

## WINTER NEWSLETTER

The big storm did hit us with twenty four inches of beautiful snow. The dogs tunneled their way through while the cats stayed under the house. It has been a mild winter up to this point and we have been grateful as it has allowed us to continue with many of our projects.

### KNUDSEN APPEAL John Morgan

On behalf of the Knudsen family, the staff at Nazareth Farm would like to thank everyone who helped bring their dream into reality. The Knudsen's love their new home.

As yet there are a few obstacles that must be overcome before the home is finished. As with many obstacles today money is required to solve their problems. Here is a short account of what must be purchased:

- a) A water holding tank and submersible pump.
- b) Natural gas hookup which has to go another two-thirds of a mile due to new federal regulations.
- c) A septic system and required plumbing.

All of this requires funds of which The Farm and the Knudsen's are in short supply at this time. Therefore we are asking former volunteers who have worked on the Knudsen's house and anyone else interested to send to Nazareth Farm a special donation of \$15.00 or greater, or whatever you can afford with a special notation in the description part of the check: Knudsen Fund, make checks payable to Nazareth Farm.

Again we can not thank you enough for your continued generosity. May God continue to bless us all, yourselves, the Knudsens, and the Nazareth Farm Community.

### WHAT A WORKSITE IS ALL ABOUT! David Dominiak

The first three weeks of January began with a bang as we had enthusiastic college volunteers from all over the country. All of these volunteers worked with myself and Chris Schuld, a short term staff person now on his way to do Peace Corp work in Honduras, on a remodeling project. First was a new roof and then replacement of a floor in an addition put on some twenty years ago. The house had settled drastically and the floor joists sat in the mud decaying.

During the process of replacing the floor, the family was left without running water for two weeks. On February 3, the floor was completed and the water turned back on.

Working there was truly a rewarding experience for all. There was a lot of contact between the volunteers and the family. Throughout our time working on the home, we had the opportunity of working with Diane's sons who became very involved and stuck with us to the end. I was greatly touched when Donald, one of the sons, turned to Chris and me and expressed how proud he was of all the work that had been accomplished. Seeing the joy in his eyes and knowing that we made a difference, is what it is all about.



NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK  
Tom Wirts

I am one of the many anticipated "new kids on the block" as we steadily begin to increase our staff. I graduated from the University of Dayton in December, and arrived here on the 3rd of January. In my short time here I have discovered that The Farm is an ideal place to learn and grow. The volunteers have been amazing, and have taught me much: genuine concern for others, the power of sharing, and the beauty in honest self disclosure. I hope that those of you who have experienced The Farm share the same enthusiasm I have come to love.

Other than myself there has been an energetic young lady, Alyson Monaghan, who has joined us to help improve our female to male ratio, and our respective balance as a community.

Randy Pratt a native of this area has diligently volunteered his time week in and week out, and helped us with a myriad of projects. He too has been a gift from God, and a strong asset to us in these first volunteer weeks.

We will have two more waves of new staff. In the first part of April we will be joyously welcoming Sheryl Groves another native of this area to fill the full time shoes of Joan Donnelly. Joining her will be Michael Carroll a graduate of Lemoyne College in Syracuse, New York, and Dan Stomoff of Indianapolis, Indiana.

In May our summer we will be joined by two new long term staff Sylvia Nieto from Terre Haute, Indiana and Bob Bretzger from Mendham, New Jersey. Filling out the summer team as summer staff will be Steve Brunette, long time volunteer and seminarian from Bloomington, Illinois, and the anxious return of Martha White in her second stint as member of this community.

The final addition will be two lambs at the end of March. Please keep us in prayer as we change and grow in size, maturity, and spirituality.

WISH LIST

A backhoe is needed as we are focusing on raising the environmental standard of this area with septic systems. Hand digging is very inefficient and rental is high.

Oxygen/Acetylene cutting torches  
Block and tackle pulley  
Floor Jack

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

Please circulate this ad to all people and publications who could be of assistance to us and our need. Please call The Farm and let them know to what publications you are submitting, Thanks!

**WANTED**  
**PROJECT COORDINATOR**

for Nazareth Farm, a lay volunteer Catholic Community located in the Appalachian Mountains of West Virginia.

Our Ministry is to empower high school youth, college age and adult volunteers to build housing for the poor.

Skills needed in areas of carpentry, plumbing and electrical. For more information call,

MIKE ABRAMOWSKI 304-782-2742

Spring 11/3

### Another Lent

The glare through the window hides the crucifix from view.  
A strong plant sits below with green as its hue.

Backdropped by snow in equivalent height,  
"Another Lent: A time for a change;" I recall with a plight.

What to do is the question first asked  
What part of my soul needs unmasked.

Attitude, behavior, repentance, good turn.  
Such was the catechesis of Lent I did learn.

I clear off my glasses and look once again.  
The crucifix is clearer as I recognize sin.

Earth shattering it's not; it's simple to see.  
Much like the plant, the snow and the barren tree.

My sin is selfish as it screams from my heart.  
Focused on judging not appreciating God's art.

Christ is in the living not the dead of the wood.  
He is in the life of our neighbor not yet understood.

Lent isn't difficult as we think it to be  
It calls us to see Christ around you and around me.

#### NAZARETH FARM

The Association of Volunteers  
for Christian Service  
Little Balle Run  
Center Point, WV 26339

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION

BULK RATE  
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PRESORTED

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