



LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

St. Joseph's Home

Serving the elderly poor in Virginia since 1874

Mission Statement

As Little Sisters of the Poor, our mission is to offer the neediest elderly of every race and religion a home where they will be welcomed as Christ, cared for as family and accompanied with dignity until God calls them to himself.

Our Home in Virginia

Following St. Jeanne Jugan's example throughout our 138 years in Virginia, the Little Sisters of the Poor have relied on God's Providence, manifested through the kindness of benefactors, to continue our work of caring for the elderly poor.

A financial statement is available upon request from the Commonwealth of Virginia Office of Consumer Affairs.

**Little Sisters of the Poor
St. Joseph's Home for the Aged
1503 Michaels Road
Henrico, VA 23229**

Vol. 3 No. 1
Spring 2014



Left: Amy Patterson catches up with Jen and John Unger during the cocktail hour of the Annual Dinner held at the Commonwealth Club in February. Right: Grace Gallagher smiles with friends, Dori and Frank Boehling, before heading to their dinner table in the ballroom.

Hearts Filled with Generosity

Dinner Guests Make 40th Year Success

February marked the 40th Anniversary of our celebratory Annual Benefit Dinner. The formal event was held once again at the Commonwealth Club and generously sponsored by PreCon, Inc. and Bon Secours Virginia Health System. Flowers were graciously provided by Tommy's Garden.

Several of our long-time supporters who have been attending the dinner since its inception were in attendance. We also enjoyed the company of many new faces who we had a chance to meet and express our gratitude toward.

This annual event is much anticipated throughout the year by our dinner guests and the volunteers who help make it happen. The dinner serves as one of the largest fundraisers for our Home and the Residents who are entrusted to our care. Each year, the evening includes a live auction featuring various vacation packages and gourmet dinners, as well

as "Mother's Challenge" in which guests have the opportunity to make pledges toward an important, specific project of Mother Paul's for the Home. This year, guests pledged \$75,000 towards much needed new heating and air conditioning equipment for the Chapel and Auditorium.

In total, the Dinner netted more than \$178,000 for the elderly men and women who find a Home and loving care with us. We are especially thankful to our Co-Chairs, Chris and Lisa Brennan and Michael and Beth Siewers for coordinating another wonderful event.

We also thank our sponsors and all of our incredibly generous benefactors for helping to raise funds for our Residents. Be sure to check out our website to view more photos from the event on our blog at www.littlesistersofthepoorVirginia.org. If you would like to be invited next year, please email erichmond@littlesistersofthepoor.org.

Little Sisters of the Poor



The Grandma Group from Woodbridge, VA, smiles above with 10 of their grandchildren. The children enjoyed knowing that their acts of kindness were enjoyed and appreciated.

Youngest Supporters 'Get It'

We have many children, whether on their own accord, or through school groups, youth groups, sports teams, or service organizations, that reach out to the Little Sisters and want to help in some way. Whether by sending in their piggy bank savings, holding a lemonade stand or bake sale fundraiser, or coming in to sing, dance or read with the Residents, the kids 'get it.'

While the age difference spans several generations, two of our most vulnerable and marginalized groups in society are still working together, and for each other,

to bring happiness to one another's lives. The children that choose the Little Sisters of the Poor as their charity to support understand the age-old reference to 'respecting their elders' and helping those who cannot help themselves.

The aging population is increasing at a tremendous rate all over the world, including right here in Virginia. Many of our seniors do not have the financial means necessary to continue living in a safe and dignified manner during this final stage of their lives. The Little Sisters' mission is vital to those they serve, and

it is an important reminder to every generation of God's love for us all.

One of the groups is the Grandma Group. These grandmothers have been friends for a long time and continue to get together regularly now to babysit their grandchildren. They, too, believe in the importance of instilling certain values at a young age. To teach their grandchildren about acts of kindness, together they created care gift bags for our Residents for Christmas. The children loved the activity and look forward to other opportunities soon.



A group of students from Atlee High School came to the Home to have lunch and play bingo with the Residents.

Dear Little Sisters of the Poor,
My name is Tabitha I am in
the 3rd grade class at
St. Benedict's School the
same class that gave you
the \$50! I like the way
you take care of people
I really think it's neat.

God Speed,
Tabitha Pickeral
P.S. There's a \$100 Bill
at the bottom of the envelope

Dear Sisters,

My name is Gabriella, I was at the evening mass last Saturday when one of your sisters made an announcement. My brother and I shoveled our neighbor's driveways after the snow storm and we gave \$15. -- Thank you for accepting our donation.

Sincerely,

Gabriella

Around Our Home



Beating the Winter Blues

This winter sure has been long and cold, but our Residents are staying safe and warm with us in the Home. We like to keep things as fun and exciting as possible around here to cure those winter blues. Whether singing, dancing, playing bingo and pokeno, practicing yoga, or knitting and baking, we've been up to all sorts of tricks! Thanks to the generosity of our many benefactors and volunteers, several of whom are pictured above with some of our Residents, we are able to provide such activities to keep our Residents healthy, active, and most importantly, happy! To stay even more up to date, check out our blog at www.littlesistersofthepoorVirginia.org.

Thank You, Barbara!

Every year, the Little Sisters honor one deserving employee by naming him or her the Jeanne Jugan Award recipient. Our most recent winner is Dietary Porter, Barbara Parker.

Barbara has been working for the Little Sisters for twelve years and during that time her unending dedication and joy that comes from caring for the Residents is infectious to all those around her.

Barbara's supervisor, Alain Vincey, remarked that Barbara is "a great person to work with who carries personally the mission of the Little Sisters and Jeanne Jugan all the way. She's very self-motivated...what she does, she does it perfectly."

The Jeanne Jugan Award was created to recognize those employees who go above and beyond as they carry out the mission of the Home and of the Little Sisters. Each year, the employees nominate a coworker they feel most exemplifies the qualities of Saint Jeanne Jugan.

Thank you Barbara for serving as such a wonderful example to all of those around you in striving to make the Residents happy every day.



At the Annual Dinner, Chef Alain Vincey congratulates Dietary Porter, Barbara Parker, on winning the Jeanne Jugan Award.



Above: Chef Paul Elbling and his wife Marie Antoinette welcome festival-goers at the RVA French Food Festival. Below: Sr. Teresa shows off her famous creme puffs that she makes for the festival.

6th Annual RVA French Food Festival

The 6th Annual RVA French Food Festival presented by Bon Secours Virginia Health System and the Page Auto Group is coming up on Saturday, May 3, 2014. This festival is beloved by the local community and always brings out a great crowd to the grounds of our Home on Michaels Road. If you have never been, you'll surely not want to miss it this year! Gourmet French food, wine, beer, live entertainment, children's games, a vendor marketplace...what better way to spend a Spring Saturday?

We are still in need of many volunteers and sponsors to help pull off this terrific event. If you are interested in taking part, please go to the event website at www.RVAFrenchFoodFestival.com for more information on volunteering, sponsoring, and general inquiries about the festival. You may also call 804-288-6245 or email erichmond@littlesistersofthepoor.org. We can't wait to see you at the festival!



Mother's Musings

BY: MOTHER PAUL MARY



The best thing about Spring is the number of Residents who come out of hibernation. I guess you can only play pokeno and wistfully anticipate starting a garden for so long, even if it is in a raised box on a balcony. Since gardening is not for everyone, and we are steadfastly avoiding the cultivation of *couch potatoes*, we have something else coming up.

This spring, competition is building up in a big way. Thanks to our friends at Family Care Pharmacy, we now have fifty pedometers to track the GREAT RACE. The goal is simple. The 3 Residents who walk the farthest during the month of May, which is **Older Americans Month**, will win prizes. I'm sure we will spot them on folks in many different situations....like on the way up to communion at Mass, going to the dining room three times a day, or even taking out the trash. It will all count!

Since everyone cannot walk, we are enlisting Little Sisters and visitors, employees and volunteers to help those who need "a little extra push." Once our Residents in wheel chairs find one or more pairs of legs to journey with them, they too will be able to participate. We hope in the next issue to report the results of this epic battle, not to mention the improvement in health and spirits that we are sure to see. In the meantime, we wish you the Joy of Springtime, which is surely a reflection of God's ever new love for us all.

We are blessed with the generous support of Printing Services Inc., who helped us with the printing of this newsletter; xpedx, who donated the paper; and ColorTree Inc., who donated the printed envelopes. This newsletter would not be possible without them!

Visit us at www.littlesistersofthepoorVirginia.org

UPCOMING EVENTS Mark Your Calendars!

■ 6th Annual RVA French Food Festival

Saturday, May 3, 2014
1503 Michaels Road

■ Sr. Teresa's Waffle & Omelet Breakfast

Sunday, October 5, 2014
1503 Michaels Road

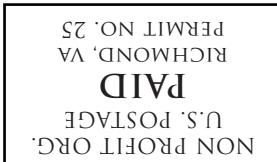
■ 37th Annual Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, November 8, 2014
1503 Michaels Road

For more information about any of these events, please contact Caroline Steadman at (804) 377-4629 or email ecrichmond@littlesistersofthepoor.org.

The Little Sisters of the Poor do not share or sell their donor information. The mailing list is strictly confidential.

Address Service Requested



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