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# NAZARETH NEWS

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ISSUE NO. 3

July, August, September 1994

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## A SEASON OF CHANGE

Fall is my favorite time of year, and what a blessing it is to be able to enjoy the brilliant colors of the leaves on the trees and brisk mornings in the hills of West Virginia. I have often wondered why people enjoy the season of Fall. After all, during Fall the night frost kills, and everything around us in nature is dying. The animals are busy storing their food for the harsh Winter months to come when abundance lacks. Why do so many of us enjoy this season? I believe that the abrupt changes around us – the coolness and beautiful colors, enliven us with hope! this hope comes from change, and in order to change parts of us must die. What a lesson in life nature gives us every year! Like nature, we are called to let go of those things that keep us from getting closer to each other and God. Though the Winters in our lives can be



frightening, we have hope that from our leafless branches, someday new life will spring forth in abundance!

As I begin my time at Nazareth Farm, I am constantly reminded of change. Many of the changes you will read about in this newsletter. It is an exciting time, but a time of questions as well. In order to be faithful to our mission in Doddridge County for the sixteenth year, I need your help! I ask all of you only one thing: that you keep Nazareth Farm and the staff that lives here throughout the year in your prayers. Although the dark and cold of Winter will soon be upon us, we have hope because your prayers, letters, and visits are our Spring!

Rodney Dick  
Executive Director



### IN THIS ISSUE...

- Reflections from Rodney
- “Christmas Sponsoring” Application
- Many Thank You’s
- Staff and Work Up-dates
- Message From the Board
- Your News! and more...

**NAZARETH NEWS**

ISSUE NO. 3 July / Sept 1994

is a publication of

**NAZARETH FARM**

The Association of Volunteers for Christian Service

Rt. 2, Box 194-3 Salem, WV 26426

304-782-2742

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9/94

**SERVICE OUT OF SERVICE**

We have really gotten some wonderful support from several groups this past volunteer season. People did fund raising, made donations, or hosted special events with the Farm's well being in mind.

On August 7th, Sharon Seward of Danville, IN hosted a diocesan-wide reunion of Farm volunteers from the diocese of Indianapolis, IN. The reunion was spear-headed by Larry Lenze. We celebrated Mass with Fr. Jeff Godecker, ate PB&J, & cheese & mustard sandwiches, cookies, and Koolaid, and told stories. Many volunteers and supporters of the Farm came to the reunion, most from this past year, some from previous years, and some from Illinois!

Larry challenged all to bring "\$15.00 for 15 years of miracles," and collected over \$370.00 which he gave to the Farm. Thanks to Larry, Fr. Jeff, Janet Roth, and Sharon for putting-together such a great time. It proved the feelings we feel at the Farm, we can also feel at home!

We have also recently received a number of donations from various parishes in the diocese of Syracuse, NY through the "Propagation of the Faith" program. Donations exceeded \$4,870.00!! Thank you to Fr. James Kennedy of St. Rose in Syracuse, Fr. Kevin Kenny of Ss. Cyril & Methodius of Binghamton, Fr. Adam Keltos of St. Joseph's in Endicott.

Thank you also to George (Beau) Stebbins and his group from St. Paul's in Hingham, MA. The group did fund raising before they came for the last volunteer week of the season. They presented the Farm with a check of money collected -- \$1,250.00 in total!

Congratulations to several of the volunteers from St. Tim's ... Norwood, MA. They have spoken at their parish and other places about their Farm experiences, and other related topics. One former volunteer even got everyone to hug the people around them in Naz Farm parking lot fashion! It sounds like the Spirit really descended on them full force! Thanks to you and Mary Sheedy your youth minister.

\*\*\*Something else to keep in mind: if you are making a donation, consider checking with your place of work or your friends or parent's for a "matching funds" program.



## ATTENTION!!!! NOTICE OF A CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Due to the closing of the Center Point Post Office, the Farm now receives it's mail right at the Farm. However, because of the rural route delivery, we have a new address! PLEASE MAKE A NOTE, OUR NEW ADDRESS IS:

NAZARETH FARM  
 RT. 2 BOX 194-3  
 SALEM, WV, 26426

Our sympathies and prayers  
 to original staff member  
 Jo Caratelli and her family.  
 Jo's mother passed away in mid-July  
 this past year. Please remember Jo  
 and her family in your prayers.



# Christmas Blessings

Dear Friends,

Christmas brings many joys and memories to our lives, good friends, warm hugs, generous gifts. For us at Nazareth Farm, one of these joys is the celebration of the season with the people of Doddridge County. Pauline Goodman, Opal Cain, June Fisher, and many others who you came to serve this year will join us at Doddridge County Park on 12/11/94 for our Annual Christmas Party. The Farm wants to also celebrate the holidays by uniting your family to one of the families we've worked with and to the many children who will come to our party.

You can join our Christmas celebration and brighten someone's Christmas through sponsoring them this holiday season. If you want to be a sponsor, please fill out the application below and mail it in. Or better yet call us and give us your information over the phone. Please respond by November 15th. Know that you can give as an individual, a family, a youth group, an office, or in any fashion you can think of. Shortly after we receive word from you we will match you with a family or a child. You will then receive a list of items that the family and we feel will bring joy to their holiday season.



Shalom,

The Farm

**\*\*clip out or copy and mail to "Nazareth Farm" -Attention: Eric or Alicia\*\***

## *Sponsor-A-Family-At-Christmas*

Name (contact person): \_\_\_\_\_

Group/Parish Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Daytime):(\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_

(Evening):(\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_



Please mark one or both of the following:

- I would like to sponsor a family or part of a family!
- I would like to sponsor children at the Farm's Christmas Party!

Amount offered:



- :\$10 to \$25
- :\$25 to \$50
- :Up to \$100
- :I would like to offer the following amount\$\_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: "Nazareth Farm" Rt. 2 Box 194-3, Salem, WV 26426

*SUE LONG*

## OUT OF THE BLUE!!

Thank you to Annmarie Donovan, Fr. Tim Kelleher, and their group from Blessed Sacrament in Walpole, Massachusetts. The group volunteered here in late July. Annmarie called in mid-August to tell us of money left over from their trip. She asked, "What do you want?" Please understand, it's not every day that this happens.

After I picked my jaw up from the off floor, Dan and I spouted off a list of items, all of which were shipped, along with a check for \$700 plus to go towards the expense of an electric generator!! Items that were shipped included two all-terrain gas lawn mowers, many sets of coming ware, several ceiling fans, and a new water filter!!

Thank you again to Annmarie, Fr. Tim, the Blessed Sacrament Youth and Parish, and to all of you who fund raise, solicit donations, and think about the Farm after you've left.

## MEMORIAL CARDS

Memorial Cards are available from Nazareth Farm upon request. If you would like to make a donation to the Farm in memory of a deceased loved one, request a card from the Farm, send it to the bereaved, and make your donation. There is no cost for memorial cards. (Cards are also available by calling Betty Krupp at 708-325-0854.)

## FROM THE BOARD...

This past weekend (Sept. 9-10), the Nazareth Farm Board of Directors had their fall meeting. A part of our meeting was spent planning our 1994-1995 budget. What an eye-opener!! Being new to the Board I was unfamiliar with the Farm budget.

For example, I didn't understand how participant fees affected the overall budget. I didn't realize, that not bringing (or at least not paying for) all my participants caused a deficit in the budget. I just guessed that there would be one less to feed and it would be no big deal.

Wrong! Whenever there is a no show, the Farm loses \$75 that must be made up elsewhere. The moral of the story: if you are unable to fill up, then you need to give the Farm plenty of notice so that they can give your unused spots to those on the waiting list.

I also discovered how much of the budget is dependent on donations. To put it bluntly, don't forget the Farm after you return from your visit. They need your money year-round!!

Larry Lemme  
Youth Minister  
Board Member

## WILLIS WORK-SITE

Daris Willis lives in a small four-room cottage that is 48 long steps up from the road in West Union, WV. His two back rooms, being nestled into a slowly eroding hillside gradually fell victim to the twin perils of water seepage and rot. It had gotten to the point that he simply couldn't use those two back rooms any more, largely due to mildew and unbreathable air. So Daris asked Nazareth Farm to renovate the two back rooms of his house in an effort to make it livable again. Work crews spent the better part of July and August working on the task and it is now ready for him to paint it and move the furniture in.

Daris is an extremely personable and loveable person. He learned the names of all the volunteers and treated them to Pepsi breaks every day. He enjoyed sharing stories of his life and he even came to the pool with us one Friday afternoon. He seemed to enjoy our friendship as much as he appreciated the work we did on his house.

But life is not easy for Daris Willis. He has a permanent disability as a result of a motorcycle accident, so he can't get around like he used to, and it has robbed him of the energy and vitality he used to enjoy. Last winter was apparently an especially low point for him as he was contemplating the need to find an adequate place to live.

Now that his house has been restored, however, Daris is a more hopeful and energetic soul. He no longer has to "camp out" as he so often complained about his existence of the past five years. He doesn't need to worry about his house falling down or about finding another place to live. Now he is talking about painting the outside of his house and putting in a bathroom when the sewer comes his way. It seems that he is feeling empowered, which is precisely what we say is the mission of Nazareth Farm.

Dave Roberts

## WHERE CREDIT IS DUE

There has been some pretty cool artwork in the last few issues of "Naz News" which has gone, unintentionally, un-credited. Some of the artists include Ann from Villanova, Thomas Cash on staff, Ned, a friend of Jen Vail's, and Mary Cloonan, (she did that cool picture of staff in the last issue!). Thanks to you all! Send in your Farm doodles, draw out-house comics, and send in Farm related poetry or prose writings as well. Thanks! In this issue, artists include Beau Sieblins (the picture of the barn and garden), and other pictures from weekly posters.

