

DIOCESAN COUNCIL

Officers:

- Diocesan Council President: Bill Sparks
- Diocesan Council Vice President: Warren Wright
- Treasurer: Janet Jobko
- Secretary: Kym Haskins
- At Large: Jody Stahr, Darrell Bragg
- Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Shawn Corcoran

District Council Presidents:

- East: Open
- East Rural: Thomas Winans
- N-NW: Charles Kielkopf
- N-NE: Walter Ohm
- E-SE: Lesha Farias
- South Rural: David Lanning
- Inner-City: Gina Langen
- S-SW: Joffre Moine

Committee Chairs:

- Ozanan Orientation: Rose Ann Stevenson, Maureen Meck
- Voice of the Poor: Warren Wright
- VOICE & Website: Charles Kielkopf
- 2011 Friends of the Poor Walk: Patti Aellig
- Publicity: Dianne Keller-Smith

Secretary, Pat Summers

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others see the face of Christ in us.

About 175 Vincentians from throughout the diocese enriched Vincentian friendship at this annual event!!

2011 Day of Recollection

Our 2011 Day of Recollection will be held on August 28th at St. Therese's Retreat Center. This year our facilitator is Ralph Middlecamp. Ralph is the executive director of the Madison, Wisconsin Diocesan Council and a very energizing speaker. His topics for the day will be Faith of our Founders as well as Ozanam as a Model Lay Catholic Leader. This annual event will be enjoyable, entertaining-- and most important, spiritually enriching.

The day will begin at 9 AM with donuts, coffee, and Vincentian interaction and friendship. The program will begin at 10 AM, include lunch, and conclude with a 2PM Mass celebrated by our own Fr. Shawn. There is a cost of \$15 for lunch. Make your reservation by calling Pat at 614-221-3554.

Friends of the Poor Walk

The third annual Friends of the Poor Walk is scheduled for Saturday, September 24 at the DeSales High School track in Columbus. Our Friends of the Poor Walk Committee, headed by Patti Aellig, has been working diligently in making plans for our 2011 Walk since last fall. The Walk offers a very easy way to raise funds for your conference-- with over \$40,000 being raised in each of the last two years. Besides it is a great way to meet other Vincentians from around the diocese--- as well as Bishop Campbell who will be our Honorary Chairman.

The walk begins at 10AM to give Vincentians outside of the Columbus area time to get to the event. However, Patti Aellig can help organize a walk locally. Just give Patti Aellig, 614-314-4235, a call to get information about organizing a local "Friends of the Poor Walk"

Imwalle Golf tournament

On Sunday, June 26, the Imwalle family sponsored their annual golf tournament for which The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is the beneficiary. Warren Wright (St. Cecelia), John Okuly (St. Thomas More Newman Center), Randy Smith (St. Francis of Assisi) and Bill Sparks, (Diocesan Council President) made up a Vincentian foursome to participate in this charity event. This year's tournament yielded \$2000 to be used in our Diocesan Ministries. Thank you, Imwalle Family!!

Newark Thrift Store & the Homeless

The Newark area St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store Board of Directors voted to allocate some of the money from the store's proceeds to their six member conferences to help with emergency and transitional housing for women and children. These conferences are St. Francis de Sales and Church of the Blessed Sacrament in Newark Ohio, St. Edward the Confessor in Granville Ohio, St. Leonard in Heath Ohio, Our lady of Mt. Carmel in Buckeye Lake and Church of the Ascension in Johnstown Ohio. This action supplements the conference's limited resources to respond to the increasing number of calls for help from homeless women who have no idea of what to do or where to go next. Funds may be used to provide temporary shelter in local hotels or boarding houses until a longer term solution can be found. Vincentians interview and support the women during this transition period, making sure that they are connected to the various local agencies, including their local food pantry

Store proceeds are also used to support the Newark Center's St. Vincent Haven, a men's homeless shelter, and the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry. Proceeds are also disbursed to the six member conferences to be used for clients of home visits.

Submitted by Darrell Bragg, St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store/Food Pantry President

Mark Your Calendar! Save these dates!

August 28, Day of Recollection, St. Therese Retreat Center

September 24, Friends of the Poor Walk, St. Francis DeSales High School Track

December 5, Bishop Campbell's Volunteer Appreciation Mass, St. Joseph Cathedral

Warren Wright, chair of our Voice of the Poor committee addressed the Mideastern convention on the resources for political advocacy available on the National Website. Warren will participate in the National Voice of the Poor panels at the SVDP National Convention in Dallas, Texas, August 31- September 3.

Grant for SVDP Food Ministries

The Catholic Foundation's Edmond J. Goold Fund for Food for the Hungry awarded a \$5,000 grant for special food deliveries at Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas through our Saturday Morning Food Program and for drinks to go with the sack lunch distributed daily at St. Lawrence Haven.

Report on Top Hat Award

The Top Hat Award Mass, dinner and award ceremony was held April 30 at DeSales High School in Columbus, Ohio.

Grant for Clothing Distribution Center

Through the Catholic Foundation's Social Service Cycle the Clothing Distribution Center received a \$4,000 grant which will be used to buy underwear, jeans, towels, blankets and other items in short supply. Donations of these items by Vincentians are always welcome as well.



Bill Sparks presenting Top Hat to Charles Kielkopf

Mideastern Regional Meeting

Several Vincentians from the Columbus Diocese attended the Mideast Regional meetings in Dayton, Ohio June 24-25.



Mike Habing, St. Paul's, Westerville, Charles Kielkopf, Immaculate Conception, Columbus, Bill Sparks, Thomas More Newman Center, Columbus, Warren Wright, St. Cecilia's, Columbus, Gloria Gill, St. Leonard's, Newark, Frank Schmidt, St. Mary's, Grove City, Larry Wilson, St. Leonard's, Newark attending Mideastern meeting.

Fr. Shawn Corcoran, Spiritual Advisor for the SVDP Diocesan Council, began the event by celebrating the mass which included a homily which compared Vincentian Spirituality with the true meaning of Divine Mercy Sunday.

Charles Kielkopf, president of the Immaculate Conception Conference, was named the 2011 winner of the Top Hat Award, which recognizes a Vincentian who has provided extraordinary service to the Society and those in need over a number of years. Charles shared with the attendees that the Top Hat is a symbol of privilege which reminds us to follow the example of Blessed Fredrick Ozanam who received his privileges as blessings which gave him an obligation to serve the less privileged.

Fr. Joshua Wagner, Pastor of St. Dominic's, and St. Johns/Holy Rosary, closed the evening with inspiring and humorous anecdotes to encourage us to "bring heaven on earth" by seeing Christ in the face of others and letting



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President's Message

Bill Sparks

I am pleased to announce that the Board of Directors has elected me to another three year term as President of the Columbus Diocesan Council, beginning October 1st. I appreciate their support and will endeavor to continue providing guidance and counsel to all of your conferences as well as efficiently run our three diocesan ministries. Looking back on my first term we were able to obtain tax exempt status for all of our conferences as well as insurance to cover any conference liability issues that would come up. Our donors are now assured that their donations will be tax deductible.



We initiated our participation in the Friends of the Poor Walk and we able to raise over \$80,000 for our conferences and diocesan ministries over the last two years. Be sure to plan for the 3rd annual Walk on September 24th, this year at DeSales High School. Bishop Campbell has graciously agreed to be our honorary chairperson.

An Ozanam Orientation team was formed and they presented 11 sessions to over 225 Vincentians throughout the diocese. These Vincentians are now well grounded in the spirituality and operations of our Society.

We added two new conferences, reactivated one, and initiated a new youth conference at Bishop Watterson High School to go along with existing high school conferences at St. Francis de Sales High School and Ready High School.

Our Top Hat Celebration was changed to an annual dinner and Vincentian attendance significantly increased for that event as well as our Day of Reflection and Bishop Campbell's mass to recognize our volunteers.

A website has been added and we have initiated frequent communications with all of our conference presidents to keep them in the loop on all that is going on.

Finally, under the direction of Heather Swiger, our Diocesan Ministries Manager, the Clothing Distribution Center came to full fruition after having been started shortly before I began my first term. Likewise, St. Lawrence Haven and our Saturday Morning Food Program were continued and put on strong financial footing.

Looking ahead, I would like to encourage participation in Serving in Hope, a spiritual formation program that recognizes that all Vincentians must be rooted in the spirituality that is the heart and soul of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. I am also looking at providing more training and direction to our conference spiritual directors and I will discuss the possibility of holding a strategic planning session with our Board to set our future direction.

But finally and most important, thanks to all of you for your support for myself and our Board and for all that you do to provide love, care, help, and assistance to those in need in the Columbus Diocese.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your president these last three years; it has been an honor and my pleasure!!