

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS

Reporting on OWU Community Service Learning & Opportunities in Delaware and Beyond

Kristen Lear ~ Editor In Chief



Circle K: Not Just a Gas Station

When the phrase "Circle K" is mentioned, most people envision gas pumps and convenience stores. Not many picture cooking and serving dinner to local firemen, leading a kids' activity table at a community festival, or canoeing down a river to pick up trash. Most people do not think of an organization that provides college students with vast opportunities for service, leadership, and fellowship. To members of Ohio Wesleyan's Circle K, this is exactly what Circle K is all about.

Circle K International is the largest collegiate community service organization in the world, with more than 11,000 members in 17 countries. It is sponsored by Kiwanis International, which also sponsors Key Club for high school students. The three main tenets of Circle K are service, leadership, and fellowship, which the members of Ohio Wesleyan University's Circle K strive to demonstrate through service to the community. Some of their projects include the annual Scioto River Sweep, during which members canoe down the Scioto River to pick up trash; Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF (some members even dress up as



Members of OWU's Circle K after a day of canoeing to pick up trash at the Scioto River Sweep, 9/12/09



left to right: Courtney Hahn, Caitlin Kelly, Ashley Riefler, Heather Werling, and Trung Pham hula-hoop with the kids at the Community Unity Festival, 9/12/09

they collect money in the local neighborhood!); volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House; Bowl for Kids' Sake; and bell ringing to raise money for the Salvation Army. This variety of service opportunities allows every member to get involved with projects they are most passionate about and allows them to interact with many community organizations. Explains Kathryn Seevers, "Circle K is all service, leadership, and fellowship. People coming together for a common cause: making the world a better place for those in need while having fun and helping each other grow into well-rounded leaders. CKI is the perfect outlet through which to develop yourself by helping others."

The Ohio Wesleyan club is part of the Circle K International as well as the Ohio District, which contains clubs from over 20 colleges and universities in Ohio. This state and international network provides ample opportunities to participate in district and international events with members from across the world. "Circle K is different from other college organizations because we have clubs at schools all across the country and we frequently make an effort to socialize and work with these clubs," says Vice President Courtney Hahn. Two of the events that bring members together are the annual Large Scale Service Project (LSSP) and International Convention, which draw members from across the world. LSSP is a multiple-day event full of service. This August, Secretary Jennifer Federer attended LSSP. "This year I got to go to LSSP and meet other Circle K'ers from across the country! Two hundred of us gathered in Birmingham, AL for a week of service and fellowship. It was an amazing opportunity! The experience truly helped me feel like I belonged to a larger group, a national organization of people who are all united by a common commitment to serve." Ohio's annual district events include the District Service Project, a day-long service event, (the Ohio Wesleyan club is hosting this year's DSP); the Membership Awareness Conference, an event geared towards educating new members about Circle K; and District Convention, during which clubs are recognized for their outstanding work throughout the year.

While members of Circle K come from many different countries, backgrounds, and educational interests, they all share a common desire: to give back to their communities by dedicating themselves to service. Members of Ohio Wesleyan's Circle K have shown this desire by going out into the campus and Delaware communities and striving to make a difference. They have all embraced the Circle K motto: "Live to serve, love to serve."



Jennifer Federer scrapes paint on a house during the Large Scale Service Project, LSSP

Community Service Adventure Activity 2009!

It's hard to believe that just a few short weeks ago, OWU's freshman class arrived on campus for a jam-packed schedule of Orientation events. By Sunday afternoon, August 24th, many were ready to take a nap, but a stalwart group participated in "Adventure Activities" consisting of options like hiking, dancing, cooking, Ultimate Frisbee...and yes, community service. Nine first year students, one transfer student, three orientation leaders and a senior volunteer united on that day to rake leaves, wash windows, pick up litter, vacuum heating vents, paint vent covers, sweep out entryways, haul trash to the dumpsters, spread mulch and generally help prepare the Liberty Community Center for the first day back to pre-school classes. LCC Director, Tim Adams was on hand to explain the history and mission of the center, while directing the students' efforts. Judging from the smiles, it would seem that everyone had a great time, and everyone made some new friends along the way.



L to R: Betsy Dible, Stephanie VanVliet, Rose Moller-Jacobs and Katie Wegener help clean up the front patio area of the Liberty Community Center.

Liberty Community Children's Center

**Serving
Delaware County
for over 35 years**



LCC Mission Statement:

The two-fold mission of the Liberty Community Center is to provide the highest quality educare and a meeting place for Delaware organizations that respect and reflect a commitment to excellence, inclusion, and diversity.



Above: Freshman Hassan Khan prepares one of several vent covers for painting.

Volunteer opportunities at LCC range from general upkeep and maintenance of the building and grounds, to being with children and assisting teachers to meet their needs. Volunteers can choose to do either or both. LCC is beginning to take applications for students who are at least 18 years of age and have a desire to work part-time with children infant-5 years-old. Volunteers or part-time candidates can contact Tim Adams at TAdams@delawarelcc.org, or by phone at (740) 369-3876. The Center is located within walking distance of campus at 207 London Road, with parking available off of Neil Street.

**Liberty Community Center
Is a United Way Agency**

CropWalk 2009 ~ Sunday, October 4th

Registration Starts at 1:30 p.m. in the Benes Room - Walk Begins at 2:00 p.m.

Sponsored by Delaware Area Churches,
OWU Community Service Learning & Chaplain's Offices
to benefit Church World Service
www.churchworldservice.org



"We Walk Because They Walk"

A Campus & Community 10k Walk to Raise Money & Awareness for:

- ⇒ Global Disaster Relief & Refugee Relocation
- ⇒ Self-Sufficiency Projects in Developing Countries
- ⇒ Delaware's Local Hunger-fighting Agency: *People In Need*

* *Who Should Participate?* OWU Student Groups of all types:

- ⇒ Service Clubs, SLU's, Dorm Floors, Greeks, Individuals, etc.
- ⇒ Religious Organizations of all Faiths
- ⇒ Anyone who Cares about Fighting Global Hunger

*To Participate Send a Group Representative to The Community Service Office, (HWCC-407) For information packet/pledge forms, etc. Contact Sue Pastors @ x3084, Lisa Ho at x3089, or Kim Davis (kmdavis@owu.edu) to learn how you can make a difference!

Local Churches & Civic Groups Should Contact the Delaware Crop Walk Coordinator,
Rev. Phil Wilden, Asbury United Methodist Church, 363-3611



LifeCare Alliance is a private, not-for-profit organization which provides a comprehensive array of health and nutrition services to older adults, chronically ill and disabled central Ohioans. Its mission is to lead the community in identifying and delivering health and nutrition services to meet the community's changing needs. LifeCare Alliance accomplishes this through programs such as Meals-on-Wheels, Pet Care Program, Groceries-to-Go, Project OpenHand-Columbus, Help-at-Home and several others, serving Franklin, Madison and Delaware counties. OWU Students can support the work of LifeCare Alliance by volunteering in any of the programs mentioned above, or by sponsoring food pantry drives, stocking shelves, helping with special events, marketing, etc. Internships are also available.

To learn more or to join our team, please contact Kristin Kirk at 614-437-2867 or via e-mail at kkirk@lifecarealliance.org, or visit our website at www.lifecarealliance.org. LifeCare Alliance is located at 1699 W. Mound Street in Columbus, Ohio.

Don't Miss A Very Special Benefit Event On Campus

Monday, September 28th at 7:00 pm in the Bayley Room of Beeghly Library

**Come Meet the Author, Rupert Isaacson and Enjoy the Pre-Screening of his Movie
"The Horse Boy: A Father's Quest to Heal His Son"**

free-will donations accepted at the event will benefit

The Autism Society of Ohio and Family Promise of Delaware County

For more information contact Beth Cerda at bethcerda@columbus.rr.com

BASKETBALL COACHES NEEDED

Special Olympics of Delaware County is in need of 2 basketball coaches for our Men's Div 4 basketball team and an assistant coach for the Women's basketball team. The commitment for this would be 2 nights a week for practice beginning the 1st week of November, off for the holidays and then games/practice twice a week January through February, or the end of March, depending on tournament games. All practices and most home games are at Willis Middle School, just 2 blocks from campus in Delaware.

Please contact Sharon Taylor at 740-272-2575 if you are interested.

(WS)² is a collaboration between the William Street United Methodist Church and 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 (740) 816-1898, or ws2help@yahoo.com



**Global Village Collection - 37 N. Sandusky Street
www.globalvillagecollection.org**

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.

We look forward to hearing from you!

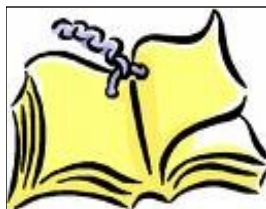
**e-mail: volunteers@globalvillagecollection.org
Phone: (740) 363-6267**



**American
Red Cross**

**OWU Fall Blood Drive
Wednesday, October 7th
8am-2 pm - Benes Room**

Call 1-800-Give Life to schedule an appointment, or contact OWU Circle K Service Chairs Caitlin Kelly or Heather Werling.



Phone Book Recycling Day

Come help Keep Delaware County Beautiful and the Delaware General Health District collect recycled phone books from the community! Volunteers are needed to help unload phone books and put them into recycling bins. Channel 4 will be there for Shred It Day, so wear your OWU or organization's t-shirt! There should be food and the zoo may provide an incentive as well! It might be a good idea to bring a water bottle and wear comfortable shoes.

When: Saturday 9-26-09 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m.


Where: Columbus Zoo and Aquarium Parking Lot

Please contact Keith Bailey (Director of the DKMM Solid Waste District) at kbailey@co.marion.oh.us or 740-223-4151 for more information or to RSVP.

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 (740) 833-2678
or e-mail pcram@co.delaware.oh.us
for information about becoming a TEAM Mentor.
Your help can make a big difference to a child.**



Connections, Delaware County's Volunteer Center, is a service that connects people with volunteer opportunities. If you are looking to be involved in community service but aren't sure what you're looking for, then this is the place to go. Call Connections at 740-363-5000 or visit us at Andrews House at 39 W. Winter St.

Connections is seeking someone to set up an on-line volunteer database for us. This is a paid position, or internship, which will include working 2 days per week, 6 hours per day, for approximately 4 months. We need someone as quickly as possible. Great working conditions and people! Must be computer literate. Contact Pat Miley 740-363-5000 if interested.

The Humane Society of Delaware County

The Humane Society recently rescued a very large number of domestic rabbits from an over-crowded, inhumane environment. They are requesting assistance in placing these rabbits into loving homes, and help in funding animal cruelty investigations in Delaware County. Donations can be made through the mail or in person at the Humane Society, 4920 State Route 37 E. - Delaware, Ohio 43015.

Phone: (740) 369-7387 - e-mail: humanehsrc@live.com - Web Page: www.HSDCOhio.org

Remember, you can also support the work of the Humane Society by joining OWU Pet Pals!



Located at 193 E. Central Avenue, Common Ground Free Store Ministries is a partnership between Delaware churches, businesses, civic organizations and caring citizens. They believe that God's mercy doesn't come with a price tag. They have established a warm and welcoming store which is run by volunteers, and where everything is available to everyone free of charge—from clothing, shoes, diapers and linens, to small appliances, books and toys. There are no income requirements, no questions, and no scrutiny—only the support of people who care; everyone is on common ground.

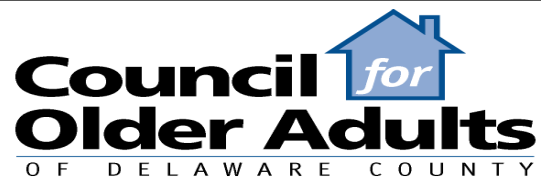
There are many immediate and on-going service opportunities for OWU students at Common Ground. The Free Store is either open, or shifts are available to work on Mondays, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm; Thursdays from 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm; and Saturdays from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. To sign up for a specific shift to work, contact Bonnie Ristau at (740) 369-3733, or bonniefr@columbus.rr.com. Typical tasks include helping to run the store, sorting clothing, re-stocking racks and shelves, greeting shoppers, or helping to serve food.

Donations are accepted on Saturdays between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm. (Due to limited space, out-of-season items cannot be stored.) All donated items should be clean and in good condition. Kitchen ware, small appliances, towels, curtains, bed linens, dishes, glasses and silverware are always welcome donations.

<http://www.commongroundfreestore.com/>

Let Us Help You, Help Others.....

The Council for Older Adults will design an Internship to fit you!



The Food and Nutrition program provides hot meals daily to older adults in their homes. The program delivers over 190,000 meals per year throughout the county on 39 different routes. Volunteer drivers are needed from 11-1pm either long term any day Monday through Friday.

Volunteers are also needed as kitchen assistants to help label and get meals ready. You can volunteer one day per week between 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The Council for Older Adults is also in need of people or groups who can provide help for small household chores and yard work. Also, you can design an **internship** with the Council. We also have an opportunity to assist with chores at COA the first Saturday of each month.

To learn more, contact Amy Brown at amyb@growingolder.org or (740) 203-2355.



Delaware City Schools Celebrate *Lights On Afterschool!*

October 22 is *Lights On Afterschool!*, the national day to raise awareness and celebrate afterschool programs. Delaware City Schools SACC will be holding a district-wide celebration at Dempsey Middle School between 4 & 6:30. Nearly 400 students will participate in a program that includes outdoor activities such as carnival games, sack races, tug of war, giant bowling, kick croquet, and human pinball. The rain date will be Friday, October 23. To volunteer, contact Cathy Sheets, Volunteer Coordinator at 740-833-1854 or email sheetsca@dcs.k12.oh.us.

Lights On Afterschool



Volunteer with Preservation Parks!

Pioneer Day October 11 at Gallant Woods Preserve

Lend a hand with the fourth annual Pioneer Day event at Gallant Woods Preserve! Volunteers may share collections or talents that relate to the time period before 1900, or assist with demonstrations such as cider-pressing, pioneer games, crafts, etc. Spend a magical Pioneer Day at Gallant Woods Preserve on Sunday, October 11, 2009. Volunteers wanted from 11a.m. to 5 p.m.



Trick-or-Treat Trail October 25 at Gallant Woods Preserve

Volunteers wanted between 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. to help set up an enchanted trail and maze, assist on the hay ride, oversee pumpkin decorating, host concession station, and be stationed at various locations along the treat trail during the event. Come dressed up in your kid friendly Halloween costume and help us make this Trick-or-Treat Trail unforgettable for hundreds of children!

Nature Center Attendants wanted at Deer Haven Preserve and Hogback Ridge Preserves

Greet visitors, answer questions, and distribute information about Preservation Parks while enjoying quality time relaxing with nature. Each shift is from noon– 5:00 p.m. Attendants build their own schedules using an on-line scheduling system.

Contact Sandra McBrearty at (740) 524-8600, ext. 6, e-mail saundras@preservationparks.com, or complete a volunteer application on-line at our website www.preservationparks.com



Stratford Harvest Fair: Calling all Volunteers!

The Stratford Ecological Center, 3083 Liberty Road, is a non-profit organization dedicated to the education of children and adults in understanding the relationships between living things and their environment, thereby fostering an appreciation of the land and all life that depends on it. In its own small way, Stratford is acting locally and thinking globally. Its unique location allows for opportunities to share this special world of discovery with children and adults of all ages. Stratford is an organic working farm devoted to environmental awareness and appreciation. OWU Students are most welcome to attend events as well as to volunteer or explore the possibility of internships.

We need your help to put on Stratford's biggest fundraising event of the year! Our 8th annual fall Harvest Fair is set for Saturday, October 3 from 10am-4pm.

We are planning a volunteer workday for **Friday, October 2nd** from 10am-5pm to help us set up for the event by putting up tents and tables. We'll also need helpers to tidy up the farm prior to Oct. 2.

For the big day, Saturday, October 3rd, volunteers are needed from 8:30-am- 5pm.

Areas we are looking to use volunteers are as follows: animals, Kid's World, food booths, kitchen helper, bake sale table, SEC information table, parking, admissions, cidery, set-up and break-down, craft areas, and more.

If you would like to volunteer, we ask that you commit to a minimum of two hours. With that, you'll get free admission to enjoy our Harvest Fair. If you volunteer four or more hours, we'll throw in free food and a drink. Water, drinks and snacks will also be available for volunteers committing to four or more hours.

You may sign-up by emailing Jane Walsh at SECVolunteer@aol.com or by calling 740-363-2548.

Willis Big Brothers Big Sisters

If you are available on Tuesdays from 3:15 to 5 pm, you could be matched with a 5th or 6th grader in need of a mentor, tutor, role model and friend. **We are especially in need of Big Brothers!** Applications are available on the 4th floor of Ham-Will outside the Community Service Office, (room 407). Willis Intermediate School is within easy walking distance of campus on W. William Street across from Tim Horton's. To find out how you can make a BIG difference in a child's life, contact Sue Pastors, (smpastor@owu.edu) or Kerri Robe, of Big Brothers Big Sisters, (krobe@bbbscentralohio.org), (740) 369-2447.



Andrew Miglietti '08 says "Be a Big Brother!"

Did we mention there's a critical need for Big Brothers? Seriously, contact us today!

SIID (Student Initiative for International Development)

Hey everyone interested in SIID!

To start off the year, I thought I'd inform you all a little bit more about our club and why it is such a unique group on campus.

We seek to actively address the issues of poverty by making small loans to individuals all over the world who have no capital to get loans from traditional banks. We do this through a microcredit organization called Kiva. Kiva places microcredit institutes in regions where people are desperately in need of getting themselves out of poverty. Realizing so many people in foreign countries are trying to develop, we as SIID are proud to contribute to their effort. This idea of microcredit as one solution is quickly catching on as a successful way to relieve poverty and have positive effects on entire communities. The people who receive loans are able to buy supplies for their local businesses or buy livestock to sell so they can sustain their families and provide educational opportunities for their children.

SIID is not purely a charity group. We discuss the intellectual aspect of development and the ways we can engage the campus and raise funds to loan out. We've done activities including stenciling shirts for donations, benefit concerts, fast for finance, selling puppy chow, and simply talking to our neighbors. We have a fantastic group with creative minds and are very excited to add any new member to the mix. Meetings are on Thursdays at noon in Corns 202. See you there!

Dani Bonner
SIID



Kafui Etse from Togo runs a small pharmacy and is a beneficiary of SIID's work.

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

<http://service.owu.edu>

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 26th - All Day
Circle K District Service Project

September 26th - 6-8 pm
EarthDance
Benes Room "C"

September 28th - 7 pm
"The Horse Boy"
Beeghly Library (see page 3)

October 2-4
OWU Homecoming Weekend

October 3rd
Stratford Harvest Fair
(see page 7)

October 4th
Crop Walk 2009, 1:30pm
(see page 3)

October 7th - 8 am-2 pm
Red Cross Blood Drive
Benes Room

October 11th
Pioneer Day at Gallant Woods
Preserve, (see page 6)

October 14-18
OWU Mid-Semester Break

October 25th
Trick-or-Treat Trail at Gallant Woods
Preserve, (see page 6)

November 21-29
OWU Thanksgiving Break

December 11th
OWU Last Day of Classes

December 11-17
OWU Final Exams

January 11, 2010
OWU Classes Resume



**ANDREWS
HOUSE**

*Volunteers needed
for Angel Food
and computer
training.*

People Strengthening People

Free Meals:	Legal Advice Clinic
Second Friday - 6pm	Third Tuesday
Third Thursday - 5pm	5:30pm

Grace Medical Clinic
Provided by Grace Church, Powell
Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30pm

Angel Food Distribution
Monthly food boxes for order. Saturday morning distribution. Call for order/pickup dates.

As well as: Computer Learning Center • Summer Food Service Program • Ohio Benefit Bank • Supervised visitation • Room rentals • Community events

39 West Winter St, Delaware • 740/369-4520

**EarthDance & Dances of
Universal Peace**
are coming to Delaware and OWU
September 26th, 6:00 to 8:00 PM
Ham-Will - Benes Room C

EarthDance is a Global Festival for Peace celebrated simultaneously by people around the world in more than 60 countries. It's mission is to promote peace by joining participants worldwide in a synchronized PRAYER FOR PEACE and to support humanitarian causes through the global language of music and dance.

EarthDance Delaware will feature Dances of Universal Peace, participatory circle dances from the world's sacred traditions. Each year EarthDance events select a local charity to support. This year, EarthDance Delaware will be supporting Family Promise of Delaware County.

OWU Service Fair 2009: BEST SERVICE FAIR EVER!

The annual Ohio Wesleyan Service Fair, which aimed to connect OWU students with campus and local service groups, was a big hit with students and community organizations alike. The fair was held September 2nd on the JAYwalk and featured over 30 service-oriented organizations. Students had the opportunity to speak with representatives from these organizations and learn more about their activities and goals. There was something for every interest, including building homes with Habitat for Humanity, leading nature tours at Stratford Ecological Center, and tutoring children through the 21st Century After School Learning Centers.

Student organizations represented included Circle K, Student Initiative for International Development (SIID), Kappa Phi, Colleges Against Cancer, and the Environment and Wildlife Club, just to name a few.

Did you miss the fair but are still interested in learning about the many service opportunities that are available both on and off campus? Visit the Community Service Learning Office on the fourth floor of the Hamilton-Williams Campus Center (room 407) or go to the service learning webpage at <http://service.owu.edu/>.



**Kerri Robe, (right), talks with Carleton
Levert about the benefits of becoming a
Willis Big Brother.**



**Kristen Lear, Editor
Opportunity Knocks**

**If you would like to advertise a service opportunity or provide a story about a project,
email Kristen Lear at opknocks@owu.edu .**