

# Little Sisters of the Poor

## Making the Elderly Happy in Virginia Since 1874

October 2011



### Our Mission

As Little Sisters of the Poor, we care for the elderly poor in the spirit of humble service which we have received from St. Jeanne Jugan. We welcome the elderly as we would Jesus Christ himself and serve them with love and respect until death.

### Our Home in Virginia

Following Jeanne Jugan's example throughout our 136 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  
1503 Michaels Road  
Henrico, VA 23229-4899  
(804) 288-6245

[www.littlesistersofthepoorvirginia.org](http://www.littlesistersofthepoorvirginia.org)

## Good Night Irene!

August certainly packed a punch this year. A Hurricane AND an earthquake. Fortunately, we are all safe and sound and have already tidied up most of the debris Irene left on our property when she blew through town.

We continue to pray for those who sustained damage and offer prayers of thanksgiving for those who helped us prepare for and clean up after the storm.



Many thanks to all who pitched in to ensure the safety and comfort of the Residents: Our benefactors, who provided our generator and emergency supplies; our staff, several of whom stayed overnight to ensure all the Residents' needs would be met; our volunteers, who rolled up their sleeves to help wherever they were needed.

God has certainly blessed us with the support of a large and caring family!



### *Pictured:*

*(above) The day after the storm, Resident Edythe Hendrickson wasn't bothered by the power outage. God's sunshine and a beautiful day lured her outside to read her paper.*

*(at left, top): Several fallen trees blocked different parts of Michaels Road, including one of the entrances to the Home.*

*(at left, bottom): One positive result of Irene was a break in the heat. Residents enjoyed some additional outdoor activities.*

*(below): Resident Ruthela Jones and Employee Sarah Mack appreciated the calm after the storm.*



# Celebrating Life and Living St. Jeanne Jugan’s Legacy



“Thank you for letting us celebrate life with you each day.” This simple statement by Mother Paul to the Residents at the Residents’ Day dinner sums up the spirit that has remained at the heart of the Little Sisters’ mission for nearly 170 years.

St. Jeanne Jugan did not consider caring for the elderly poor as a burden, but as a privilege from which she derived great joy. In each needy elderly person she took into her home she saw a child of God, worthy of respect and dignity.

Her spirit, and the fervent belief in the sacredness of human life is as alive in our Home today as it ever was. It is therefore very appropriate that the anniversary of St. Jeanne Jugan’s canonization and her birthday both fall in October, which has been designated Respect Life Month.



*To level the playing field for our beachball volleyball game, Staff, Volunteers and Sisters sat in wheelchairs and kept one arm in a sling. (Pictured above, clockwise from left) Resident Roberto Rodriguez was a fierce competitor. Employee Ceci Harrison and Mother Paul kept their eyes on the ball. Employee Darlene Tinsley cheers on Resident Catherine Banks.*

*(Pictured at right) Among the celebrities who performed aboard the Good Ship Lollipop on Residents Day were the Supremes (Employee Janice Watkins-Newbill and Residents Sylvia Mickins and Carolyn Bennett) and the Ragg Mopp Dancers (Housekeeping Department Employees Ai Duong, Tyreek Williams, Nhan Duong, Tam Nguyen, and Phuong Nguyen). The show was a hit with the Residents (below: Verna Hurtt, Laura Verdi and Ruthela Jones.) .*



## Day at the Races



*Pictured below: Resident Roland Davis eagerly awaited the horses as they headed down the track toward the finish line.*

One of our benefactors funded a lively outing to the Colonial Downs racetrack in July. The visit included indoor seating, a buffet dinner in the Jockey Club dining room, and even betting money for each Resident. Though no one took home a big purse, everyone felt like a winner!



## Cooking with Chef Alain

Dietary Manager Alain Vincey (pictured at right with Resident Verna Hurtt) has been entertaining the Residents with his humor and culinary expertise in a series of cooking demonstrations. The sessions have stimulated a lot of conversation and reminiscing, and they have always included something delicious to eat.



## Dog Days of Summer

The heat and humidity of summer didn't dampen any spirits at our Home. As a matter of fact, we celebrated it! Sr. Mary Chantal and twin Residents Gertrude Dawson and Grace Brooks (pictured at right), joined in the Hokey Pokey at the Dog Days of Summer picnic in August.



### Our Current Needs

Like St. Jeanne Jugan, we know that it is through the kindness of people like you that we are able to provide for the needs of our Residents. The smiles on these pages are a direct result of your generosity, and we thank you!

In response to frequent inquiries, below is a list of some special needs:

#### MEDICAL

Nail care kits  
Dove body wash, Body wash for men  
Treatment supplies fund  
Neck pillows & Gel foam cushions  
Knee-high stockings & Men's socks  
12 Nebulizers (\$25/ea)  
10 Amplifiers/headphones (\$52/ea)  
16 Sleeve protectors (\$65/pr)  
5 Oxygen Concentrators (\$550/ea)  
5 New hospital beds (\$5,000/ea)  
1 HTR chair, which is a tilt and recline chair with head and side supports for Residents who are no longer able to sit up straight due to stroke or musculoskeletal problem. (\$2,000)

#### HOUSEKEEPING & MAINTENANCE

Home Depot & Lowe's gift cards  
2 Ice melt spreaders (\$250/ea)  
Rigid drain cleaners (3/8 x 75 ft @ \$600 & 3/4 x 100 ft @ \$2,000)  
Adfinity X24D auto scrubber (\$8,000)

#### OFFICE SUPPLIES

1 5-Drawer lateral file cabinet  
1 4-Drawer lateral file cabinet

As always, unrestricted gifts are greatly appreciated and allow us the most flexibility in meeting the needs of the Home.

Gifts may be made by check using the enclosed envelope, or online on our secure website:

[www.littlesistersofthepoorvirginia.org](http://www.littlesistersofthepoorvirginia.org)

## A Family Affair



Volunteer Ann Smith with her grandchildren (l-r) Joseph, Patrick, Nan, and Matthew and her daughter Kelly Kerner.

## Score for the Poor



Each week, Ann Smith and her daughter Kelly Kerner volunteer their time making beds and sorting food donations in the kitchen. During the summer, it's a three-generation event, when Kelly's children lend a hand...or eight!

Volunteers are a special part of our family. Please contact Sr. Colette at [volrichmond@littlesistersofthepoor.org](mailto:volrichmond@littlesistersofthepoor.org) to learn about volunteer opportunities.

With help from her family and friends, Emily Lodge (pictured to the left of Sr. Joseph Marie) wrapped up another successful year of *Score for the Poor*. Her annual soccer camp for children in Reston raises funds to care for the elderly here in Richmond. Thank you, campers!

## Mark Your Calendars

### November 12 Christmas Bazaar

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

*Our Volunteers and Residents work year-round to make beautiful handpainted wood crafts, needlework, jewelry and much more. The Bazaar also features delicious baked goods and frozen dinners.*

### February 9, 2012 Annual Benefit Dinner

### April 21, 2012 French Food Festival

Please call (804) 288-6245  
or e-mail [ecrichmond@littlesistersofthepoor.org](mailto:ecrichmond@littlesistersofthepoor.org)  
for additional information.

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!

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

Address Service Requested

Little Sisters of the Poor  
St. Joseph's Home for the Aged  
1503 Michaels Road  
Henrico, Virginia 23229-4899  
(804)288-6245  
[www.littlesistersofthepoorvirginia.org](http://www.littlesistersofthepoorvirginia.org)

NON PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
RICHMOND, VA  
PERMIT NO. 25