



# CAREGIVERS

The Buena Ventura *INTERFAITH* Volunteer Program

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NEWSLETTER

Vol 3, No 1/May 1986

## WHAT IS MINISTRY?

Someone cares! Many of Ventura's homebound elderly are finding this to be true as they receive comfort and service from the Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers Program.

Members of various religious congregations in Ventura are joining together to do God's work through a common ministry to the frail and elderly. These volunteers are answering the call for help in many ways, including grocery shopping, transportation within the city limits, relief for a family caregiver, telephone support, a friendly visit and some light housekeeping.

Reaching out to those less fortunate, especially the often forgotten elderly, brings great satisfaction to the Caregivers who are carrying out the ministry in our community.

Are you looking for a way to enrich your own life and fill a few empty hours? Have you been chosen to answer the call of someone less fortunate? Ministering to the needs of our ailing neighbors could improve the quality of their lifestyle and bring you unexpected rewards. Have you heard your neighbor's call?

by Florence Schultz

## CALENDAR

### VOLUNTEERS

Sat May 17	----- 10 am - 4 pm-----	Senior Exhibit at Buenaventura Plaza
Mon May 26	-----	Holiday - closed
Wed May 28	----- 7 pm-----	<u>Cluster meeting</u> for volunteers and their coordinator; Guest Speaker: <u>Scott Jones</u> from <u>Senior Outreach</u> ; Topic: " <b>Recognizing the difference between normal depression and clinical depression</b> "
Tues June 24	----- 7 pm-----	Volunteer Coordinators and Contact Persons
Mon June 30	----- 9:30 - 11:30 am or----- 7 - 9 pm	Orientation Training - Day 1
Tues July 1	----- 9:30 - 11:30 am or----- 7 - 9 pm	Orientation Training - Day 2
Wed July 2	----- 9:30 - 11:30 am or----- 7 - 9 pm	Orientation Training - Day 3
Fri July 4	-----	Holiday - Closed
Tues July 8	----- 7 - 9 pm-----	<u>Quarterly Support Meeting</u> ; Special Guest Speaker and Topic
Mon Sept 1	-----	Holiday - Closed
Tues Sept 9	----- 7 pm-----	Volunteer Coordinators and Contact Persons
Sat Sept 27	----- 9:30 - 2 pm-----	<u>Annual Interfaith Retreat/Planning/Social</u> for all

### BOARD MEETINGS

Executive Board Meetings--First Wed, 7:30 am--May 7, June 4, July 2, Aug 6, Sept 3

Board of Directors Mtg. ---Third Tues, 7:30 am - May 20, June 17, July 15, Aug 19, Sept 16 at Josephs

Advisory Board Mtg. - - - - Thur, Sept 18, 7:30 am. at Josephs

DO YOURSELF A FAVOR, HELP YOUR NEIGHBOR!

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**SAN BUENAVENTURA  
INTERFAITH VOLUNTEER  
CAREGIVERS PROGRAM**

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**Board of Directors**

Chairperson: Harry Walsh  
for Buenaventura Mission Church  
Vice Chairperson: Sr. Sara Michael King  
for Sisters of St. Joseph  
Secretary: Liz Jacobelli  
for Volunteers at Large  
Treasurer: Mary Solomon  
for Sacred Heart Church

Sister Patricia Mulvaney  
for Community at Large

Frank Ratner  
for Temple Beth Torah

Bill Lockard  
for Knights of Columbus

David Schuepbach  
for Community at Large

Pastor Luther Tolo  
for Trinity Lutheran Church

**Advisory Board**

Msgr. Arnold Biedermann  
Sacred Heart Church

Beverly O'Gorman  
for Senator Gary K. Hart

Rabbi Edward D. Kiner

Temple Beth Torah  
Supervisor Susan K. Lacey  
Dr. Sara Miller  
Dir., Ventura County Health  
Care Agency

Msgr. Donal Mulcahy  
Our Lady of the Assumption Church

Msgr. Patrick O'Brien  
San Buenaventura Mission

Vince Ordonez  
Chief Administrative Analyst

Richard Wittenberg  
Chief Administrative Officer



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## SPECIAL JOBS FOR SPECIAL PEOPLE

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By sharing their special skills and past experience, the following six volunteers help make the Caregivers Program click!

**Daphne Brooking** conducts workshops for people serving the elderly through ministry. A retired medical assistant, she now coordinates events and speakers for ongoing education.

**Elizabeth Jacobelli** is on maternity leave with her first child due in July. She has been working in personnel and now has the important task of researching and writing requests for grants for the Caregivers Program. Unfortunately, Liz will be moving to New Jersey with her husband soon. We wish to thank her for her contributions to the program and send her with our gratitude and prayers.

**Florence Schultz**, retired legal secretary and a newcomer to Ventura, is keeping her office skills alive by assisting Sisters Veronica and Patricia with producing the Caregivers Newsletters.

**Jack Bowen** worked at Pt. Mugu as an engineer. He volunteers because he wishes to bring the Lord's love to people. He responds to emergencies and crises as a respite volunteer, handyman and does regular ministry.

**Herman Schneider** gets things done! He is a retired mechanical engineer and the proud father of four daughters, all in their twenties. He has done a great deal of yard work for a recently bereaved widow.

**Charles Lo Piano** is in business for himself and manages his own apartments. As a handyman, he volunteers because he likes to help people. He has been extremely helpful in many areas that benefit the program.

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## PEACE

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Persons served who have died....having benefitted from the ministry of our Interfaith Caregivers:

Katherine Haskins, Olga Suna, Margaret Morgan, Al Goetz, Arthur Scherin, Fred Turk, Ella Moore, Dudley Mathis.

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## NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

This February has marked the end of our first year with our Board of Directors. I wish to thank those whose terms have expired; Vince Ordonez, Chairperson; Al Phelps, Secretary; Dr. Bob Knight; Lynn Farrow, Treasurer....Along with the retiring officers, Sister Sara Michael, Vice-Chairperson, has accepted another

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**CONTRIBUTIONS**

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Thank you!

**IN MEMORY OF:**

**Katherine Hoskins:**

Patricia Turner, Pauline Zimrick,  
Ellen Dick, Lura Clements.

**Senora Thomasa Mendoza:**

Carlos Tello

**Lawrence Kieffer:**

Orlando & Dorothy Caputo.

**Mrs. Esther Doyle:**

Orlando & Dorothy Caputo.

**Frances Di Nucci:**

Orlando & Dorothy Caputo.

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**SPECIAL THANK YOU TO:**

Sacred Heart Church Fund Drive  
Church Deacons of Community  
Presbyterian Church  
Faria Foundation  
June McRedmond  
V. Ruments

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**FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTORS:**

Anna Manning, Sarah Divine, Howard Dye,  
Margaret Morgan, Ruth & Keith Guthrie,  
Leona Stephens, Helen Young, Martha  
Geise, Mrs. Tom Maher, Mr. & Mrs.  
Joseph Reed, Nova Hayes, Ken Landberg,

Jr., Gladys Brown, Caroline Steyer,  
Barbara Wilson, Louise Morsman,  
Marjorie Johnson, Hazel Quick, Annette  
Berube, William Dover, Robert Reed,  
Kenneth & Barbara Ritza, Louise Moore,  
Betty Patterson, Cecilia Millette, William  
Callanan, Anonymous.

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**MATERIAL CONTRIBUTION:**

Michael Henneberry



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## OUR 2nd YEAR GROWTH STATISTICS

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We wish to share some numbers with you and thank all those who have contributed to the growth of our program. We are proud of the following evidence of our progress:

### VOLUNTEERS

- 90 new volunteers representing the following religious affiliations: Baptist, Episcopalian, Jewish, Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic and community at large
- Majority recruited from friends, public relations, congregation appeal and staff members
- Age: 12% under 30, 53% between 30 & 60, 35% over 60
- Sex: 24% men, 76% women
- Shopping, light housekeeping, transportation and friendly visiting the most frequent services
- Termination: 19% - which represents a move out of the area, jobs and other full time commitments.
- 11% give occasional and emergency service; 89% are matched one-to-one, giving ongoing service, forming friendships.

### PERSONS SERVED

- 105 new persons served..
- Majority references from friend or neighbor, religious congregation or medical group.
- Majority live alone, or with an elderly spouse.
- Age: 18% under 60, 9% between 60 & 74, 73% 75 or older.
- Sex: 28% male, 75% female.
- Needs of persons served: 42% personal care, 19% home management, 17% transportation, 22% social contacts.
- Average services of 2 per person; most frequent were shopping, light housecleaning, transportation and friendly visiting.
- 76% received NO service from their family.
- 91% need ongoing help.
- 29% terminated service, of which 14% moved, died or were hospitalized, 15% received additional family help or were able to function independently.



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## WHAT'S HAPPENING!

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Since our last column we have said "Good-bye" to some of our Volunteers: Alice Bunt, Meg Fong, Therese Boivert, Liz Jacobelli, Louise Hudson, Colleen Patterson, Margaret and Woodie Hodgson, and Diane Hurley. We are most grateful for the many hours of ministry that each of you have given to CAREGIYERS and to the people you served. May God hold you in the hollow of His Hand!

New Volunteers have stepped forward and we welcome:

Terri Basalo, Carolyn Marquez, Kathy Mills, Jack Callings, Eleanor Mapes, Fran Brady, Mary Marostica, Mary Olsen, Doris Sneddon, Olivia Juarez, Sister Eutropia, Sister Martha, Mary Solomon, Tammy Anderson, Daphne Brooking, Connie Anderson, Florence Schultz, John Baker, Nancy Donahue, Pat Lundgren, Florence Multer, Betty Patterson, Daisy Kidney, Suzie Baggett, Marian Nelson, Claire Bucher, Cathy and Art Bean, Mary Anne and Nicholas Pichatta, Ellen and George Appel, Dorothy Schupbach, Kenn Ritza, Lorraine Carrillo, Debbie Macchado, Herman Schneider, Jennifer Lopez, Toni Ramos, Louise Forgey, Dorothy and Dean McNulty, Mary Serfozo, Dawn Pardue, Joan Rollins, Robert Fries, Beth Dunn.

May your ministry to the frail, the elderly, the hurting be one of joyful compassion and personal satisfaction.

*Sister Veronica*



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## WELCOME TO NEW COALITION MEMBERS

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We extend a very warm welcome to two new members of our interfaith coalition. They are Trinity Lutheran Church and First United Methodist Church.

Through the encouragement of Pat Sandwell and the strong support of their United Methodist Women group, the First United Methodist Church has become a coalition member. Wayne Dugan, along with Pat Sandwell will work closely with our volunteer program.

Pastor Luther Tolo is representing the Trinity Lutheran Church on our Board of Directors and Herman Bartlett is working closely with him as a contact person.

We are Growing!

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## RECOGNITION DINNER

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Garden flowers lent an air of Spring to the second annual awards dinner honoring the Buenaventura Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers, on April 16th, 1986 at Josephs.

Guests were welcomed by Harry Walsh, Chairman of the Board, followed by the blessing of the meal, given by Carol Basralian. After a delicious chicken dinner was served, Board and Advisory Board members present were introduced. They included: Bill Lockard, Knights of Columbus; Liz Jacobelli, Volunteers at Large; Frank Ratner, Temple Beth Torah; David Schuepbach, Community at Large; Joan Province for Supervisor Susan K. Lacey.

Father Dennis Mongrain of Assumption Church was guest speaker. His message touched on the valuable characteristic of patience. He reminded us that God manifests himself through you, the volunteer, as you become good listeners, are obedient and practice the discipline of compassion, which is PATIENCE.

Sister Patricia expressed appreciation to all those who have served as volunteers during the past year and was assisted by Sister Veronica in reading names of recipients of awards. Certificates were handed out by Harry Walsh.

Sincere thanks must also be given to the following who worked together to make the

evening so special: Vicky Michelson, Carol Basralian, Florence Multer, George and Ellen Appel, Claire Bucher and Doris Sneddon.







## CONGRATULATIONS VOLUNTEERS!

The highlight of the recognition dinner was the handing out of certificates and pins for hours served up to and including February, 1986.

For 200 hours and more: Pins went to Jane Marron, Jack Bowen and Al Phelps.

For 150 hours and more certificates went to: Katie Jenkins, Diane Hurley, June Stites, LuNeal Haley, Ellen Dick.

For 100 hours and more: June McRedmond, Rosalie Kirkeby, Phil Marshall, Claudette York, William Hawk, Elizabeth Jacobelli, Beth Walsh, Kathryn Murphy, Mickey Plumer.

For 50 hours and more: Charles Lo Piano, Lydia Reed, Marie Thomas, Rita Marshall, Vickey Michelson, Helen Lewiston, Joan Rollins, Antonio Ramos, Ellen Appel, Lynne Farrow, Beth Dunn, Robert Fries, Therese Boisvert, Janice Pardue.

### TOTAL HOURS OF VOLUNTEERING

1st year	5,354
2nd year	<u>6,132</u>
Grand Total	11,486

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## CONTACT or COORDINATE?

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CAREGIVERS is stretching yet further into Ventura because coordinators Yicky Michelson, Ellen Dick, Kenn Ritza, Florence Multer, Olivia Juarez, Mary Solomon and Jack Rollings are heading up small clusters of volunteers. This clustering enables the volunteers and their leaders to share needs, suggestions and inspirations.

Working side by side with the coordinators are contact persons. The difference between contact and coordinator? Coordinators work with volunteers. Contact persons work with congregations, and as the program grows may include volunteers. Presently our contact people are:

June McRedmond of Assumption Church - (656-0809)  
Maxine Roth of Temple Beth Torah - (659-5144)  
Wayne Dugan of First United Methodist Church (643-7869)  
Patricia Sandwell of First United Methodist Church - (648-5536)  
Daphne Brooking of Sacred Heart Church - (647-0169)  
Herman Barlett of Trinity Lutheran Church - (647-2611)

Both contact and coordinator are vital to the extension of our Program. We want to thank all of them listed above and we encourage others to join their ranks.

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## QUOTES

- From persons served:

..."I'd like to thank you and your volunteers who have been so kind and generous to care enough to give their time and services to help me through a very difficult year. Without you I'm not sure I would have had the courage to keep trying to battle my way through poor health, bereravement, discouragements and mountains of paper work these past months."

..."These beautiful and caring friends have been a tremendous support to me during my time of need and discouragement--and so have you, Sister Veronica."

..."The moral support was very important to me. I am enclosing a small check to help support your work.....Very sincerely, Louise"

**From a volunteer:**

"Joe is a great person despite multiple physical problems and constant discomfort. He is a good reminder of all that I have to be grateful for. George"

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## WISH LIST

**STAR LIGHT, STAR BRIGHT \***

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Lounge chair for person we serve who needs legs elevated for medical reason.

Small portable tape recorder.

term in the same office. Thank you. We will also miss Tom Fitzgerald, alternate for Al Phelps. Gladys Posakony has accepted additional duties at her church and will no longer be with us.

Welcome to our other new officers; Harry Walsh, Chairperson; Bill Lockard, Secretary; Mary Solomon, Treasurer. Other Board members who have joined us are: Frank Ratner from Temple Beth Torah; Pastor Luther Tolo, Trinity Lutheran Church; Liz Jacobelli and Vicky Michelson, volunteers at large.

#### ADVISORY BOARD

This year we began an Advisory Board composed of influential persons in the community. Besides the opportunity to meet and socialize, their input and observations were very beneficial in considering future directions of the program.

#### SITE VISIT

We also had the privilege of a visit from Dr. Ken Johnson, Director, Virginia Schiaffino, Assistant Director and Dr. Betty Letzig, Advisory Board, of the National Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers Program, representing the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Their insights and observations regarding not only our project, but the other 24 projects throughout the nation, was very helpful in focusing future plans for our coalition and Board of Directors.

#### SHIFT IN EMPHASIS

Our second year statistics revealed a very interesting shift in delivery of services

from our first year. Approximately half of our volunteers the first year wished to respond "on call" with different persons served, with the other half serving weekly with the same person. The second year statistics showed that nearly all volunteers are now involved with the same person served on an on-going basis. This enables a bonding to develop which is so meaningful to a caring relationship. We welcome this positive change.

#### VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to our many volunteers, who through their compassion find time in their busy lives to encourage, care for and bring that little bit of cheer to the lives of the frail elderly. These dedicated people epitomize the best in human nature with their enthusiasm, reliability and dedication, so necessary to keep the vulnerable happy in their own homes as long as possible. I pray that your numbers will increase!

#### DIRECTORS PLANNING MEETING

We would also like to thank Rodney Fernandez for being a facilitator for our annual planning day for our Board of Directors at Vista Del Mar Hospital. We appreciate the time spent by our Board as well as Mr. Fernandez volunteering time to help us in focusing on our short and long range goals.

*Sister  
Patricia*

## **BUENA VENTURA INTERFAITH VOLUNTEER CAREGIVERS**

Director: Sister Patricia Callahan, CSJ  
Volunteer Director: Sister Veronica  
Maloney, CSJ

### **VOLUNTEER CAREGIVERS matched.....with.....the homebound**

- reach out to the frail & elderly & isolated in their own homes
- respite care—support the family caregiver
- link the needy with community resources
- train & support volunteers in basic caregiving skills
- provide 2 - 4 hours/week of neighborly, non-professional tasks of personal care, home management, social contacts, trans.

### **A MINISTRY OF THE BUENAVENTURA INTERFAITH COALITION**

Community Presbyterian Church  
First United Methodist Church  
Knights of Columbus Council 2498,  
Sacred Heart Church  
San Buenaventura Mission  
Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet  
Temple Beth Torah  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Our Lady of the Assumption Church

Contributions, memorials or in-kind donations can be made to VOLUNTEER CAREGIVERS and are tax-deductible.

Send to:

**VOLUNTEER CAREGIVERS  
261 North Catalina  
Ventura, CA 93001**

Sisters of St. Joseph in California  
Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet  
Buenaventura Interfaith Volunteer  
Caregivers  
261 North Catalina Street  
Ventura, CA 93001  
(805) 652-0566

