



A ministry to foster and promote vocations through prayer, awareness, affirmation and support



Sep-Oct 2023

THE SERRA SNAPSHOT

Serra Club of Spokane

Club 2

District I E

Region PNW

Volume 13

Issue 5

Event Highlights



**Fri, September 8,
11:00 am
Serra Club's 86th
Anniversary
Celebration
Immaculate Heart
Retreat Center**

We will begin the celebration with **Mass** celebrated by Fr. Kyle Ratuiste in the chapel, then luncheon and program to follow in the Main Lounge.



**Fri, October 13,
11:00 am
Adoration and
Luncheon
Immaculate Heart
Retreat Center**

Our speaker will be Deacon Richard Borda, one of our newest members. Upon his return from a pilgrimage to Poland, he will talk about Poland's contribution to Catholic history.



**Fri, November 10,
11:00 am
Adoration and
Luncheon
Immaculate Heart
Retreat Center**

The speaker this month will hopefully be a priest who has either been in the military or been a military chaplain as Veterans Day is Nov. 11.

Chaplain's Chronicles



Dear Serrans,

Praise be Jesus Christ!

We have good reasons for excitement about vocations in our diocese. As you likely heard, we have ten seminarians in formation for the diocese this year, including two recent high school graduates entering the Cor Christi program at Bishop White

Seminary. Our local seminary, which serves multiple dioceses in the western US, has 20 men this year – nine returning men and 11 new men joining Cor Christi. Some area Serrans helped host a bustling, joyful welcome barbecue for these seminarians and their families on August 19. Meanwhile, plans are in the works for the first diocesan-level discernment events for young women since 2019. A Young Women's Discernment Retreat Day is presently scheduled for Saturday, October 7.

What if I were to tell you that we can increase this vocational excitement? I take it as a solid principle that prayer is the foundation to promoting vocations (cf. Mt. 9:38; Lk 10:2). If we want to see more holy vocations, we ought to have more prayers. More prayers arise from increasing own prayers *and expanding the number of people praying.*

I want to invite you to take part in a practical project to expand the number of people fervently praying for vocations. As the Director of Vocations, one of my goals for this year is to *launch and support active vocations promotion in parishes across the diocese.* A practical means to do this is to help parishes establish their own vocations committees. Partnering with the U.S. Council of Serra, our diocese is bringing a Vocations Committee Workshop (aka Serra IGNITE) to launch these new committees on Saturday, November 4, 2023. Beyond having dedicated members praying for vocations, these committees have the potential to *mobilize whole parishes to pray for vocations.*

If you believe in the need to call more people to pray for vocations, consider being a founding member of your parish's vocations committee and inviting your fellow (non-Serran) parishioners to take part as well. May the Lord look kindly on our efforts, receive the increase in our prayers, and bless our diocese with even greater vocational fruitfulness.

¡Siempre adelante! and In Christ,

Fr. Kyle Ratuiste

Thoughts and Prayers



On August 19, we welcomed new and returning seminarians to Bishop White Seminary with a barbecue dinner for them and their families. Right now, 20 seminarians are living at Bishop White Seminary until the completion of McGivney Hall. The 11 men in Cor Christi will move into McGivney Hall when it is completed and nine seminarians will continue living at Bishop White Seminary.

This year, there is a new diocese has six men in formation at Cor Christi – the Diocese of San Bernadino.

The Diocese of Spokane has begun the school year with ten seminarians – two in Cor Christi, one at Bishop White Seminary, six at St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park, CA and one at Mount Angel Seminary, OR.

I invited all the new Cor Christi men I could find at the dinner to join us for our receptions at 8:00 pm following the monthly Holy Hour for Holy Vocations, bribing them with the cookies, snacks, refreshments, and good conversation. You should all join us too so you can meet these young men who need our prayers and our support in discernment of their priestly vocation.

Cindy Omlin, Anna Stockdill and I met recently with the new headmaster of the Chesterton Academy, Shane O'Doherty, to discuss partnering with them to encourage vocations. They are going to begin a high school version of the Traveling Crucifix program this September and work with us by adopting seminarians in prayer. We also would like to pursue inviting Chesterton young men in their vocation discernment group to come with their families to the Holy Hour and reception at BWS.

On September 8 at IHRC we are going to have our anniversary celebration that was postponed from June due to the water heater failure at St. John Vianney. It is going to be a special luncheon at which we will induct our new officers and recognize service award winners. An 11:00 am Mass will precede the noon luncheon. It will be a time to celebrate the past year and look forward to another exciting new year. I am looking forward to kicking off the new Serra year with you. See you on September 8!

Blessings,
Greg Takisaki

Seminarian Update



Introducing the Diocese of Spokane's two newest seminarians – Timothy Gogl and David Frank! Both are grads from Catholic high schools – DeSales in Walla Walla & Chesterton in Spokane.

Earlier this summer, they visited the Chancery with Fr. Ratuiste and helped at the Steubenville NW Conference with other seminarians. They are in the Cor Christi program. Please pray for Timothy and David as they begin their seminary journey!

Want more time with Jesus?

"Do you realize that Jesus is there in the Tabernacle expressly for you – for you alone? He burns with the desire to come into your heart." Thérèse of Lisieux

It can often be challenging to find time to spend with Jesus in adoration. Now the Diocesan Adoration Finder makes it easy. See which parishes offer Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament across the diocese and by day of the week.

Diocesan adoration times can be found here: <https://www.dioceseofspokane.org/adoration>

July Luncheon – Seminarian Andrew Kelley



From left, Greg Takasaki, Andrew Kelley, and Joshua Haxton.

On a warm July summer day 45 people attended our luncheon program. There were two guests and the speaker. Joan DeGroot was introduced as a new member. Dismas Michael was invited by Anna Stockdill. Seminarian Josh Haxton was invited by our speaker Andrew Kelley. Deacon Victor Lopez led adoration and joined us for lunch.

Our speaker, seminarian Andrew Kelley, stressed the importance and power of prayer. The hand of God has been active in his life moving him toward his vocation. He is 26 years old and grew up in a farming family in the Willamette Valley of Oregon. He inherited his faith from his mother who is Catholic. He went to Catholic school all his life and he had an interest in being a priest from a young age. In high school as a senior, he was one of the leaders of the junior retreat and reluctantly realized that maybe he was being called to a vocation.

He came to Gonzaga University and originally studied engineering but switched to music focusing on voice and playing the organ. He was very busy with college life and found it difficult to find the time keep his spiritual life going. However, during his fifth year at Gonzaga he had a light class load and decided to invest the time and effort into going to daily Mass, praying, and

studying his faith. God's grace poured into his life. The first event that moved him toward the seminary happened while he was on vacation in Hawaii when he spoke to his spiritual director, Father Vevik, and asked for a good Bible. Fr. Vevik then told him that he may have a vocation to the priesthood. Even though he was just joking, this input greatly impacted him. His prayer at that time was, "Lord, I don't want to become a priest, but if You want me to, I will." A second event that moved him toward his vocation was the aftermath of a coffee date with a girl who went to daily Mass at the Cathedral. That night he was in the chapel at GU and the canticle in his breviary was from Philippians. It begins with "Christ became obedient until the point of death..." and ends with "that JESUS CHRIST IS LORD!" That reading banished all his fear about becoming a priest. He entered the seminary, but it still took 2 years before he was able to change his prayer to, "I want to be a priest!"

He asked for our prayers. He has four more years before ordination in 2027.

His presentation is available in audio format at:

<https://serraclubofspokane.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Andrew-Kelley-7-07-2023.mp3>.

Connect with Serra Club of Spokane and the Office of Vocations

Find Serra on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Serra-Club-of-Spokane-102848712483398/> and on the web at www.serraclubofspokane.com

Listen to the audio portion of past luncheon programs at: <https://serraclubofspokane.com/home/news/#media>

The Office of Vocations is asking for your prayers. Once signed up, you will receive occasional alerts asking for prayers for seminarians and other vocational concerns. To sign up, go to <https://spokanevocations.flocknote.com/pray>

Orientation Video for New Serrans

Mike Downey, president of the United States Council of Serra (USAC), has updated the member orientation video that will train and enlighten new Serrans. The 2023 orientation can be found here: <https://youtu.be/Uu2dZ1VCoRM?t=2>.

August Luncheon – Fr. Max Oliva, SJ



Our August luncheon program welcomed 29 members, a guest of Cindy Omlin, Patricia Kienholz, and two priests, Fr. Kyle Ratuiste, our chaplain, and Fr. Max Oliva, our speaker.

Fr. Max Oliva is the new chaplain of IRHC and spoke to us about his vocation story. His mother and father were faithful Catholics, and he grew up with daily family rosaries and watching Bishop Fulton Sheen on TV. He grew up in San Francisco, California. Many in his family were successful in business and he was sent to Catholic schools. His parents later moved to Pasadena, and he went to a Jesuit Catholic high school and then went on to Jesuit Santa Clara College. His mother was diagnosed with cancer when he was a sophomore in college. She died after two years leaving four sons. Max was 20 and the oldest child. He met a girl named Lynette and they were together for four years. Her family became like his second family. He majored in marketing in college and expected to go into business with his father or another family member. He had several very good job prospects.

He then had an experience that he will never forget that changed his direction. While he was waiting for Lynette to go out on a date he heard a voice say, “No one can ever love you as much as I do.”

He then went to Europe with a friend and bought a 1962 Austin-Healy in England and drove it all over Europe. He was called back home because the Army wanted to draft him. Instead, he joined the Coast Guard and had six months of active

See **OLIVA, 8**

Get ready now to celebrate Priesthood Sunday

What is Priesthood Sunday?

Priesthood Sunday is a special day set aside to honor priesthood in the United States. It is a day to reflect upon and affirm the role of the priest as central to the life of the Church. *President Greg and several board members are celebrating at their parishes, would you be willing to celebrate at yours?*

What happens on Priesthood Sunday?

The lay faithful of all parishes in the USA develop their own special way of marking the day and honoring their parish priests at Mass and other parish events, such as social celebrations and school activities. *Here are some suggestions for you to use in your parish:*

Create a poster and/or banner or have one printed using an image from our website and place it in your church’s entry.

Have parishioners create a Spiritual Bouquet. There is a sign-up sheet for your parish’s use on our website.

Provide the following information in your parish bulletin, Facebook, and/or Flocknote for September 16/17 and 23/24:

Sunday, September 24 is Priesthood Sunday. A special day set aside to honor priesthood in the United States. It is a day to reflect upon and affirm the role of the priesthood in the life of the Church as a central one. Please show your appreciation with a thank you card or message.

Add the following to the Prayers of the Faithful on September 23/24:

May our pope, bishops and priests continue to minister in humble justice and faithful service. Let us pray to the Lord.

For an increase in religious vocations. May men and women respond to Christ’s call to serve the Church in the priesthood, diaconate, or religious life. Let us pray to the Lord.

Need more? Go to

<https://serraclubofspokane.com/home/resources/priest-sunday/>

Celebrate!

PRIESTHOOD SUNDAY

September 23-24, 2023

Quo Vadis Days Bears Fruit and Joy this Summer

Do you ever wonder how your dues are spent? Serra Club of Spokane was able to support Quo Vadis Days with a gift of \$1,500.00. Thank you, everybody!



In June, nearly 50 high school-aged young men attended Quo Vadis Days at Pinelov Park near Loon Lake, WA. The week was filled with ample time for prayer, the sacraments, water activities, small group conversations, meaningful talks, endless games, guidance in discernment, fellowship, and of course – roasting marshmallows. The annual camp aims to help young men discern God's plan for their life and is offered at no cost by the generous support of benefactors.

Thank you for your prayers for our Quo Vadis Days attendees! Please pray for all young men who contemplate and discern if Jesus is calling them to the priesthood, and for those who have begun their applications for the seminary.

St. Junípero Serra, patron of seminarians, pray for us.

Priests BBQ Dinner

The Priests BBQ Dinner was held on August 4 at Bishop White Seminary. It's an opportunity for the priests of the diocese to get together for food, conversation, and relaxation – no meeting!

Members Anna Stockdill, Emily Klein, and Steve and Karen Domini cleaned the patio for al fresco dining and set the tables.

Thank you Serrans, as we were able to support this event for \$1,069.00. Thank you!

Welcome Back Dinner for Seminarians

The Welcome Back Dinner for Seminarians and their families was held at Bishop White Seminary on Saturday, August 19, following Vespers in the seminary chapel.

The menu was all-beef hot dogs with chili, potato salad, chili bean salad, watermelon, chips, and cookies. Of course, several toppings for the hot dogs were also provided – sauerkraut, shredded cheddar, and chopped onion. Especially if you made it messy and had a chili dog.

Thank you Serrans for sponsoring this event! Thank you to all who assisted at

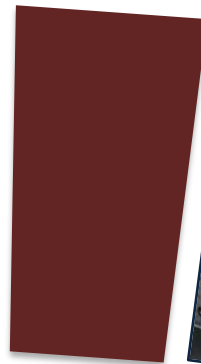


the event, too. Steve and Karen Domini planned the dinner with BWS chef, Shelley White, made a salad, and brought the potato salad, chips, and beverages. Jim Hose, Bob Boehme, and Al Hanson were the grill masters. Robert Heacock helped with food preparation and Emily Klein, Diana Boehme, and Diane Hose helped with serving. Members of the Serra Club of North Idaho helped serve and provided valuable after dinner assistance – storing food and doing dishes.

See **Welcome Back Dinner, 6**



Welcome Back Dinner
continued from 5



Sixteen Spokane Serrans – Steve and Karen Domini, Al Hanson, Bob and Dianna Boehme, Jim and Diane Hose, Emily Klein, Robert Heacock, Greg and Doreen Takisaki, Mike and Sue Harrell, Lori and Kirk Neumann, and Martin Weber; four members from the Serra Club of North Idaho; Fr. Barnett and Fr. Ratuiste; 20 seminarians; and many family members – enjoyed a very lively evening!



86th Anniversary Celebration

The postponed celebration of the anniversary of our charter is almost here!

Plan now to attend on Friday, September 8, at IHRC in the chapel and Main Lounge. We will begin at 11:00 am in the chapel with Mass celebrated by Fr. Kyle Ratuiste with assistance from Deacon Richard Borda.

The menu will include grilled salmon, baked chicken, roasted vegetables (depend on seasonal availability), two salads of differing variety, a dessert that is not cookies (to depend on seasonal availability of stone fruit), and soda, beer, and wine. The cost for the lunch is \$35 per person.

NOTE: Because we will be having Mass, there will be no Adoration.



The Serra Club of Spokane
cordially invites you to a
celebration of the

86th Anniversary of its Charter

Friday, September 8, 2023

11:00 am - Mass

Noon - Social
Wine, Beer, and Soft Drinks

12:30 pm - Lunch and Program
Installation of Officers
Membership Recognition

Immaculate Heart Retreat Center

\$35 per person

RSVP by September 4, 2023
<https://serraclubofspokane.com/rsvp-2/>

Young Women's Discernment Event



*Sr. Sharon Bongiorno, FSPA, pictured at left, shares about a one-day discernment event being planned for upper high school and college-aged young women this October revisiting the model of **Vocare** offered for high school girls in previous years.*

For eight years before the COVID-19 pandemic, the Catholic Diocese of Spokane sponsored *Vocare*, a week-long retreat for high school girls to reflect on vocation, especially to the consecrated life as religious sisters. They were introduced to sisters who ministered in the diocese and heard their vocation stories.

Vocare was not able to continue after COVID-19, but the need for young women to discern God's call in their life (the meaning of *Vocare*) in a meaningful way is still there. Therefore, such a retreat is being planned for reflection on vocation, for hearing vocation stories, for time to share thoughts and questions about religious life, and for spending time in prayer and reflection.

The retreat is open to junior and senior high school girls and college-aged women. It will be **Saturday, October 7, from 9:00 am-3:00 pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Cathedral**. Lunch will be provided and there is no charge due to the generous contributions of the **St. John Paul II Society** and the **Serra Club of Spokane**, organizations in the diocese who pray for and contribute support as needed for those contemplating a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life.



Serra Clubs Partner with Newman Connection



You can help keep our college students Catholic! Eighty percent of students who go off to college stop practicing the faith. But the 20% of students who continue say one of the main reasons was because

they got an invitation.

Let's make that happen. A high school graduate's name, email address, high school or parish, the year they graduated, and the college they plan to attend can be submitted to Newman

Ministries or a parish or school can connect their graduating students at

<https://www.newmanministry.com/highschool#CTA-Forms>

Once received, the on-campus Catholic Newman Ministry will invite the student to get involved with their fellow Catholic students.

Share the Newman Connect app with high school graduates. Find it on the App Store or Google Play. Students can find their campus and join a Catholic faith community to grow their faith and belong to something greater.

Thank you for your assistance as we work together to help college students grow in their faith.

Oliva continued from 4

duty and five years in the reserves. He then moved into a house with two other young men and was still dating Lynette. He knew something was missing so he took a break from seeing Lynette.

In the summer of 1963, he went to confession at St. Mary's Church in Los Gatos. He received great peace in that church and soon the thought came to him that he should become a Jesuit priest. He went to a weekend retreat where he made the decision to try out the seminary. He left the car with his dad and entered the Jesuit novitiate on October 10, 1963. He went on a long retreat that solidified his vocation. This October will be his 60th anniversary.

His presentation is available in audio format in two parts at <https://tinyurl.com/Fr-Max-Oliva-Pt1> and <https://tinyurl.com/Fr-Max-Oliva-Pt2>

OCT. 27-29, 2023

PNW REGIONAL CONFERENCE:



Casting a Wide Net for Vocations

Serrans and guests from Washington and Oregon are invited to gather for this wonderful opportunity to create lasting relationships. Presentations include:

Rev. Derek Lappe: How Catholic Schools and Religious Education Departments Can Help Cast the Net

Rev. Thomas Nathe: Building a Culture of Vocations into Parish Life

Rev. Justin Ryan: How to Nurture Vocations in the Family and at Home – Includes a panel of parents who are modeling or have experienced nurturing vocations in the family

Rev. Francis Le: Our Call to Holiness



Rev. Derek Lappe



Rev. Thomas Nathe



Rev. Justin Ryan



Rev. Francis Le



Most Rev. Frank Schuster, D.D.
Auxiliary Bishop and Pastor
Archdiocese of Seattle

To register, go to:

<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=6a7puneab&oeidk=a07ejws9hwz1f26a0d6>

Agenda

Friday, October 27

- 4:00 pm Check-in
- 6:00 pm Cocktail social with ample appetizers

Saturday, October 28

- 6:00 am Worldwide Rosary
- 7:00 am Mass
- 8:00 am Breakfast
- 9:00 am Welcome and Opening Prayer
- 9:20 am Fr. Derek Lappe
- 10:30 am Break
- 11:00 am Fr. Thomas Nathe
- Noon Lunch
- 1:30 pm Fr. Justin Ryan
- 3:00 pm Fr. Francis Le
- 4:00 pm Confession, Adoration, Stations of the Cross
- 5:00 pm Vigil Mass
- 6:00 pm Dinner and Bishop Schuster Presentation

Sunday, October 29

- 8:00 am Breakfast
- 9:00 am Concluding Remarks
- 9:15 am Morie Ratuiste, Regional Director, Presentation



Archbishop Brunett Retreat
Center at the Palisades
4700 SW Dash Point Rd.
Federal Way, WA

Banner Club Award

The Serra International Foundation provides Serrans with a vehicle for channeling their generosity. Through the Foundation, Serrans help with funding projects and programs that show promise or have proven successful in promoting vocations.

Donor recognition is provided to clubs whose gifts total \$1,000 or more within a given year. Club giving totals include gifts from the club itself, as well as gifts from their members.

For its generous support with donations between \$1,000 and \$1,999, Serra Club of Spokane has been recognized as a Banner Club for the year 2022 and was recognized at the Serra International Convention in June 2023.

Thank you and congratulations!



Thank You Notes

Serrans have received several cards and notes of gratitude from fellow Serrans, priests, and consecrated women religious. Your prayers and Mass offerings meant so much to them.

Dear Members of the Serra Club of Spokane,

The Holy Names Sisters were so touched by your thoughtful gifts! That was so kind of you, and we realize that took quite some planning, preparing, and delivering.

We are so grateful for your generous support and keep each of you in our prayers.

~ Sister Karen Conlin, SNJM

Dear Serra Club of Spokane,

Thank you for the offering of a Mass at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish for our son, Curtis.

~ Bill and Margaret Davis

“Appreciation is a wonderful thing. It makes what is excellent in others belong to us as well..”
Voltaire

Ordination Anniversaries

Ordination anniversary cards are sent to priests on behalf of the Serra Club. Celebrate those priests that have special meaning in your life by attending Mass, having a Mass celebrated for his intention, saying a prayer, or sending your own card.

Addresses cannot be provided due to space limitations and not all addresses are available, but many can be found here: <https://dioceseofspokane.org/find-a-priest>

There are no ordination anniversaries in November.

Oct 29, 1977 Fr. Roy Floch

Prayer Requests

There is a prayer request book available at every meeting and event. Please include the book of prayer requests when you pray.



Pray for the success of Cor Christi and McGivney Hall.

Pray for the new and returning seminarians to Cor Christi and Bishop White Seminary.

Pray for Eva Dacanay as she begins a new position.

Pray for the repose of the soul of Sr. Mary Patricia Basel, SNJM.

Pray for a return to health for Jim Hose.

Pray for healing from hip replacement complications for Barrie Baird.

Pray for Jim and Diane Hose's grandsons, Michael and Oliver, who are receiving treatment for Batten Disease.

Prayer is a moving force in vocation development. Prayer is effective; prayer is powerful; prayer is essential. Few are called to priesthood or religious life, but all are called to pray for vocations.

O Holy Spirit, Spirit of wisdom and divine love, impart Your knowledge, understanding, and counsel to youth that they may know the vocation wherein they can best serve God. Give them courage and strength to follow God's holy will. Guide their uncertain steps, strengthen their resolutions, shield their chastity, fashion their minds, conquer their hearts, and lead them to the vineyards where they will labor in God's holy service. Amen.

Serra Endowment for the Education of Seminarians

The endowment supports our seminarians in perpetuity. Please prayerfully consider donating by:

- (1) Making a 100% tax deductible donation included with your dues.
- (2) Making a bequest to the endowment in your estate planning.

It is managed by the Catholic Foundation of Eastern Washington, (509) 358-7334 or <https://catholicfoundationspokane.org/>

Serra Club of Spokane Calendar

September 2023

Fri	Sep 8	11:00 am	Mass and Anniversary Celebration Luncheon at IHRC. We will be celebrating the 86th Anniversary of Our Charter and Installation of Officers . Bring guests! See page 8 for the invitation. Please RSVP using the website https://serraclubofspokane.com/events/
Sat	Sep 9	9:00 am	Serra Meets speaker is TBD.
Sun	Sep 10	1:00-3:00 pm 3:00-5:00 pm 5:00-7:00 pm	Expo'23 - Eucharistic Exposition 2024 . The event will consist of three main parts: procession, adoration/confession, and celebration. A Eucharistic procession will begin at the doors of the Cathedral, through Riverfront Park and into The Podium facility. At The Podium, Mary Healy and Bishop Daly will speak to the congregation, followed by a time of adoration and confessions. Afterward, a celebratory meal is planned in the adjacent park space.
Sat-Sun	Sep 23-24		Priesthood Sunday See page 4.
Mon	Sep 25	5:00 pm	Mass and Board Meeting at BWS.

October 2023

Sat	Oct 7	9:00 am	Young Women's Discernment Event at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Lourdes; lower level.
Fri	Oct 13	11:00 am	Adoration for Vocations and Luncheon Meeting at IHRC. Our speaker is Deacon Richard Borda. Upon his return from a pilgrimage to Poland, he will talk about Poland's contribution to Catholic history. Please RSVP using the website https://serraclubofspokane.com/events/ or using the information provided in the announcement email.
Sat	Oct 14	9:00 am	Serra Meets speaker TBD.
Mon	Oct 23	5:00 pm	Mass and Board Meeting at BWS.
Fri-Sun	Oct 27-29		PNW Regional Conference in Federal Way, WA. See page 9.

Serra Meets, USAC's monthly virtual lecture series, continues.

Please go to <https://zoom.us/j/95992451924?pwd=RFdzZjgybDk0VVlKVlhyYXNlNkpkUT09> to join the webinar. **Passcode: 853558**

Serra International Rosary for Vocation will be on the following **Saturdays: September 30, and October 28**. To join from your computer, tablet, or smartphone, <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/31431598> or using your phone, dial 1 (312) 757-3119 and enter the access code; 314-315-981.