

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS

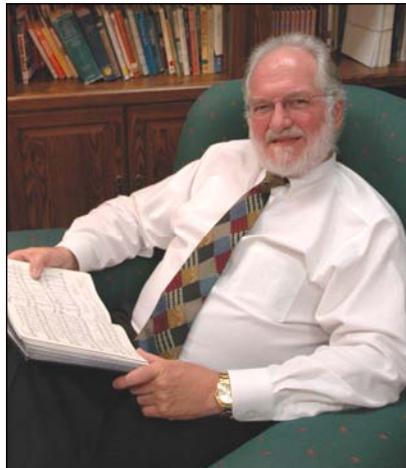
Reporting on OWU Community Service Learning and Opportunities in Delaware and Beyond
Ben Goodrum - Editor In Chief

Chaplain Powers Celebrated for Twenty Years at OWU

OWU was a great place to be in 1988 because that was the year Jon Powers was appointed to the position of University Chaplain. Jon brought with him his infectious amiability, a genuine sense of compassion, a notorious affinity for puns and plenty of expressive gestures. Jon took his duties to heart by working with his staff to make the Office a *powerful* resource on campus. To this day, the OWU Chaplain's Office leaps over the traditional confines of pastoral guidance. Chaplains are expected to provide religious leadership and counseling when needed – a prayer before and after university events; perhaps regular worship services, and sage thoughts about matters of faith. I'm sure that would be enough for some Chaplains, and Jon does all of those things with zeal. Yet those tasks represent just a portion of what he has provided to the OWU community in his twenty year tenure. Under Jon's direction, the Chaplain's Office has become an indivisible element of OWU's identity. In the past two decades many students have had enhanced educational experiences thanks to Jon's thirst for a more humane world and his knack for helping students discern their life's calling.

Jon's Chaplaincy has been consistent in helping OWU fulfill its aim of developing in students understanding of themselves, appreciation of others, and "a willingness to meet the responsibilities of citizenship in a free society." (University Statement of Aims) The Chaplain's Office does not cater only to Christians; in fact Jon and his staff foster an intentionally inter-faith community. Besides being a pastor, Jon has unofficially served as Rabbi and Imam to many. Perhaps it would be more accurate to call Jon a faith leader, rather than a religious one. Jon has met students wherever they were on their search for understanding, regardless of their religious denomination, or lack thereof. In this respect Jon's Chaplaincy has excelled. For twenty years, one of the hallmarks of Chaplain Powers' ministry has been that *he strives to help students find their way, instead of deciding the way for them.*

This strategy has been particularly successful in programs that pair the principles of service-learning with the benefits of



personal reflection. The Chaplain's Spring Break Mission Week program is designed especially for this purpose. Participants in the annual trips invariably return with broader perspectives that are essential to a great liberal arts education. I have been fortunate enough to go on a fair number these trips. I have seen and felt the effects of these excursions from the ordinary; these exercises in service and leadership. Each trip that I have been on has tested my values and priorities.

The first Mission Trip that I went on was to the Rosebud Lakota Sioux Reservation in South Dakota. Jon was one of the staff advisors. Our mission for the trip was twofold: (1) we set out to serve in a community that was appallingly impoverished; (2) we sought to gain a better appreciation for a culture that has been historically neglected and oppressed.

I was shamefully ignorant of many of the long lasting consequences of the injustices committed against America's indigenous peoples, and seeing the reservation's bleak socio-economic situation was enough to make me numb. I could not believe that there were homes left bare to South Dakota's freezing winters without heat, insulation, and sometimes even windows. Suicide, domestic violence, drug abuse, and broken homes were concentrated amidst the rolling buttes of the Dakotas. I said to myself: "In

the United States? Really? Who is letting this happen?" Thankfully, the chaplain was there with us, and he is an extraordinary facilitator for personal and group reflection. Jon has his own brand of spirituality that reverberates off the soul. For me, his guided insight prevented a paralysis of faith and gave us hope.

At times it can appear that justice has taken a permanent leave of absence from some parts of the world. I've found that these unacceptable circumstances provide enough intrinsic reason to work for restoring justice. My sentiments were validated through those personal and group reflections done on my first Lakota trip. I am glad that I was afforded the opportunity to go on this Mission trip, and that Jon was there to remind me about importance of Hope. If he did that for me in one short week, it's hard to imagine what he has done in 20 years, for scores of students.

(Remarks from the speech given by Ben Goodrum at the OWU Trustee Dinner in Honor of Jon Powers' 20 years at OWU, January 23, 2009.)

Circle K Recognized for Service by Delaware General Health District



Pictured left to right are Hasani Wheat '09, Kelly Haines '09, and Caitlin Kelly '12

On Thursday, December 4th, the annual *Keep Delaware County Beautiful Awards* honored nine individuals and organizations from the community for their environmental stewardship. OWU's Circle K was given the **Litter Prevention Award** in recognition for their significant participation in this fall's Scioto River Clean Up. The clean up recovered tons of waste from the river including more than one hundred car and truck tires.

Circle K is the largest collegiate community service organization in world. OWU's chapter has been recognized many times for their dedicated service throughout the county.

Conversation on Reducing Poverty

Wed. February 11th 6:00pm -- 9:00pm
Rutherford B. Hayes Building Room G-35
140 N. Sandusky St.

Register by Friday Feb. 6th by phone (740) 369-3184 or by e-mail at delawaremgr@caodmu.org

Join the Community Action Organization and the Delaware County Job and Family Services as we discuss recommendations for reducing poverty in our state. The recommendations will be submitted to Gov. Strickland as a contribution to the **Ohio Anti-Poverty Task Force**.

Visit www.governor.ohio.gov for more information on the Task Force.

To our friends at Ohio Wesleyan University,

Holiday Clearing House 2008 (HCH) was a huge success. With your help volunteering, sorting, packing, delivering, carrying and your overall compassion the Holiday Clearing House 2008 program provided a cheery holiday to 491 families with children and 168 senior-disabled shut-ins. This is the most successful HCH ever!! Thank you. We are proud to know you, proud to work with you and hope that we will have the opportunity to serve Delaware County with all of you again. Best Wishes for a Prosperous New Year.

PEOPLE IN NEED ~ 274 N. Sandusky Street ~ (740) 363-6284

Cuisine Along the Ravine -- "A Red Tie Affair"



This Valentine's Day, treat your sweetheart to the most romantic evening in the county- *Cuisine Along the Ravine!* This elegant dinner party is scheduled for February 14, 2009, at the lovely McCoy Nature Center at Hogback Ridge Preserve. For a \$100 donation to **Friends of Preservation Parks**, you and your date will enjoy a dreamy night of fine dining and entertainment. What a great opportunity to make a difference while you wine and dine your Valentine!

Of course, this evening can only happen with the assistance of dedicated **volunteers** whose help is needed before, during, and after this event. Sign up to join a volunteer team for Friday, Saturday, or Sunday, February 13, 14, or 15. **Volunteers are needed to decorate, cook, greet, and clean up.**

"Love stretches your heart and makes you big inside."



Call Sandra McBrearty at (740) 524-8600 ext. 6, or email saundras@preservationparks.com to sign up for these volunteer opportunities

Bluebird Trail Workshop -Sunday, February 22

A great way to connect with nature is to monitor a trail of bird boxes this spring and summer season in the parks. Volunteers say that their weekly "chick checks" along the nature trails are something they thoroughly enjoy. The experience of monitoring the growing family is as exciting as it is beautiful.

Monitors check nest boxes weekly from April through September to record the species found and the number of eggs and young present. Volunteers interested in monitoring a trail of bird boxes are invited to attend the free Bluebird Trail Workshop hosted at Gallant Woods Preserve on Sunday, February 22, from 1-4pm.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program (VITA), provided by the Delaware County EITC Coalition, offers free income tax preparation services for low to moderate income individuals and families with combined income of \$42,000 or less. As a volunteer for this program, you will receive training in a classroom or online and become IRS certified to prepare tax returns.

This free service provides Delaware County tax payers the opportunity to bring more money back into their household budgets by maximizing available tax credits such as the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Additional Child Credit.

Enhance your resume with tax preparation certification and volunteer experience. It also allows you to apply your tax and accounting training to real world situations and to provide a free service to eligible tax filers in need of your help.

The tax preparation site is located at the Woodward Family Resource Center at 200 S. Washington St. in Delaware. Services will be offered on Wednesday evenings from 6:00pm to 9:00pm and Saturdays from 10:00am to 2:00pm from January 15, 2009 to April 15, 2009.

To volunteer please contact Diana Rice at 740-369-3184 or vitamanager@caodmu.org

BE A VITA VOLUNTEER

**One hour of your time could help a single mother of two get an
Earned Income Tax Credit of up to
\$4,824.00!**

**DELAWARE COUNTY
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**



Working with the Victim Services Unit is a great opportunity to learn about the criminal justice system and the role of victim services, network with several important organizations, and to learn and use practical professional skills. We offer internships and volunteer opportunities year round. Students from a variety of academic backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

For volunteer information, contact Adrienne Bruce at
(740) 833-2710 or ABruce@co.delaware.oh.us

**Global Village
Adopt-A-Shift Program**

37 N. Sandusky Street



GLOBAL VILLAGE
C O L L E C T I O N

If you are not familiar with us, we are a non-profit, volunteer-staffed retail store filled to overflowing with amazing and unique hand-crafted Fair Trade items. Our main goal is to promote Fair Trade practices and to improve the economic welfare of Third World artisans and farmers by marketing their handicrafts. Purchases made at our store help provide a sustainable and fair economic system for the artisans and farmers who would not otherwise have access to our marketplace. Fair trade is not about charity. It is a holistic approach to trade and development that aims to alter the ways in which commerce is conducted, so that trade can empower the poorest of the poor. Fair Trade Organizations seek to create sustainable and positive change in developing and developed countries.

As we are volunteer staffed, we are looking to fill some of our shifts with members of service organizations such as yours. This typically works for weekend shifts—Saturday shifts are 11-1 p.m., 1-4 p.m. and 4-6 p.m. Sunday shifts are 12-2 and 2-4 p.m. In the past, we have had organizations “adopt” a shift—say Sundays from 2-4—and commit to filling it with two of their members on a rotating basis. This could also be done in conjunction with another organization.

I look forward to hearing from you! Thank you!

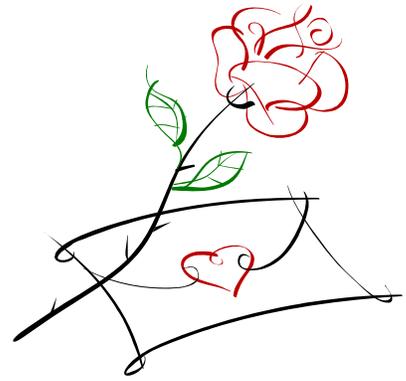
e-mail: volunteers@globalvillagecollection.org

website: www.globalvillagecollection.org



Sweetheart Dinner

To Benefit Common Ground Free Store



Treat your Valentine to a special night out including a sumptuous dinner, a little mood music and a raffle to win a romantic prize for two.

Where: Women's City Club, 135 North Franklin Street

When: Saturday, February 14

Cost: \$39.95 per Couple

To reserve your romantic Valentine's evening call:
740.816.3491 or 740.369.8150

Please make your reservation before February 9th. Oh, and if you forgot to send flowers, don't worry. We'll have gorgeous single roses for sale at the event.



YOU CAN STILL BE A WILLIS BIG BROTHER OR BIG SISTER !

The Willis Big Brothers program is recruiting males who can be friends and role models for 5th & 6th grade boys. The Willis Big Brothers program doesn't require much. All you need is to be free on Tuesday afternoons from 3:15 to 5:15. A typical day starts with homework and snacks, followed by games and social time. Willis Intermediate School is within easy walking distance of campus on W. William Street, adjacent to Dominoes Pizza, across from Tim Horton's.



Applications are available in the Community Service Learning Office in Ham-Will room 407, or via e-mail. For obvious reasons, there is a required background check and program orientation session.

~ Interested? Want to learn more? Contact Kerri Robe at BBBS at 740-369-2447; or Sue Pasters at Ohio Wesleyan 740-368-3084, <smpaster@owu.edu>

Big Brothers Big Sisters is a United Way Agency

Delaware Senior Nutrition Program & Council for Older Adults Need Help



The Senior Nutrition program provides hot meals daily to older adults in their homes. The program delivers about 160,000 meals per year throughout the county on 25 different routes. As the Nutrition Program grows, more and more volunteers are needed, and YOU CAN BE ONE OF THEM! Volunteer drivers are needed from 11-1pm either short or long term any day Monday through Friday. Volunteers will receive training, mileage reimbursement and a free hot meal on the day they volunteer.

Don't have a car but still want to help? Local congregate meal site assistants are also needed to help with the nutrition program, as well as Café kitchen assistants, meal labelers, etc.

The Council for Older Adults is also always in need of people who can provide help for small household chores and yard work. Also, you can design an **internship** with the Council.

To get more information contact Amy Brown at amyb@growingolder.org or call (740) 363-6677.

Stratford Ecological Center ~ 3083 Liberty Road

Stratford is an organic working farm devoted to environmental awareness and appreciation. Among its many goals is the implementation of an environmental education program.



To volunteer contact Jane Walsh at 363-2548
or email SECVolunteer@aol.com

To learn more about classes & events visit
www.StratfordEcologicalCenter.org



HelpLine of Delaware and Morrow Counties provides support groups, community education and crisis advocacy. Should you, or anyone you know, be a danger to themselves or others, please call the 24-Hour Hotline at 1-800-684-2324.



(WS) 2 is collaboration between the William Street United Methodist Church and the Willis Intermediate School. The program is facilitated by the Literacy Coalition of Delaware County, and we are looking for energetic volunteers to assist 5th and 6th graders with homework. (WS)2 sessions occur every Monday and Thursdays from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the William Street United Methodist Church.



Responsibilities include supervising students through snacks, games, homework and clean up. Educational opportunities such as teaching activities, creating and implementing your own lesson plans can be arranged! We look forward to meeting you!

Interested parties should contact Abby Ward at (740) 816-1898, or ws2help@yahoo.com

Interested parties should contact Abby Ward at (740) 816-1898, or [<ws2help@yahoo.com>](mailto:ws2help@yahoo.com)

T.E.A.M. MENTORING

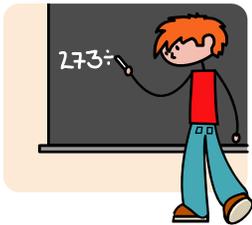
A Program of The Delaware County Juvenile Court

Together Everyone Achieves More



Do you like to play games, go out to eat, and hang out with kids? Can you spare 2 hours a week to be a mentor? TEAM Mentoring is a service learning program offered by the Delaware County Juvenile Court that matches mentors with Delaware county youth who are court-involved, as well as with kids who are at risk of becoming court-involved.

Want to know more? Contact Patty Cram at 833-2678 for information about becoming a TEAM Mentor. Your help can make a valuable difference in the life of a child.



21st Century After School Learning Centers

Do you have a free afternoon any day of the week? You could make a significant contribution to a child's academic success by becoming an after school tutor at:

- Conger Elementary (3:30 to 5:30 pm)
- Woodward Elementary, (3:30 to 5:30 pm), or
- Dempsey Middle School, (2:30 to 5:30 pm)

Volunteer Applications are available in the Community Service Learning Office, (Ham-Will 407). Or contact Program Coordinator, Cathy Sheets at (740) 833-1854; or e-mail [<sheetsca@dcs.k12.oh.us>](mailto:sheetsca@dcs.k12.oh.us)

(background checks are required for this service site)

Turning Point Domestic Violence Shelter

www.turningpoint6.com/

Help Increase Awareness ~ Help Save Lives

Contact Joyce Johnston 740-382-8988

jjohnston@turningpoint.com



Ohio Wesleyan University
Community Service Learning
40 Rowland Avenue
Delaware, Ohio 43015

<http://service.owu.edu>

DATES TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY

2/26 Habitat for Humanity's
"Soups For Shelter"
St. Mary's School
66 E. William Street
4:30 - 7:30 pm

2/28
"2009 Polar Plunge" to
benefit Special Olympics
Crew Stadium Columbus
www.soo.org

MARCH

3/6 - 3/14
OWU Spring Break

3/27 - 28
OWU "Relay for Life"
Gordon Field House

APRIL

4/3 "OWU Bowl for Kids'
Sake" at Delaware Lanes

MAY

5/10 OWU Graduation



Please recycle

A Note from the Editor...

Dear Readers,

2009 is upon us! The bells of progress are ringing, and service is the main course! This edition has no shortage of opportunities to improve the world starting right here in Delaware. You can better the environment by volunteering at Stratford Ecological Center and Preservation Parks; or be an advocate with Victim Services, a mentor with the Delaware County Juvenile Court, a tutor, or any number of community service activities. Mother Teresa said "we can do no great things, only small things with great love." With that heart warming advice in mind, I encourage you to continue being a person for others. If you have not already, please make time to commit to a service project this month. We can't know for sure what the year has in store, but we can chose to be dedicated to good work no matter what. Here's to the promising year ahead of us.

Sincerely,
Ben Goodrum
Editor in Chief
bagoodru@owu.edu

