argument is, in my
opinion, to show fear and
cowardice in the face of
challenge; or it is to mask
one's own beliefs in the false
doctrine of historical
materialism."

SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday, May 16th at
Georgetown University, Dr.
Carson Daly, "The Family in
Contemporary Literature."

**JOIN THE TMSA * CONSIDER
MAKING A BEQUEST 457-0260**