



Update from Management of the Order Committee

## All OFS in U.S. Urged to Participate in Survey

By Mary Stronach, OFS  
International Councilor

I had chills running down my spine – not from the sub-zero weather we are experiencing in Upstate New York – but from reviewing the draft of the survey the Management of the Order Committee has been preparing for all members of the Order in the United States.

Believe it or not, the simple process of answering questions about our Order empowers us as an Order. We **do** have control of the direction of the Order – at the local level, at the regional level, at the national level, and yes, at the international level.

The process of answering the survey actually makes us more aware of our Order, suggests possibilities, and opens the doors of opportunities we may not have recognized.

So join us in completing the survey. The survey link to Survey Monkey (an online survey tool) will be sent to all Regional Ministers through the NAFRA-List. It should be forwarded to local ministers and all individual brothers and sisters of the order. It will be open and available from March 1 to April 2.

We apologize in advance to our brothers and sisters who do not read English. We plan to make the survey available in translation at a later date.

We ask you to do four things:

1. Take the survey. It will take about 30 minutes. Go to: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MOTO\\_NAFRA](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MOTO_NAFRA)
2. As you are taking the survey, make a mental note of how you, as a member of the Order, can tackle a simple problem or support an endeavor at your local or regional fraternity level.

3. Forward the link to OFS brothers and sisters you know who have access to a computer and invite them to take the survey. *It should be taken only once.*
4. Print out surveys for brothers and sisters who do not have a computer. Ask them to take the paper survey and to give it back to you. We would appreciate it if you could help us by inputting their answers on the Survey Monkey Tool. If that is not possible, please mail it to us at: Mary Stronach, OFS, P.O. Box 232, Marcy, NY 13403 before the April 2 closing date. Those who do not have computers might want to ask a relative for help in accessing the survey on-line or may want to go to the library.

While the survey represents a milestone in the work to be accomplished by the Management of the Order Committee, there is still much to be done. But, it cannot be accomplished unless our brothers and sisters help us by responding to the survey. By doing so, you too will be a part of taking the Order into the future – moving it forward to new levels of spirituality and presence in the world and uniting the Order as it has never been united before. The process at our national, regional and local levels should help us anchor ourselves as an Order – it should challenge us and awaken new possibilities.

The members of the committee wish to thank you for your support in this endeavor: *Tom Bello, OFS, Mary Bittner, OFS, Mary Frances Charsky, OFS, Dawn Rusinko, OFS, DonnaMarie Flanagan Kaminsky, OFS, Anne Mulqueen, OFS, Patricia Serotkin, OFS, Mary Stronach, OFS, Karen Szczesniak, OFS, Carolyn Townes, OFS, Jan Parker, OFS (ex officio).*