



CAREGIVERS

The Buenaventura INTERFAITH Volunteer Program

Sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet

Winter 1990

Volume 7 Number 3

Welcome, Sister Jane!

Sister Jane Kelly, SNJM, will be joining the staff this September as Volunteer Director of the Program. Sister Jane, a Holy Names sister the last 11 years has a very diverse education and family background. She has many years experience in counseling, social work, nursing and public speaking. The elderly are very dear to her heart. Sister has spent the last year at Shalom Prayer Center in Mount Angel, Oregon where she worked as a retreat minister, replacing one of the sisters who was on a year-long sabbatical.

As one familiar with the dynamics of life transitions, Sister Jane described human tragedies -- pain, sin, grief, death -- as a natural part of life. At the same time, she said, despite these natural losses, "we can come to life again." Once we learn to walk through our failures with courage and hope, she said, "who knows where they will lead?" If anyone had told her in 1968, when she started her first college class, that by the age of 45, she'd have earned four college degrees and raised her seven children" -- and then become a sister, "I never would have believed it."

Sister's degrees in gerontology, counseling and sociology as well as geriatric case work, more than prepares her for her ministry with Volunteer Caregivers. We look forward to having her work with those we serve as well as to her plans in developing and presenting training programs for our volunteers who work with the elderly.

We are hosting an Open House for Sister Jane on Wednesday, September 19 from 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. and again from 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. All are invited to come and meet Sister.



Contents	Order Cookbooks Now!
To Care and Share 2	<p>Time to order "Ah yes, I Remember it Well" the cookbook being prepared from recipes of all persons participating in Buenaventura Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers programs. The cookbook will be available November 1, 1990, in time for holiday gift giving. The book sells for \$7.50 per copy. Books will be sold on a prepaid, pre-order basis. Please make checks payable to "Volunteer Caregivers"</p>
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TO CARE AND SHARE . . .

Community Cuisine Dinner

Friends and supporters of the Buenaventura Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers program joined with the community at large to enjoy our First Annual Community Cuisine Dinner on Saturday, May 12, at the new Community Center in Santa Paula. This was the first major fundraiser for Caregivers.

We are grateful to the merchants that provided the food and decorations for this special event. **THESE MERCHANTS WERE SO VERY GENEROUS--THEY REALLY CARED AND SHARED.** Donated items came from Baskin Robbins 31 Flavors, Books, etc.; Galvan's Food Products, Inc., The Garden Market, Glen Tavern Inn Restaurant, Jones'y Liquor and Deli, Kentucky Fried Chicken, La Cabana Restaurant, Lin's Chinese Food, The Logsdon's Peppermill, Pastry Pantry, Sal's Pizza and Restaurant, The Whole Bean, and Ymaguchi's Flowerstand 126 in Santa Paula. Other items were donated by Rhoads Janitorial & Paper Supply Company in Oxnard and Leeward Winery and the Pastry Palace in Ventura.



After dinner the pastors from our coalition churches led a community sing. Dinner guests enjoyed hearing Anna Roth and Eda Ramelli who are persons served, Daphne Brooking a Volunteer Coordinator, Harry Walsh from the Board of Directors and Bishop G. Patrick Zieman. Plans are already in the works for another dinner in 1991.

Dedicated Volunteers Recognized

Smiley face balloons and cheery yellow and white decorations greeted volunteers and their spouses at our



very special Volunteer Recognition Dinner on Wednesday evening, June 5, 1990, at the Knights of Columbus Hall.

A buffet style Italian dinner was served by the staff to officially honor all of the hard working volun-



teers in our program. Volunteers were presented with pins acknowledging their completion of 300 volunteer hours in the program. Additional bars were given for the completion of each additional 300 hours of volunteer service. Because our

volunteers are matched to work one-on-one with a person served, our program volunteers seldom have an opportunity to know one another. The dinner gave everyone a chance to become better acquainted. As volunteers received their pins and bars, each had an opportunity to share something special about their work as a volunteer. Current volunteers are from age 14 to 89. Louise Forgey received the bouquet for being the oldest (although very young at heart) volunteer present. Wayne Dugan and Harry Walsh were honored for their volunteer services as members of the Board of Directors.

The dinner was very festive and fun for all. Our congratulations to all who received service awards. We salute you for your caring and sharing by being a Buenaventura Interfaith Volunteer Caregiver.

Next year our Appreciation Dinner for our volunteers has been scheduled for October 1991.

PROGRAM NOTES . . .

• from Ventura

During the six years of our ministry in Ventura we have seen the bonding of many persons served with their Caregiver Volunteer. The personality of each match is as varied as the designs of snowflakes. For over two years the match between Volunteer Joan Rollins and Lucille Hasler, who died a few months ago, was a very special match. Volunteer Coordinator, Florence Multer, recently shared the following :

"Two years ago a good match was made between Joan Rollins and Lucille Hasler, a cancer patient. They became close friends. They truly enjoyed each other. They shared times of happiness as well as sadness as Lucille's illness progressed. Joan became a friend to Lucille's children and her friends and neighbors. She was there to help when needed. At one point Lucille told Joan 'when things get really rough, I don't expect you to stick around. It's too hard, and I will always regard you as my friend. I will understand.' Joan answered, 'I think I'll stick around and be here with you and your family.' She did. At the memorial service for Lucille I was moved by the family's obvious affection for Joan. Lucille's son told me, "I'm sure Caregivers does not expect this much from it's volunteers. Joan gave my mother true friendship."

Recently, our volunteer Mary Clark said Good-bye to Harriet. At 95 she was beginning to fall and found it difficult to remain at home. Her closest relative, Ron, a grandson in Louisiana, responded quickly after a phone call from our office. He rented a camper for the return trip. The following is a portion of his letter.

"Dear Friends:

Just a quick note to let you all know that our trip back was pleasant. Grandma is a tough old lady. She took the trip well without a complaint. We were 4 days getting here. Grandma has adapted well. She spends most of her time in her room which we fixed up with her rocking chair, foot stool, TV and all of her pictures. On her second day here, Sampson our german sheperd went upstairs and woke Grandma up by licking her on the face. She just reached over and started petting and talking to him. She has seen all of her great, great grandchildren and was very pleased. I wish to thank all of you for your support and friendship to Grandma. My long distance away has been more bearable because of her friends. Love to you all. Ron and Freida.

• from Santa Paula

The relationships that develop between persons served, volunteer caregivers, volunteer coordinators and staff in our ministry are often surprising and amazing. All persons requesting the assistance of a Volunteer Caregiver are interviewed before a match is made. Several months ago I had the privilege of interviewing Ruth Huston in Santa Paula.

Her energy, positive attitude and independent spirit were inspiring and motivating considering the fact that she is 87 years young! All she needed was a volunteer to take her to the grocery store to help her shop for food. She was "legally blind" and could no longer drive she shiny old yellow car. She said that she was expecting to "get a cornea transplant soon and then I won't need any help." I shared with Ruth my experience of having a successful cornea transplant ten years ago. This common bond helped us to become fast friends!

We have been able to share the good and bad times together. Bad times being surgery that was discovered to be necessary when she had a routine physical in preparation to "go on the list" to receive a cornea. Good times as she quickly healed from the surgery and a very special time when she received her new cornea a few weeks ago. You guessed it. The old yellow car has been serviced and polished up just waiting for the eye surgeon's approval to drive again! Her latest plan? "Now maybe I can help someone else like I have been helped by Caregivers!"

Speaking of eyesight! Here is a great networking story. While shopping for groceries two weeks ago, a kind gentlemen walked toward me with a can in hand and asked me to read a label for him. The discussion revealed that he was legally blind and trying to shop on his own. I asked him how he got to the market and he replied, "I ride my bicycle against Doctor's orders." That was a perfect opportunity to discuss Volunteer Caregivers with him. He took my card and called me later. During our assessment interview it was determined that Don needed a volunteer for help with shopping, friends and much needed eye surgery. So far, we have been able to connect him with the Santa Paula Lions Club who have provided club member friendship and are working on getting his much needed eye care at no cost.

TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS, WE SAY THANK YOU

April 5, 1990 - June 30, 1990

INDIVIDUALS

Anonymous
John M. Atkinson
Helen Backe
John and Catherine Baker
Virginia M. Baptiste
Gordon M. and Louise Beller
Betty J. Betts
Roy and Claire Bucher
Elsa Chianese
Claude and Mildred Coffman
Charlotte Cooper
Kenneth and Patricia Cozzens
Ethel M. DiMatteo
Jane DiSalvo
Bernice P. Dixon
Joanna Duffey
Wayne Dugan
Ellen B. Eden
Ilona Fulop
Gisele M. Gallagher
Mabelle A. Gehle
Dorothea S. Gimblett
Julius Gius
Marvin and Eloise Hansen
Lyle and Candy Harris
James and Mary Harrison
Gerald and Estella Hendrick
John R. Houston
James and Idah Iliff
Juanita Laubacher
Anna MacGillivray
Ruth C. Mantle
Mary L. Marquis
Constance L. Mathis
Veva McCord
Evelyn McRae
Hugh and Jeannette Miller
Louise Moore
Frances Mostert
Dr. Daniel and Kathryn Murphy
Diana Nichols
Robert G. Nicklas
Hilda G. Pearce
Ben and Kay Peterson
Eda Ramelli

John and Trudy Real
Tere Regnier
Bob and Beth Reynolds
Kenneth and Barbara Ritza
M. H. and Jean Robertson
Martin and Rosemary Rooney
Evelyn G. Rose
Anna Roth
Violet Ryder
Paul and Mabel Schmitt
Marion E. Smith
Winnie Smith
Mildred K. Snowden
Leona Stephens
Tom Thomas
Helen M. Thompson
Fred and Sarah Ulam
Irma Valley
M. Peter Vallortigara
Leslie and Judith Vielbig
Bernice Welchon
Jack and Dorothy Wetzel
Richard and Clare Wibbelmann

ORGANIZATIONS

Anonymous
College United Methodist Women,
Ventura
Harbor Chrysler Plymouth, Ventura
Personal Assist, San Clemente
San Buenaventura Women's Club,
Ventura
Sorooptimist International of Ventura
Trinity Lutheran Church, Ventura
Veterans of Foreign Wars, Auxiliary
1679, Ventura
Wednesday Mound Club, Ventura

IN MEMORY OF:

Christian Appel by
George & Ellen Appel

Dawn Bailey by
County of Ventura,
Building and Safety Dept.

Juan J. Barcerra by
Jose & Maria Teresa Gutierrez

Jessie Daniel by
Don & Betty Ewin

G.R. Davison by
Elsie I. Davison

Peter J. Donoghue by
Mary C. Donoghue

Harry E. Dunivan by
Dorothy G. Dunivan

Bob Godeck
Dorothy Lyons by
Carole Martin

Miriam Haskett by
Veterans of Foreign Wars,
Auxiliary 1679, Ventura

Lucille Hasler by
Anonymous

Susan L. Lanese by
Mary L. Hoffman

J. Palyu
Michael Turco by
Dr. Daniel and Kathryn Murphy

Roberta Randall by
Joe & Sylvia Bravo

WE REMEMBER:

Those we served:

Bob Godeck
Dr Hilary Mangan
Emma Walrath
Lillian Wenda
Elizabeth White

MESSAGES . . .

• from the Director

The Board of Directors has been very busy with long-range planning. Besides the improvement and expansion of our services, endowment is one area that we feel will be a support for the continuance of these services. Under the direction of Glenda Hendrick, our Director of Development, we are starting to implement plans to start this endowment fund. After experiencing some of Glenda's talents with our first Community Cuisine Dinner in Santa Paula and the delightful Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner this last June, you know that we may be in line for some interesting surprises.



It is also Glenda's talent that is implementing the publishing of our first cookbook, "Ah Yes, I Remember it Well". Another very important person behind the scenes, not only for the actual production of the cookbook, but for the smooth flowing of the office work, is Karen Busch. Many of you often talk with her on the phone. She is a special gift to each of us.

Recently, we sent out our periodic request of evaluation of our services to those we serve. We were very pleased with a response of 34%. There was absolutely no negative criticism except possibly the asking of "more"! Charlotte said "I think you are doing a wonderful job. May God bless all of you." For Vera the most important service is "Whatever and anything I need. I don't know how you can improve it."

• from the Board of Directors

by Jack Collings
Vice- Chairperson, Board of Directors

The Board of Directors recently completed its June "Retreat Day," an extended Saturday meeting intended to focus on long-term planning and goals for our program.



The Board developed an outline for a Five-Year Plan. Projected goals for this period include the doubling of persons served over our present figures, the addition of staff to support this expansion, and increasing our percentage of private (non grant) funding to 60% of our total budget. In addition, we plan to expand the program into one or two adjacent geographical areas.

The Board would also like to extend a warm welcome to our newest members, Myra Wertz and John Chaudier. Myra is a Santa Paula businesswoman with an active interest in the senior community. John is an administrator at the Point Mugu Naval Air Station, a former Ventura City Council member, and he has served an additional eight years in public office.

On behalf of the Board, we would like to again thank all of the volunteers for their innumerable hours of service and unselfish love in providing for the frail and elderly of our Santa Paula and Ventura communities.

Calendar

August 20 - September 3, 1990
September 11, 1990 Tuesday
September 12, 1990 Wednesday
September 19, 1990 Wednesday
October 3, 1990 Wednesday
October 18, 1990 Thursday
November 10, 1990 Saturday
November 14, 1990 Wednesday
November 22-23, 1990
December 6, 1990 Thursday
December 11, 1990 Tuesday

Closed - Summer Vacation
Board of Directors and Committee Meetings 7:00 to 9:00 a.m.
Coordinators' Breakfast 8:00 to 9:00 a.m.
Open House/Welcome to Sr. Jane 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Coordinators' Luncheon and Workshop 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.
Board of Directors and Advisory Board Meeting 7:30 to 9:00 a.m.
Board of Directors' Retreat Day 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Josephs
Coordinators' Breakfast 8:00 to 9:00 a.m.
Closed- Thanksgiving Vacation
Open House/Christmas Party 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Board of Directors and Committee Meetings 7:00 to 9:00 a.m.

