

NEWSLETTER

1220 N. 11th Street • St. Louis, Missouri 63106-4614 • Rectory Telephone (314) 231-9407

SUMMER-FALL ISSUE 2006

Tower Restoration Is Underway!

There's GOOD NEWS to report. The Shrine has received a significant donation from the Rose and Lena Acquiviva Trust which has made it possible for us to make a start on the costly, but necessary, tower stonework restoration. However, depending on the resolution of many unknown conditions that may be encountered, additional funding will be needed.

With this generous gift, the Shrine's Board of Directors authorized Ted Wofford to prepare the necessary construction documents and for the building committee (composed of Ted Wofford, architect, Ralph Kannady, president, Walt Raney and Conrad Philipp) to solicit bids for the project. After detailed evaluation of the proposals from three highly experienced contractors, the committee recommended, and the Board approved Western Waterproofing Co.

Work started in the first week of August setting the unique suspended scaffolding (called staging) in place. If you look at the east tower, you will see something new in scaffolding technology—it is suspended down from the top of the tower instead of being built from the bottom up, thereby allowing work to progress logically from the top down.

Restoration work actually began on Aug. 8th with the first demolition and preliminary analysis of existing conditions. Those who can re-call the central facade restoration will recognize some similar aspects to the tower work to be done. The unsound and deteriorated sandstone must be cut back to structurally stable material and consolidated in some instances, which is the injecting of a chemical treatment that strengthens and hardens the stone. Most of the horizontal and simpler elements of the towers will be re-constructed using vastly more durable new gray limestone, anchored to the sound strata of the sandstone with stainless steel dowels. Certain primarily ornamental elements will be restored to their original profiles using Jahn patching material similar to the work on the facade.

One of the major problems with the towers has been water seepage over the years from the ledges into the sandstone like a sponge. The final stage of protecting this new work will be to have ledges and other horizontal surfaces where water collects flashed with lead-coated copper flashing. Just as was done in the central facade, the application of this flashing will prevent moisture penetration and seepage, but will be barely visible at ground level.

Due to the complexity of this project and the many unknowns that may be encountered, restoration of both towers may take two years. And, because of the high amount of interest this project is already generating, the plan is to have an on-going display with photos in the rear of the Shrine describing the project as it progresses.

What old-timers over 25 years ago could probably only have dreamed of happening is now in the making. The 125-year old baroque towers have stood proud and tall but weather-beaten, and have patiently watched as the Shrine's other areas were carefully restored, probably often wondering if their turn would ever come. Now that time has arrived.



Workers on platform called staging suspended down from top of east tower with cables are in the process of cutting back and removing deteriorated sandstone.

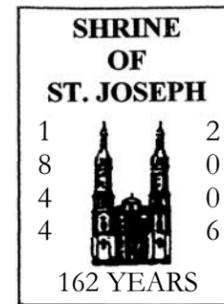
Photos by Arteaga

Septemberfest: Sept. 24

after 11:00 Mass

Faith, Food, Fellowship

Please invite your friends and family— come celebrate this magnificent Shrine and our continued restoration.



Check if appropriate:
 My name is misspelled.
 My address is incorrect.
 I received more than one copy.
 I no longer wish to receive the Newsletter.
 I no longer wish this address panel and mail it to us noting your request.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The Shrine of Saint Joseph's Friends, Inc.
 1220 North 11th Street • St. Louis, MO 63106-4614



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Special Services

On First Fridays of Each Month - Mass at 12:00 Noon
 Every Second Sunday of Each Month - St. Padre Pio Devotion and Rosary recited before Mass
 Every Third Sunday of Each Month - Choir Sings Mass in Latin

Supporting the Shrine with Your Membership



Doris Kannady Please send donations by check. Any questions contact Doris Kannady, your Membership Committee Chair at (314) 231-9407 or see her or Ralph Kannady after Mass on Sunday.

Remember the Shrine in your will.

Application for Membership
 Shrine of St. Joseph's Friends, Inc.
 Dues are \$10.00 per person, per year

Mr. _____
 Mrs. _____
 Miss _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

Phone _____

Check \$ _____ Check No. _____

Date _____ Cash \$ _____

Make checks payable to:
 "Shrine of St. Joseph's Friends, Inc.
 1220 N. 11th Street • St. Louis, MO 63106-4614

Renewal # _____ New Member

Air & Steam Club

Those of you who are members of the Air & Steam Club have, since its beginning, provided utility costs. We need your continued support as dues-paying members.

Our over-all utilities expense in 2005 was approximately \$23,000. Your generous support of the Air & Steam Club brought in \$20,000 to apply to these utility costs.

Thank you, Thank you! Please continue this level of support for the Shrine. If you are not currently a member, please join now. Your help is needed. Dues are just \$12 per year and all members participate in the monthly drawings for prizes totaling \$200.

Fill out the box below and mail to 1220 N. 11th Street, St. Louis, MO 63106. If you need additional information, please contact Ralph Ellerbrock, Leo or Pauline Frost, who serve as co-chairpersons. Phone (314) 231-9407.



Ralph Ellerbrock

The Shrine of St. Joseph
 1220 North 11th Street, St. Louis, MO 63106-4614

STEAM CLUB

Monthly Dues: \$1.00
 President Receives: \$100.00
 Vice President Receives: \$50.00
 Secretary Receives: \$50.00
 1st Sunday of Each Month - Annual Dues \$12.00

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

Phone _____

Experience: Keynote of Board Elections

The Shrine membership at the annual meeting voiced their satisfaction with current leadership by re-electing incumbent members. Returning to 3-year terms were **Charles Horn, JoAnn Geisz, Jim Blum, Frank Fessler, and Charles Finninger**. Accepting to serve another year as officers were **Ralph Kannady**, president; **Jim Blum**, vice-president; **Pauline Frost**, treasurer; and **Gloria Brostoski**, secretary.

A Special Tribute to Charles Finninger and Patty Meier



Longest in years of service on the Board is Charles Finninger, one of the original founders of this organization, and the first president of the Friends from 1980 to 1988. Before that, he headed a small group who labored hard to save the Shrine; today, he serves as senior advisor to the president. It would be fair to say that without his early leadership, tenacity, and optimism, the Shrine might not have survived. What with the unspeakable recent crime committed at his business resulting in the death of Charlie's wife and daughter, we all continue to admire the bravery and faith in the Lord that Charlie has shown to all who have the privilege of knowing him.

Also involved in this heinous crime was Patty Meier, Charlie's long-time friend and business manager of his catering firm who, through the grace of God, managed to survive. Patty also is a devout Shrine supporter who accompanies Charlie to Mass on Sunday, Board meetings, and events held here. Having always faithfully and with great kindness served the Shrine by heading up the catering and food service at all our events, she has made a truly miraculous recovery for which we are all so thankful.

Charlie Finninger and Patty Meier



Charlie Horn



Jo Ann Geisz



Jim Blum



Frank Fessler

Shrine's Friendly Thrift Shop

by Ted Schafers

Ever pass a Garage Sale sign and wonder what new bargains were being offered? Friends of the Shrine get that feeling as they head for the Shrine Church Hall after Sunday Mass for coffee, doughnuts, and fellowship. The attraction is the bargain store which has been making bargains available to visitors for the past 18 years.

For sale are hundreds of nearly new household, religious, jewelry, sporting goods, clothing items--and some one-of-a-kind that may qualify for personal or historic collections. Sometimes it is called the "thrift shop", "rummage store", or "flea market." Despite its various name tags, it has lived up to its sole mission of encouraging donations of useful items and selling them at bargain prices with all proceeds used to assist with the restoration.

Shrine volunteers have kept this fund-raiser operating despite staffing problems caused by illness or death over the past 18 years. To operate effectively requires a lot of work that begins with sorting donated goods, pricing, and displaying--all time-consuming work as is doing the sales work. Initially the store was open from 9am until 2 pm Saturday and Sunday. Doors now open at 9 am until 1 pm on Sundays and on First Friday.

The genius and organizer was Tony Colletta and his wife, Marge, who persuaded some of their friends to help out back in 1988. They used the old basement chapel where the flooring was so bad that plywood had to be laid down so customers could walk safely.

Each year Tony's group increased the flow of donations and sales, turning over thousands of dollars not only for the restoration, but also for the construction of their large, modern facilities on the lower level including new bathrooms and a kitchen. A stroke, however, ended Tony's years of service to the Shrine. His close friend, Tony Condellire, accepted the leadership role. When Condellire was forced to retire for health reasons, another veteran, Lou Turnbeaugh took over--at least temporarily. She hopes the Shrine will find someone willing and able to carry on this work.

Volunteers re-stock donated items on Tuesdays. Current volunteers include Donna Titone, John Coughlin, Rose Barranco, Geraldine Allen, Tom Hyland, Lou Toenjes, Joe Komadina and Agnes Renda when she can get a ride from St. Charles.

The honor roll of dedicated and deceased volunteers keeps growing and let us not forget Tony Colletta, a patient at Bellefontaine Gardens Nursing & Rehab. When interviewed several years ago about Tony's leadership, he simply said: "A lot of people work harder than me, including my wife, and it is their hard work and good fellowship that gets the job done."



Thrift shop staff from left to right: John Coughlin, Tom Hyland, Rose Barranco, Lou Turnbeaugh, Lou Toenjes. Not in photo: Maddona Titone, Joe Komadina and Geraldine Allen.

Loss of a "Friend"

This past winter, the Shrine lost another long-time, dedicated volunteer with the death of Bernice Brunner. For over 20 years, Bernice took loving care of the religious counter in the thrift shop as well as everyone who dropped by.



Bernice Brunner

The Secretarial Duo

The Shrine has benefited over the years by having many wonderful husbands and wives volunteering together. One such couple is Eugene and Gloria Brostoski in which he is secretary to the Men's Club and she is secretary to the Board of Directors. Eugene, known to his friends as "Whitey", has been a member of the Men's Club for well over a half-century having joined about 1950, and was one of its original members.



Eugene and Gloria Brostoski

Gloria and her parents lived just across 11th Street from the old St. Joseph's school which she attended. However, her family's roots go back even further to when her grandfather, George Nauman, was an early parishioner. Gloria still re-calls how much time and effort her parents, George and Cecilia Burkemper, gave to activities and events at St. Joe's.

Eugene, who lived near 15th and Cass, began coming here to church as a teen-ager because many of his relatives and friends were all members of St. Joe's. After meeting each other around the ages of 12, both remember saying, "one of these days we're going to marry each other." St. Joseph's had a great deal to do with Gloria and Eugene meeting each other; sure enough, they were eventually married here in 1952, and continue to this day to faithfully serve the Shrine.

Christmas Card Sale

For the second year, unique Shrine Christmas cards will again be on sale beginning in September which, this year, will feature an exquisite color photo produced by Arteaga Studios of the Shrine's Jesuit altar with the beautiful and sacred nativity scene. Donna Milligan, director of the project said, "due to last year's successful sales and popularity, it convinced us to continue with producing another very high-quality card." Proceeds support the continued restoration. Price is \$10 for a box of 10. The cards and order forms are available in the rear of the Shrine after Mass and in the thrift shop.

Mother Cabrini's Statue

Carl Capiano, a long-time regular worshipper and devoted Shrine supporter for over 31 years, relates how he donated to the Shrine the impressive Mother Cabrini statue: The statue was originally at Our Lady Help of Christians Church. But, when the church was razed to make way for the convention center in 1975, the statue went down to St. Ambrose Church. Fearing vandalism and knowing how much Mrs. Capiano admired Mother Cabrini, Monsignor Polizzi asked the Capianos to take care of it; they kept the statue at home for nearly 10 years from 1975 to 1984. When his wife died in 1984, Carl graciously donated this beautiful statue to the Shrine. **About Mother Cabrini...**



Carl Capiano with Cabrini Statue

Born in San Angelo, Italy, Mother Cabrini was the youngest of 13 children. She founded the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart and was soon sent to America to help care for the immigrants arriving. She later proceeded to found 67 schools, hospitals, orphanages and missions. With an unshakable faith in God, Mother Cabrini never allowed obstacles to stand in her way. She was canonized a saint in 1946 and to this day Mother Cabrini is still very much admired, especially by many of those of Italian heritage.

From the President: Septemberfest



Ralph Kannady

All are invited to our first Septemberfest on Sept. 24th. Why not come down--worship and experience the beauty of this Shrine--and then after Mass we will have food, beer, soda, along with music and fellowship. Bring your family, friends, neighbors and ENJOY a great Fall "Shrine Sunday."

All of us, but especially the old-timers, are extremely excited about the very real possibility of seeing the major restoration of the towers completed in our lifetime. Many hours of planning and meeting with contractors have taken place to say nothing of the amount of time Ted Wofford, our esteemed Shrine architect, has put into preparing the documents prior to these meetings.

I want to thank all of you who supported the Shrine's 25th annual Fund Raiser Raffle. The winners were: 1st place, Robert Miller; 2nd place, Phyllis Walsh; 3rd place, Dorothy Schnette; 4th place, Jim Eberle. I also want to thank Charles and Mona Horn and one of our newer, enthusiastic volunteers, Jim Fuller, for keeping track of the bookkeeping involved. With the large number of you who donated to this very successful raffle, it is a reminder to all of us just how much wide-spread interest and devotion to the Shrine exists. Thanks to all and see you on Sept. 24th, if not sooner.

From Our Pastor



Fr. Valentine Young

Looking back at this summer with the storm that caused so much devastation when the electric went out, food was lost, and temperatures rose, I wondered about people suffering and how they were responding, accepting this sudden disruption and change in their lives. Acceptance, then, was the solution to the awful hurts, pains, and deprivation of normal life.

I talked to many and happily heard some say, "God will give us back what we need, just accept this and do not get mad. Look at the poor, the suffering going on in Lebanon and Israel; we have it better than they." So we accept this and thank God we were not killed. The answer is acceptance.

Photos by Arteaga Studios

Did you know?

...that the Shrine's website has been receiving between 34,000 and 40,000 visitors each month!
Visit our Web site at www.shrineofstjoseph.org