

# Review

The *of Benet Hill Monastery*



VOLUME 28, NUMBER 2 / 2555 NORTH CHELTON ROAD, COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO / SPRING 2007



HOPE  
SEES  
WHAT IS NOT  
BUT  
YET WILL BE

*-Forest Macken*

Redpath



# Springtime - a time of hope & gratitude

*A Message from Sister Anne Stedman, Prioress*

**"Hope sees what is not but yet will be."**

Many years ago, in the early sixties, this quote was shared with us during a seminar by Forest Macken, a Scriptures scholar. For some reason these words were seared upon my heart that early spring afternoon and have remained there, as a mantra, for the last 45 years. Hope has seen what is not, but yet will be in my ministries of: teaching children, liturgy, spiritual direction, retreat work, community administration, formation work and instructing in the Contemplative Outreach and Benedictine Spiritual Formation programs. More importantly, I have experienced this hope as we grow into being a 'springtime' Monastic Community on a journey into the future filled with faith, promise and possibility.

Springtime is such a glorious time of hope here at the Monastery with the budding of the trees in the courtyard, daffodils emerging from between the rocks in front of our parking area, tulip leaves appearing on the bank outside our chapel, and potting soil making its debut near the back door of the houses where our small groups of Sisters live.

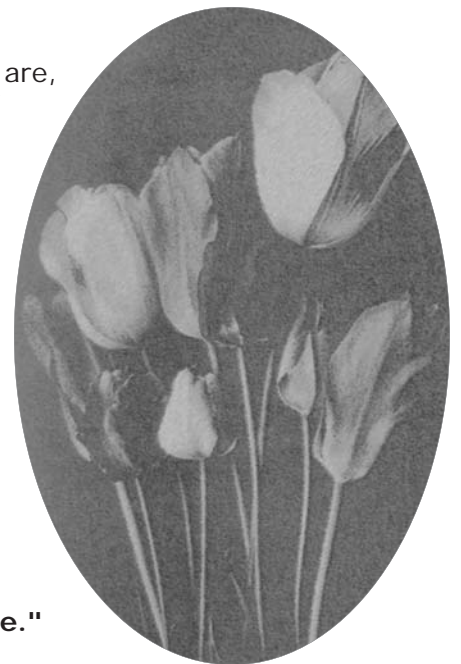
Springtime is also a time of immense gratitude for all the work put forth in our communal educational ministries of teaching children, preparing adults for reception into the Church, and facilitating the inner work of all those women and men in our Scripture, Contemplative Outreach and Benedictine Spiritual Formation Program along the Front Range of Colorado.

**"Hope sees what is not but yet will be."**

Our Community vision propels us into the future as we are, *"continuously being impelled by the Word of God to listen and respond to the issues of our times."* I see this response in Sister Susan's direct work with the poor at the Ithaca Land Trust; I watch this response in Sister Evangeline's retreat ministry with the families in her parish; and I experience this response in Sister Rose Ann's Lenten series on Catholic Social Teachings.

As we prepare to break ground in June for our new Monastery/Ministry Center at Benet Pines, we invite you to journey with and pray for us that we can always deepen our commitment to *"reverence for all creation and to be radical signs of God's love and compassion with all God's people especially the poor and oppressed."*

**"Hope sees what is not but yet will be."**



*We remember you*

## Sister Martha Guadalupe Manchego, OSB

by Karen Cloughly

On March 9, 2007, Sister Martha Guadalupe Manchego died as she had lived: surrounded with the love of her family and her Community.

At her vigil, family, friends and Community members shared stories expressing the many facets of Sister Martha's wonderful personality. They spoke of the special love she had for her family, particularly for her youngest brother Tony; of how she made a certain Christmas dinner a memorable experience for Sister Phyllis, of her love for dance, of her tender care of the elderly at Bella Vita Nursing Home, of the pride she took in serving her Community working in the kitchen, and of the joy and playfulness she shared with those at St Hildegard's.

In her homily during the Eucharistic Liturgy of Christian Burial, Sister Anne Stedman said, *"As Community we have the privilege of making special requests that might be ours at the time of our death. Sister Martha chose a symbol and a song. The symbol was a star which is fitting because that's what she was for her family and for us, her Community and our extended family, our oblates and our nursing staff. She chose a star when she 'pondered what it was like to live in the Kingdom of God and what God was like.' Her thoughts came from images she found in the writings of Teilhard de Chardin, 'To live the cosmic life is to live dominated by the consciousness that one is an atom in the body of the mystical and cosmic Christ' and 'God is the Compassionate curvature holding the universe and all*

*humanity...with loving care."* Sister Anne adds, *"She wanted to do the same."* Her song was "Set Me as a Seal on your Heart."

Sister Martha was born in Gardener, CO to Antonio and Sophia (Salas) Manchego. After entering Mt. St. Scholastica Convent, Atchison, KS on December 22, 1948, Sister Martha made final Monastic Profession on January 1, 1953. She was a charter member of Benet Hill Monastery. She received her BS in education from Mt. St. Scholastica College and her RN from Penrose School of Nursing in Colorado Springs.

In 1995, after having lived a busy life of teaching and nursing, Sister Martha lived as a hermit at Benet Pines Retreat Center where she spent her time in silence, praying, meditating and reading scripture. She said of her experience, *"Silence, for me, is a great factor in letting go."*

In 1999, Sister Martha celebrated 50 years of vowed life. Reflecting on her life at that time, she said her greatest desire was, *"to love the Lord with my heart and soul and my neighbor as myself."* She truly lived out her desire and we are privileged to have shared her journey. We will remember her tireless dedication to those in need, her gentleness and kindness, her impish smile, pleasing hearty laugh and keen sense of humor. But most of all, we will remember her deep love for her family, her Community and her God. y



## Capital Campaign raffle winners

We are happy to announce that our first "10 Chances to Win!" raffle to benefit our **Create a Benedictine Future with Us** Capital Campaign raised \$22,556. The drawing was held at the annual Donor/Volunteer Appreciation reception on March 4, 2007. The delighted winners were:

Costa Rica condo stay & airfare - Teresa O'Connell  
Garden package #1 - Jane Eisenach  
Garden package #2 - Kathy Bizarro  
Serenity package - Sandy Weber

Downtowners package - Arlene Keenan  
Redpath art photograph - Anthony Velasquez  
Dresden plate star quilt - Joan Kohler  
American Furniture Warehouse gift certificate  
- Linda Knight  
Briargate Shops gift certificate - Tom Yukman  
As Time Goes By WW II Cookbook - Lila Cargill

Many, many thanks to those who sold and bought tickets--we couldn't have done it without you! y

# We honor you - our Volunteers

*A volunteer is a person who can see what others cannot see;  
who can feel what most do not feel.  
Often, such gifted persons do not think of themselves as volunteers,  
but as citizens--citizens in the fullest sense: partners in civilization.*

George Bush

**THANK YOU, OUR FAITHFUL VOLUNTEERS, FOR JOINING US ON OUR JOURNEY. WE CHERISH YOUR GIFTS OF PRAYER AND TIME THAT TESTIFY TO YOUR BELIEF IN THE VALUE OF OUR MONASTIC LIFE. y**

Gary and Cathy Adams	Dana Dumcum	Sandy Kinchen	Kelly Rose
Joy Adams	Julie Eddy	Art and Joan Klein	Chuck Ritter
Maria Battista	Cliff and Jane Eisenach	Joan L. Klein	John Russel
Charmain Bearup	Mary Ellis	Carolyn and Paul Leskinen	Patricia Russell
Joanne and Donnell Becker	Pat Farish	Cedric Liqueur	Theresa Sanchez
Eli, Teresa and Ashley	Bert Fellows	Susan Logie	Marlene Scanlon
Benavides	Virginia Fewell	Marie Lovato	Betty Schaefer
John Bengfort	Michael and Melody	Eva McGeehan	Sharon Schuh
John and Barbara Benish	Fitzsimmons	Joe Malatino	Mary Kay Schweitzer
Rita Berglund	Philip Foddrell	Mary Metz	Joan Silverstein
Kent and Donna Billingsley	Michael Frost	Kathy Morgan	Terry Skelton
Will Bishop	John and Clarene Gartin	Barbara Neilon	Rich Smith
Bill Bjerstedt	Samuel Gelvin	Anne O'Rourke	Barbara Solze
Sally Bowman	Jim Graven	William and Nancy Offutt	Flo Stapleton
Carmen Bruno	Mary Griggs	Betty Olsen	Fred and Angie Stattman
Linda and Fred Cassidy	Sam Grivy	Charlene Pardo	Gretchen Straub
Chris Cipoletti	Chris and Michelle Hair	Bud Patterson	Dave Syverson
Aloida Cisneros	Judy Herrera	Rosalie Pena	Marguerite Thomas
Tom Clemans	Ruth Heine	Carol Peterson	Cynthia Tremaroli
Ann Clementi	Ray Holt	Dick and Francie Pfalmer	Rose Trigg
Shirley Cook	Janet Houthoofd	Rose Phelan	Theresa Useldinger
Jeff Cooper	Frank & Lynn Huber	Glory Piovarcy	Louise Volkstorf
Maria Cordova	Christina Jeppesen	Heilke Franzen Pratt	Lorie Waugh
Jane and Tim Cummings	Patricia Johnson	Jim and Mary Kaye Qualey	Paula Wells
Kate D'Arcy	Joan Joseph	Marilyn Raskob	Jane Willis
Patty Degen	James Kearney	Allan Reed	John Wolfe
Raffaella DiBauda	Sherm and Beth Kemp	Jack and Jody Reichardt	Marty Zurbrick
Sylvia Diluzio	Martin and Sue Kiernan	Brown and Perey Riley	

## Development Report

by Constance Gelvin - Development Director

We are filled with gratitude for the love and support of our faithful friends. We have been blessed many times over by your gifts that enable us to continue our ministries. These gifts came to us in many forms: donations, bequests, memorial tributes and in-kind services and items. All your gifts are treasured by us, regardless of size. y

### SOURCES OF GIVING 2006

41% Donations/Contributions	\$311,046
2% Memorials	\$ 11,805
3% Grants	\$ 26,765
10% In-kind donations & services	\$ 79,061
44% Sisters' contributed services	\$337,415

**TOTAL \$766,092**

### GIFT DISTRIBUTIONS 2006

8% Special Needs	\$ 27,104
37% General Budget	\$130,909
34% Sisters' Retirement	\$119,943
2% Sponsored Ministries	\$ 7,064
18% Capital Campaign	\$ 64,596

**TOTAL \$349,616**

(In-Kind & Sisters' contributed services) \$416,476

\$766,092



# Journey with Us

toward SPIRITUAL wholeness

www.BenetHillMonastery.org

May - July 2007

## BENET HILL CENTER

2577 N Chelton Rd  
Colorado Springs, CO  
80909  
(719) 633-0655

The mission of the Center at Benet Hill Monastery is to offer individuals the experience of Benedictine hospitality, community and spirituality.

**CENTER GOALS:** offer ecumenical programs, invite cross-cultural participation, enable creativity, and work at creating a just and compassionate society through our teaching.

## Pull Out and Save!

### BENET PINES RETREAT CENTER

15880 Highway 83  
Colorado Springs, CO  
80921  
(719) 495-2574

The Benedictine faith community at Benet Pines promotes a prayerful, hospitable and quiet environment in a wooded mountain setting where persons of many religious persuasions may gather to discover more fully their God, themselves and each other.



## SCRIPTURE STUDIES CELEBRATING ITS 23RD YEAR

Program Coordinator & Instructor: Diane Liston, OSB

On May 12, 2007 the 21<sup>st</sup> annual Scripture School Graduation Prayer Ceremony and Giving of Certificates will be celebrated in Our Lady of Peace Chapel at Benet Hill Monastery. Twelve participants will graduate having completed the four year study program. The five graduates from the Northern area are: Marilyn Eisele, Dianne O'Keefe, Chris Kelley, Trudy Blevins and Ellen Lancaster. The seven graduates from classes at Benet Hill in Colorado Springs are: John and Liz Wolf, Joan Silverstein, Dr. Ed Haggerty, Emma Schoenbauer, Julia Hypolite and Judy Herrera.

Forty participants currently enrolled in the Scripture program will receive certificates for the work completed this year. Twenty will receive Honorable Mention for having completed a portion of the program. Our students attend classes in Colorado at Benet Hill in Colorado Springs, St. Francis of Assisi in Castle Rock, Ave Maria in Parker and Christ the King in Pueblo. For information on this program, call Sister Diane at Benet Hill Center, 633-0655. y

## Colorado Springs Graduates



L - R: (Insert) Dr. Ed Haggerty, Emma Schoenbauer, Judy Herrera, Joan Silverstein, Liz and John Wolf  
(Not pictured: Julia Hypolite)



### STUDENTS' COMMENTS

**JOAN SILVERSTEIN:** *I really appreciate the learning experience of this class. I learned so much history, prayers of the psalms, and most importantly how much God loves me. I have a new toolbox of words, phrases, events, and acts of love that I can use in my everyday living.*

**JUDY HERRERA:** *The last four years of Scripture class have been lifegiving! It has made me go into a deeper understanding of why I need to read Scripture; not just at a surface level but to really know this God of mine.*

## Parker Graduates



L - R: (Insert) Marilyn Eisele, Chris Kelley, Trudy Blevins, Ellen Lancaster (Not pictured: Dianne O'Keefe)



# BENEDICTINE SPIRITUAL FORMATION PROGRAM

(BSFP) Program Director: Anne Stedman, OSB

*"Do you hear the invitation to partake in a journey of mystery? Making any decision can be a time of special grace and a vehicle for the Holy Spirit to manifest guidance if approached prayerfully. We sometimes forget that God desires to come close to us, to enter intimately into our hearts. But God will not force a way. God will knock and wait for you to say yes to the mystery. Our first step we have to make is to listen to our heart's desire and then enter into a phase of transformation. Self-transformation is the focus in Year I BSFP program. Transformation is the willingness to be receptive to God's intimate plan for you. It is a movement toward living your life in truth and love. We await your prayerful response to the invitation to say 'yes' to God's intimate plan for you."*

-Sister Mary Colleen Schwarz, OSB - Year I Facilitator

**THIS TWO-YEAR PROGRAM**, open to people of all faith traditions, is rooted in the Benedictine tradition and focuses on personal transformation and spiritual growth. Day or evening classes meet September through April. If you are interested in more information about this program, visit our Benet Hill website and go to "EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS" or contact:

**Colorado Springs / South Site Coordinator**  
Patty Degen: (719) 528-5303 / patty@bsfp.org

**Denver / North Site Coordinator**  
Marilyn Carpenter, OSB: (719) 429-7500 / smarilync@juno.com

**MY NAME IS MICHELLE JOHNSON.** I provide natural health care as a chiropractor in Denver. I came to contemplation in the 1990's through Contemplative Outreach in Denver. I participated in formation training from 1995 - 1996 through the Ephiphany Association, sponsored by St John's Episcopal Cathedral, Denver. I enjoyed the solitude and silence of contemplative retreats and was nourished and supported by the contemplative community. I fell away from my intimate connection with God and went deeply into emotional healing for several years after my father passed away.

Two years ago, I reconnected with God's call for me in my life. I started attending Christ Episcopal Church, Denver. I found Benet Hill's Benedictine Spiritual Formation Program and it has been my lifeline. I am able to trust in God's timing and plan for me in showing me how to be an

*"Michelle Johnson" - continued on pg 8*

## Colorado Springs Graduates



L - R: Bronwyn Martinez, Rebekah Martin, Nancy Metz, Karin Henriksen, Denise Foerch, Dotti Delffs, Patti Degen (Program Coordinator), Anita Daisog,

## Denver Graduates



L - R: Amy Smith, Aida Sahud, Teri Hermsmeyer, Lori Frank, Beth Rietz, Sarah Freeman, Sher Mangan, Michelle Johnson, Victor Bradford, Mary Nguyem, Laura Pierce, Susan Geissler, Teresa Benedett-Farmer, Sallie Suby-Long, Virginia Bunning, Jolain Graff, Janet Schulcz (Not pictured: Maria Wano)

**SURPRISED BY JOY!** I had no idea what was in store for me when I entered the Spiritual Formation Program. As a woman who has a ministry that includes life coaching along with a healing prayer ministry, I felt that God had something else for me to "tweak" the work I was already doing. Perhaps I would learn information that would add a dimension to my work that I felt was missing.

Although I have been on my Christian journey for a very long time, these past two years have been a time of opening my mind and spirit to God in a

*"Surprised by Joy" - continued on pg 8*



# CONTEMPLATIVE OUTREACH OF COLORADO SPRINGS

Program Coordinator & Instructor: Therese O'Grady, OSB

## What is Contemplative Outreach?

Contemplative Outreach of Colorado Springs is an arm of the much larger outreach of Contemplative Outreach, LTD which is based in Butler, New Jersey and reaches out to other branches throughout the world. Contemplative Vision Program is based at Benet Hill Monastery/Center and offers classes, prayer groups, prayer days and retreats to strengthen the practice of Centering Prayer.

Centering Prayer is a method designed to facilitate the development of Contemplative Prayer by preparing us to receive this gift.

## What is Contemplative Prayer?

Contemplative Prayer, according to Fr. Thomas Keating, OCSO, is the opening of mind and heart--our whole being--to God the Ultimate Mystery, beyond thoughts, words,

and emotions. Through grace we open our awareness to God whom we know by faith is within us, closer than breathing, closer than thinking, closer than choosing--closer than consciousness itself!

## How can I learn more?

You are invited to participate in the many opportunities offered by Contemplative Vision of Benet Hill to develop this gift which each of us is offered. The Spiritual Journey classes will begin again in September with an Introductory Workshop. For information on all the Centering Prayer activities call Benet Hill Center at 633-0655.

These activities are open to all faith traditions and to those who simply want to learn to meditate or those who have a practice of meditation and want to explore another way.

*continued on pg 8*

## CONGRATULATIONS

There are 20 men and women who have completed the 28 sessions of the Spiritual Journey Series which began in September 2006 to May 2007. These are weekly, two-hour sessions, using the video teachings of Fr. Thomas Keating, OCSO, a monk of St. Benedict Abbey in Snowmass, Colorado. These classes provide basic instruction and a deeper understanding of Centering Prayer in Christian tradition. The participants come from various faith traditions and come from as far north as Parker, Colorado and as far south as Pueblo. y

## Our Graduates



Front L - R: Sue & John Dailey, Skip Sloan, Sally Bowman (Facilitator). Back L - R: Steve Gabriel, Susan Anton, Therese O'Grady, OSB (Program Coordinator)



L - R: Janet Houthoofd, Lynn Espinoza, Sr. Diane Liston, OSB, Susan Logie (Facilitator)

L - R: St. Pauls Parish (Insert) Jeanne Barta (Facilitator), Michele Russell, Helene Knapp, Ann Reich, Karen Condon holding Cade Barta, Rhonda Miller



**Graduates not pictured:** Linda Frasier, Jo Ann Harrison, Linda Colarco, Cynthia Cooley, Donna Henderson, Elsa Longres, John Orr, Melody Daugherty

# Contemplative Outreach

continued from pg 7

## Contemplative Prayer groups

There are presently several weekly prayer groups who gather to share Centering Prayer together and study some contemplative writings. These groups encourage the members to persevere in their individual practices; provide an opportunity for further input on a regular basis through tapes, readings, and discussion; and offer an opportunity to support and share the spiritual journey. y

### Colorado Springs Area Prayer Groups:

**BENET HILL CHAPEL** Tuesdays 7:30 - 8:30 pm & Wednesdays 10:00 - 11:30 am

**BENET HILL CHAPEL** Half-Day of Centering Prayer  
1st Saturday of every month 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

**HOME OF SUNNY GADD** Thursdays 10:00 - 11:30 am 266-6205  
4115 Golf Club Drive (East of Powers Blvd off North Carefree)

**FIRST CONGREGATION CHURCH** Tejon & St. Vrain  
Wednesdays 6:30 am Leader: Jerusha Goebel  
Mondays 5:30 pm Leader: Gary Rapp

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH** Boulder & Nevada  
Thursdays 6:30 - 7:30 pm Leaders: Dan and Lori Lohrmeyer, 630-1809

### Monument Area Prayer Groups:

**CHIROPRACTOR OFFICE** Tuesdays 7:00 - 8:30 pm  
430 Beacon Lite, Monument  
Leaders: Anita Allen, 659-8793 and Sandy Kinchen, 487-2959

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR  
DETAILED INFORMATION ON  
ALL CLASSES, WORKSHOPS  
AND RETREATS.  
[WWW.BENETHILLMONASTERY.ORG](http://WWW.BENETHILLMONASTERY.ORG)

*If you would like either  
the Scripture or  
Contemplative  
Outreach program to  
be brought to your  
church or spiritual  
community, please make  
your request known to  
our program directors  
or  
co-ordinators by calling  
Benet Hill Center at  
719 633-0655.*

## BSFP Student comments - continued from pg 6

### "Surprised by Joy"

deeper way. It has been a time of reflection on new ways to experience God, a time of integration, and an experience of letting myself fall deeper within to allow more of His grace, mercy, and compassion to enter into my "being". It also has been a time of calling forth what I have learned and incorporating it into the ministry I have been doing. I am now looking forward to offering Spiritual Direction as part of my calling to journey with others towards wholeness. It has truly been an amazing gift from God and the Benedictine Community. I am so very grateful! y

*Nancy Metz, Colorado Springs*

### "Michelle Johnson"

instrument for peace, compassion and understanding in the world. I am personally called to minister to those in prison. I have participated in a Kairos renewal weekend at Brush Women's Prison, and I am currently working as a volunteer at Denver Women's Correctional Facility as a mentor in the Making Choices program through the Center for Spirituality at Work.

I am learning from those who are incarcerated how to release the bonds of my injuries from the past, and to become more fully the person I am meant to be, in God's love. y

*The picture on the right is the altar cloth designed by graduate Beth Rietz which will be used for the Denver BSFP graduation ceremony. From the center peace symbol emanates the three images of the students' faith traditions: Jewish, Christian and Buddhist.*





# Jan Ginzkey, OSB - Sister In The Spotlight

by Gina M. Berger

*"Do not fear; for I have redeemed you:  
I have called you by name  
and you are mine." Isaiah 43*

**SISTER JAN GINZKEY** is a humble woman who has been called by our God into service for the past 31 years as a Benedictine Sister. Service is the hallmark of Sister Jan's values. Whether she was teaching in southern Colorado, working as a physical therapist, ministering as Retreat Director at Benet Pines, or her current ministry as Treasurer of the Benet Hill Community, Sister Jan expects the best from herself and others. She works to bring out the qualities and gifts of everyone she encounters and is always asking the question within herself, "How do we compensate for our weaknesses, become fully alive, and benefit everyone?" This approach really fits into her vocation of religious life.

Jan was born in St. Joseph, Missouri to Bob and Mary Ginzkey. She was the middle child who, even at a young age, was idealistic and saw a future filled with hope. She attended grade school and junior high school in Mission, Kansas, while her high school and college years were spent in Bloomington, Illinois. Her parents devoted themselves to instilling the values of Christian living and inclusivity to their children by being living examples. They were the first in their parish to become active readers and Eucharistic ministers. They were very active in an ecumenical Cursillo, parish food pantry, RCIA, and hosted college foreign exchange students in their home. They encouraged their children to be fully active and responsible, living by integrity and reflecting their values through the way they lived.

It was Jan's experience in school that partly shaped who she is today. As a young struggling student, she didn't know that dyslexia and visual problems were the root of her difficulty with learning. At a time when there was less awareness

of students who had other ways of learning, she discovered for herself how to compensate for what she lacked. The result was a young determined spirit who sought a degree in education with an emphasis in special education. Her personal challenges equipped Jan to provide a service of testing and screening to the Catholic schools which otherwise would not have been available.

After college, Jan worked for two years as a volunteer in the VIDA (Volunteers in Diocesan Action, Pueblo) teaching for a stipend. Even though she provided a high-quality education, taught parents how to become more actively involved, and was extremely grateful for everything she experienced through teaching, there was still a deep longing within her waiting to be filled. During her second year with VIDA, Jan decided to explore the religious life. She discovered that she was drawn to the Benedictine way of being and living. In Walsenburg, she lived with the Sisters and experienced their community through shared prayer, meals and life. She saw these women as pioneers who were creative in their ministries, exceptional teachers and strong in their faith.

This journey led Sister Jan to totally embrace the Benedictine Community to which she belongs. She continues to be a pioneer woman of faith who lives with *"God as my core, and I am focused on that core."* Her strongest gifts are compassion and determination (*"some would say stubbornness,"* she says with a smile) and a willingness to give all and everything for her work. "There will always be a need for the religious life and the Benedictine qualities are our gifts to the larger world."

PS *"In addition to Sister Jan's work as Treasurer of the Community, she is also doing an excellent job chairing the building committee for the new Monastery/Ministry Center at Benet Pines."* -Sister Anne Stedman, Prioress

## A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY

When it comes to tangible financial expressions of support, there are many ways that our donors choose to make gifts to Benet Hill Monastery. We'd like to make you aware of a special gift opportunity that the U.S. federal government made possible in August, 2006. The IRA Rollover Bill (H.R. 4) allows direct transfers from Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) to go to nonprofits without tax implications. This bill will be in place only until December 31, 2007 so time is critical. Please contact your legal or tax advisor if you'd like to take advantage of this giving opportunity. Y

# Benedictines in ACTION

## A day in the life

by Gina M. Berger

**SISTER ROSE ANN BARMANN** worked on a Lenten program with her parish, St. Gregory's in Maryville, MO entitled "A Journey to Faith & Justice: A Lenten Series on Catholic Social Teachings." This ecumenical series was open to the entire community and encouraged dialogue between different faith traditions. Sister Rose Ann said, *"This was a good way to address our Catholic social teaching in a very non-threatening and open environment. We only scraped the surface of some complex issues which left everyone hungry for more."*



**SISTER EVANGELINE SALAZAR** attended a "Politics and Spirituality: Seeking a Public Integrity" conference in Albuquerque featuring speakers Richard Rohr, Jim Wallis, and Anne Lamott. Sister Evangeline invites everyone to *"be about the business of providing ways and means for people all over the world to overcome the ravages of poverty."*

**SISTER SUSAN MATARRESE** attended the Federation of St. Scholastica: "Fifty-five and Younger Federation Gathering" in February. *"I was grateful for the opportunity and experience of this energetic and prayer-filled gathering of 66 women from member monasteries in the U.S. and Mexico. We gathered for sharing of stories, values, struggles, triumphs, challenges, dreams and visions for the future."*

### WE OFFER OUR SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS TO OUR SISTERS AND THEIR FAMILIES:

**SR. JOSEPH MARIE JACOBSON** on the death of her sister-in-law Anne Jacobson;  
**SR. JOVITA QUINTANA** on the death of her cousin Amanda's husband Bill Fulchers;  
**SR. MARY JANE VIGIL** on the death of her cousin Dick's mother Bernice Cracker;  
**SR. MARILYN CARPENTER** on the death of her cousins Dorothy Breiner and Velma Carpenter Eaton and her aunt Mathilde Dellere;  
**SR. BERNICE SIEMANN** on the death of her cousin Cecil Siemann. y

## Ministry matters

by Constance Gelvin

The Sisters of Benet Hill Monastery are actively sharing their Benedictine faith and values. In this issue we introduce a feature that will update readers about their **Ministries**.

**SISTER SUSAN MATARRESE**, Assistant Director at Ithaca Land Trust, reports that her ministry involves providing affordable housing for low-income individuals and families. She took this position in response to the Benedictine Vision statement to "use our resources in service with all God's people, especially the poor and oppressed." She juggles myriad duties including: overseeing kitchen volunteers, shopping for two of the hospitality houses, interviewing those seeking housing, working with current residents and providing overnight supervision.



**SISTER ROSE ANN BARMANN**, Director of Adult Faith Formation at St. Gregory's in Maryville, MO states, *"My position gives me a wonderful forum in which to teach and guide adult seekers (RCIA) in their search for God. I share my love of the Word of God through Lectio Divina and 'Praying the Scriptures' classes. The children keep me young at heart with their joy and delight in learning about Eucharist. My ministry also includes the privilege of giving my Mother loving care for her physical, social, psychological and spiritual needs and, in kind, I receive so much more in fulfillment and satisfaction of my own needs."*

**SISTER EVANGELINE SALAZAR**, Director of Faith Formation and Religious Education at Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary, Albuquerque, NM designs and directs programs to strengthen families and to help them grow spiritually. Sister Evangeline recently shared the following powerful story about her ministry:



*Several years ago, I was walking on a deserted road toward San Jose, El Salvador when I was suddenly lifted off my feet by two men dressed in fatigues and heavily armed. I was rushed*

# News from the Academy Alumnae

Dear Alumnae,

I hope all of you are up to some song and dance as we are preparing for another great show "Generation Celebration 2007." Please mark your calendars for August 2 for dress rehearsal, August 4 for the show and August 5 for the Mass and picnic. If you feel you do not have any talent for the song and dance maybe your children do, or your husbands? A family number can be practiced at your home and you just need to let me know ahead what you are planning. I have some DVD's from last year available for sale (\$27.50) or for viewing if you need ideas of what to do. If all this fails we do need your support for audience or just donations. We have a wonderful cast party at Fargo's after the show and all are welcome. Hope to see or hear from you soon.

Sister Lucile

**BETH LUKOW VOGEL '75**

226 Partridge Ct  
Algonquin, IL 60102-1987

**SUSAN DECHRISTOFANO NEIDENTHAL '75**

639 Greenleaf Ave  
Smyrna, TN 37167-6236

**MARY KAY FARRELL '77**

1103 Chadwick Dr  
Grayslake, IL 60030-3362

**BRENDA KIRBY HAWKINS '77**

PO Box 88133  
Co Springs, CO 80908-8133

**ROBIN JENKINS BRENNAN '78**

11 Ewall St  
Mount Pleasant, SC 29464-3043

**LISA RIUTZEL SAUTER '79**

46 Rex Cir  
Salida, CO 81202-9347

**KATHLEEN SCHAFFER MEISINGER '80**

3916 Justin Dr  
Keller, TX 76248-7668

**ALICE HEEDT '82**

4559 Bella Dr  
Co Springs, CO 80918-7201

**ERIN KEANE CARNES '84**

7195 Gorge Ct  
Co Springs, CO 80922-4612

**CHRIS CARNER GIBBONS '83**

1630 30th St  
Boulder, CO 80301-1044

## Sympathy and Prayers to:

Rene Rieden on the death of her daughter **VICKI RIEDEN '68** March 10, 2007. And to her sisters **Peggy Rieden Baldrige '75** and **Marsha Rieden Owens '72**.

**SUZANNE NEGRO '81** on the death of her mother Vonna Negro, January 15, 2004.

**LISA HAYS '77** and **MONICA HAYS WOODWARD '80** on the death of their father Eugene Hays, March 13, 2007.

**CARRIE MATTOCK BUSH '80** on the death of her mother Monica A. Mattock, January 23, 2007.

## New Addresses:

**STELLA LEMANSKI McVICKER '68**  
715 Valley View Dr  
Woodland Park, CO 80863-8444

**KATHY STRAUCH HARTMAN '70**

8006 Bonaventure Dr  
Las Vegas, NV 89147-5648

**CANDICE STEINKUEHL WISE '70**

1207 W Chatham Dr  
Payson, AZ 85541-6274

**AGNES O'DONNELL JOHNSON '70**

10918 Upland Terrace Dr  
Lebanon, IL 62254-2335

**CHRISINE WAMBACH '70**

1836 Pine Grove Ave  
Co Springs, CO 80906-2930

**ANN SARWARK BOTTOMLEY '73**

PO Box 1028  
Parker, CO 80134-1028

**LINDY KOCH WISEMAN '74**

1632 Pinon Glen Cir  
Co Springs, CO 80919-3344

**LAURIE HINTZE BURKE '75**

33 Mountain Brook Dr  
Vestal, NY 13850-2963

## Ministry matters - *continued*

*through the thick jungle to a hovel that was home to 20 persons of all ages, a pig and five chickens. The house had a thatched roof that provided very little protection from the rain, a dirt floor, no windows and a broken door. There was no bathroom, no running water, no electricity and no beds. I was offered a bowl of a soupy substance and a hammock to sleep on. I was given the best they had.*

*These poor people saved my life on that hot summer day. The road I was on was "shot up" by low-flying helicopters shortly after I was rushed*

*into the forest. I was rescued by the special love God has for each of us, the poor and the rich. Because I've experienced how the poor live, I was excited about a project our parish undertook with Food for the Poor. Each of our families was encouraged to donate as little as fifty cents per day during Lent so that together as a parish we will be able to provide several houses and a water pump for a small village in the Caribbean. Reflecting on the Benedictine Charism, Vision and Mission statements, I strive to make what is real to me in these statements real to the people of God whom I serve. y*



**PLEASE HELP US UPDATE OUR  
MAILING LIST.**

- New address.
- Please remove my name.
- More than one received.

*(Please send labels and  
indicate which is correct.)*

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## New Monastery groundbreaking

Rituals are an important part of our religious life. Sister Katherine Wawersich has written in the *REVIEW* about the Benedictine rituals that are associated with the Lenten season. A recent Catholic Herald article on "The Importance of Ritual" by Dale Ahlquist stated, "A ritual is something simple used to represent something more complex."

Benet Hill Monastery will soon experience one of the most exciting, much-anticipated rituals a Community can experience: a groundbreaking. In June of this year at the Benet Pines Retreat Center a groundbreaking ceremony will be held to bless the building of our new Monastery/Ministry Center. The new buildings will feature sustainable architecture, rooms accessible for those of all physical capabilities, a Chapel and separate Oratory,

ministry rooms, an art studio and a physical fitness area.

The facility will be a third of the size of our current Monastery buildings and represents the coordinated efforts of architects Bill Beard and Rich Smith, the Advisory Board, the Sisters, the Finance and Development staff, and the Building Committee (which has been meeting since January 15, 2005.) y

