

— NAZARETH NEWS —

NAZARETH FARM
THE ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTEERS FOR CHRISTIAN SERVICE
LITTLE BATTLE RUN / CENTER POINT, WV / 26339
WINTER NEWSLETTER * 1993-1994 JULY/FEB/MAR 94

CHRISTMAS PARTY 93

Dear Nazareth Farm Family,

A big thank you to the people who donated money and toys to this year's Christmas Party. It was a huge success!

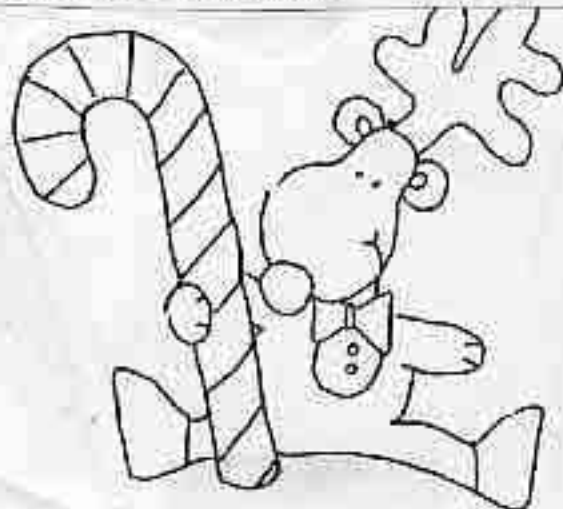
The theme of this year's party was different than it had been in the past. We decided that we would concentrate on the children instead of the entire family. The whole county of Doddridge was invited.

We had games headed by Mike A., rides on a fire truck sponsored by Doddridge County fire and rescue, and the *bigges* attraction of all was Santa Claus!

Yes, Santa himself arrived atop the fire truck. Santa handed out toys to children and each received a picture on Santa's lap. It was a great time had by all.

Thank you again for your support. And a special thank you to Jim and Janice Dugan, Vicki Cutright, Sheryl Groves, Jim Murphy, and Beverly Robinson for chairing the Christmas Party of '93!

Dan Stomoff
Christmas Party Committee '93
Nazareth Farm Volunteer Staff



FAREWELL, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

(Messages from Dave and Mike A.)

by David Dominick

I was a staff member at Nazareth Farm for over two and a half years. Now that I've been away from the Farm for over a month now, I still can't help but thank God for all the blessings He has given me through this incredible place. I've been so lucky to have been able to witness God's incredible work here day after day. From watching a family's dreams come true, the building of homes and relationships, the incredible transformations, and the continued growth within ourselves, especially in our faith. As for myself, I know I have grown and changed tremendously from this experience and am continually seeing this more and more as I discern where my future lies.

There are so many things I want to say and I just wish I knew how to express the feelings I have. But, I will always hold the time I spent at the Farm very close to my heart and want to thank everyone who made it so special. The volunteers, the staff, the families, and the very special friends that I have made. Thank you for all the work, the sweat, the laughter and tears, the conversations and all that you have taught me, but especially for being yourself and sharing that with me. And I say a very special prayer to God for all the families who have always opened up their homes and hearts to us, and for the greatest staff members I could have ever hoped to live and work with. I miss and love you all very much. But, a very special prayer of thanks to God. For without God, none of this would have been possible.

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As I promised so many people who were wondering of my whereabouts I'm leaving my address. For the time being I am living in Chicago with my parents. However, I am planning to move back to the wonderful state of West Virginia in the very near future. For now I can be reached at:

3180 North Lake Shore Drive
Apt. 21-D
Chicago, IL 60657
ph# (312) 327-3132 (evenings)

God Bless
With All My Love & Prayers
David Dominiak

(Dave left the Farm around Dec. 18th when we left for Christmas break.)

FAREWELL,... PART II

by Mike Abramowski

I write this simple letter with much joy to all of you who have touched my life the last two years during my time here as director.

This simple letter is to let you know I have chosen to leave the Farm because I am basically burnt-out. It's sooner than expected, but it's time to leave.

The Farm has embodied the gospel for me, and has been an avenue for living a lifestyle that is consistent with my dreams and desires.

I am now challenged in much the same way that I have challenged volunteers. I am challenged to take the experience of the Farm to those people and places my journey will cross beyond Doddridge Co., West Virginia. I am challenged to be a voice for the people of this area. I am challenged to share their story and my story. I am challenged to let the beauty of these people be known by my witness. I am challenged to a life of simplicity beyond a place where simplicity is inherent and natural.

It's good to be departing with a great deal of enthusiasm even though I am burnt-out. God continues to work miracles with us. God has chosen to give us not one, but two project coordinators in that of Butch Sandora and Dan Gallagher. Mary Ann Miller Waelbroeck has recently joined staff to assume the duties of house manager for the next few months. And last but far from least, Sylvia Nieto, an experienced executive director, accepted the responsibilities of interim director as I made my decision to leave. I believe this is only the beginning of a flood of miracles to be bestowed upon the Farm.

We ask you to join us in prayer. We ask you to pray for the people of this area who have gently impacted our lives in such a positive way. We ask you to pray for us and for our executive direc-

candidates as we all discern the future leadership of the Farm. We ask you to pray for and to be donors to the Farm. We ask you to pray for justice in our hearts and in our actions.

I was privileged to serve here, and I thank God for all the blessings bestowed upon me during my time here. I am changed and challenged. I say a collective prayer for all of you.

Peace & Prayers,
Mike

(Mike left the Farm around February 6th.)

NEW STAFF UPDATE

by Mary Ann Miller Waelbroeck
(a.k.a. Flame)

A few years ago, when I first taught CCD (in Terre Haute, Ind.) some of my teens journeyed to Nazareth Farm. My youngest son, Neil, was among them. When he returned home, I asked him "Well, tell me -- how was it?" With a big smile he said, "It was awesome... don't ever go because you'll never want to leave there."

I experienced Holy Week at Nazareth Farm in 1993. It was an unforgettable experience. Neil's words rang true. It was an "awesome" time and I didn't want to return home.

In the past two years, my life has changed. I became a single woman and questioned God about where that would take me. I moved to California to rest and to pray and to begin a new part of my life. I thought about the Farm and the peace and the friendships that remained forever with me.

So... This "New Year" I left sunny, warm California. I said Goodbye as I walked the Golden Gate Bridge, climbed Mount St. Helena and stood on the cliffs at Mendocino. I joined the staff here in the hills of West Virginia, as they were struggling with the remnants of 2+ feet of snow. My job here will be to serve as house manager for this big family. Can you imagine how it must be to be responsible for cleaning and keeping this crew fed?! I am thrilled to be working with the young people that come here and alongside such a great staff.

I'm going to live in the present...day by day...celebrating the moments and trusting in God's plan for me and for the Farm. God mixes people together for special reasons which we do not understand. He called me to Nazareth Farm, as He will also call some of you. I answered "YES" as I hope you will too. I'm looking forward to welcoming you as you arrive on this path.

"Why are you anxious and uncertain? Is it possible you still cannot see that I will lead you to where you must go."

MORE STAFF UPDATES

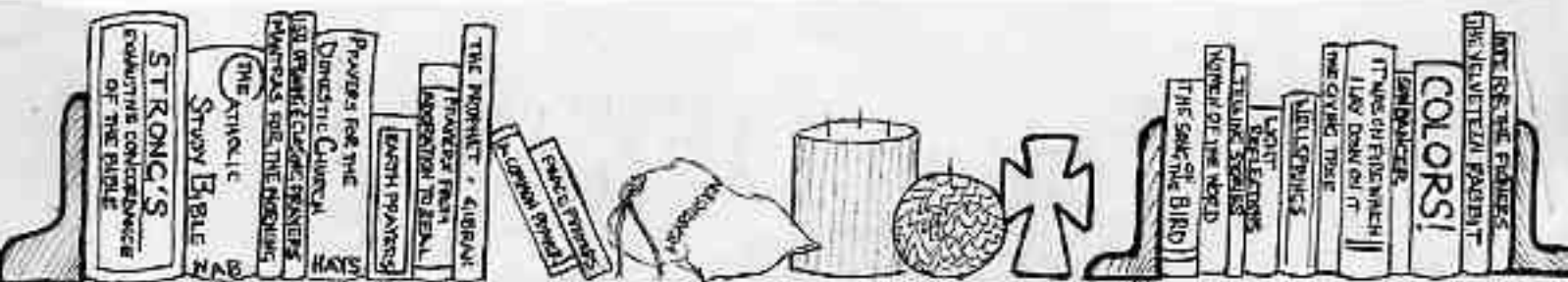
For years, volunteers and staff alike have wound down Rt.23 and crawled Little Battle Run on the final stretch toward Nazareth Farm. And if they didn't see the beautiful log cabin before the Farm on their way in Sunday night, many have commented on it during the week as we drive by on our way to work.

We at the Farm are extremely happy to tell people not only who owns the home, but also that Butch and Jeanette Sandora are such great friends. In the past, Butch has come to the Farm many times to help on a project or give advice (or plow us out of three feet of snow, or lend us their generator when the power is out, or...) and he and Jeanette occasionally have invited staff up for a meal and likewise have attended community night on Wednesdays. God could not have graced Nazareth Farm with better neighbors.

It comes with even further joy and gratitude that we announce that Butch has accepted the responsibilities of project coordinator at Nazareth Farm. Butch will be instrumental in assessing new work sites, project management, helping to develop staff's skill level and thus the professionalism of our projects, and so much more.

We welcome Butch to the Nazareth Farm staff in his new role.

P.S. While making a sweep through some of our existing tools and supplies, Butch temporarily fixed our belt sander that we use to make crosses in the White Barn. However, he said it won't last and requests that a new one be donated. If you're interested, please call him at (304)782-2742. (Butch will be joined by Dan Gallagher as fellow project coordinator this Spring.)



WINTER WISH LIST

We would like to thank all of those persons who responded to our kitchen item's wish list in the last newsletter. Please keep those items coming so we can have something to cook in for when you arrive.

Winter can be harsh with it's biting winds and freezing temperatures as I'm sure you all know. With the winter months hard upon us at Nazareth Farm, some of us on staff take free time to curl up near a fire and indulge in a good book. It is somewhat appropriate therefore, that our Winter Wish List consist mainly of a request for the same.

New to the Nazareth Farm experience is the Prayer Resource Center. This is a library of sorts, in progress, which is meant to centrally locate any materials: books, music, liturgical aids, etc., we may use during preparation for prayer and liturgical services at the Farm. We have already gathered together the materials floating around the Farm and have done some "window shopping" to see what else we might like to include to make prayer and prayer planning easier and more enjoyable.

We ask you in this Wish List, for donations of books, music, art work, stories, poems, mix-tapes, etc., to add to our Prayer Resource Library. We want you to offer these things to us, but because we don't necessarily need five lectionaries or twelve copies of *The Fall of Freddie The Leaf*, please contact Thomas Cash at Nazareth Farm. Thomas is compiling a running list of materials we are lacking and could use in the library. We are sure you will have many suggestions as well, being that you are the one's who have planned so many phenomenal prayers. Please send your suggestions as well.

For more information about donations, please call Thomas Cash at Nazareth Farm, ph#(304)782-2742.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers. Know that you are in ours and that we look forward to seeing many of you soon this summer. Peace & Love.

(By the way, for you computer gurus, technical types, or office workers out there, if you happen to be updating to a 486 and have a 386 you don't know what to do with, give us a call (ask for Jen). The 286 we have been doing word processing, bookkeeping, database collecting, etc. on is becoming a bit archaic for our needs. If necessary we may even be able to work out a small compensation for your gift. Thank you.)