



Jesuit Volunteer Corps: Northwest

WINTER 2005

FOCUS

Volume 50, Number 2

A TRI-ANNUAL PUBLICATION OF JESUIT VOLUNTEER CORPS: NORTHWEST

Omak Talks About Simplicity

2004-05 Omak Community

For me, simplicity has always meant being content with what you have, being grateful for it and making the most out of it.

Coming into Omak, I did not know what to expect. On some level, I suppose, I imagined I would have to do without all but the barest essentials. I was a bit taken aback, then, to show up and find free satellite cable and wireless Internet, and to have things like washing machines and a dishwasher for the first time in my life.

Yet after having the opportunity to spend several months here, I have had my previous ideas about simplicity reinforced. I believe that simplicity lies not in what we do or do not have, but rather in our attachment to material things. I have found myself challenged to be as content when our dishwasher or extra bathroom is no longer working as when it was. I feel called not to plan an energy fast, but to roll with the punches whenever the power goes out. In short, for me simplicity is not so much about what I do or do not have as it is about making use of what I have been given, yet not becoming so attached that I cannot do without when the situation arises.

— Rob Hanley



At the Omak Rodeo and Staorpede, Left to right: Kim Miller, Jeff Miller, Rob Hanley and Lewis Cataldo.

While trying to gather my thoughts on simplicity, I cannot help but remember the gruff words of wisdom from my uncle; “Lew! K.I.S.S., Keep It Simple Stupid!” unfortunately there is nothing simple about simplicity. There is nothing simple about stressing over how to live simply. Looking back to the night of August 2nd, literally the eve of our JVC year, I can remember the pain of having to make some decisions regarding living simple and what to pack. For example, whether to bring the Who’s

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*Simplicity bespeaks
order, harmony,
patterned symmetry,
and therefore beauty*
— Jack Morris

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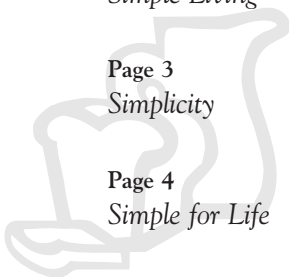
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Simple Living

Jeanne Haster, Executive Director

*Tis a gift to be simple,
Tis a gift to be free.
Tis a gift to come down
Where we ought to be.*

*And when we find ourselves in a place just right,
It will be in a valley of love and delight.*

*When true simplicity is gained,
To turn and to bend we shan't be ashamed.
To turn, turn, will be our delight,
Till by turning, turning we come round right.*

— Shaker Hymn

The **gift to be simple** is woven together intimately with the other gifts of community, spirituality and social justice in the lives of JVs and former JVs. Living simply is a sacrament, a sign of God's grace, presence, gift of Being in the world. We are able to live simply because we live in community, dependent on the support of others to create new realities based in relationships, not consumerism. We are able to live simply because of our spirituality, the beliefs which call us to **be** more, not have more; the beliefs offering **freedom** from the constraints of faith in consumerism. We are able to live simply because of our commitment to social and ecological justice, to living out an ethic of concern for those on the margins of society and for the planet that sustains life.

Simple living helps us find our place **in the valley of love and delight**. It enables us to be joyful, not just experience pleasure. Joy is that bubbling up of the spirit and the sense of peace that comes with knowing we are doing what we can to live in right relationship with others, nature and thus ourselves. It is the happiness we experience deep in our bones when sharing this vision with like-minded people. There is joy in understanding that our presence and our efforts make a difference — one of the basic heart wishes we have as humans.

Pleasure is more fleeting and comes from outside ourselves: good food, a good

movie, a new comfort. We need a steady supply of these experiences for our pleasure to continue. At times we seek pleasure to relieve pain or avoid discomfort. Simple living is a way of reconnecting us to a joy-filled rhythm of life, **finding ourselves in a place just right**.



Jeanne Haster

When we **turn**, enter into the conversion of living in right relationship, we live our lives in harmony with the earth and with all creation, we **come round right**.

One expression of an ethical vision I have found helpful in trying to live out a simple lifestyle personally, socially and ecologically is embodied in the Earth Charter initiative. The JVs this year were introduced to the Earth Charter at Orientation by Mary Jo Commerford and Phil Brady. I have been inspired by the Earth Charter since 1999. The Earth Charter initiative is a global people's effort encouraging us to live justly, sustainably and peacefully and outlining practical ways to do so. I find it a spiritual document at heart. I would encourage visiting the international website, www.earthcharter.org. May we all continue to help each other to come down where we ought to be — graced by the joy we find in the companionship which is JV!

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SIMPLICITY. . . Continued from page 3

Greed drives us to possess all and to do all. It is ego-centered. Simplicity pulls us out of ego domination. It plants a small plot, and cultivates, waters, and listens to small things grow. Simplicity centers us, allows the patterns of beauty that surround us to manifest and affect us. It makes us aware of our own sacredness, and to sense the holy all around us.

FOCUS

is the newsletter published by the
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The Jesuit Volunteer Corps offers women and men an opportunity to work full time for justice and peace. Jesuit Volunteers are called to the mission of serving the poor directly and working for structural change in the United States, and accompanying people in developing countries.

The challenge to Jesuit Volunteers is to integrate Christian faith by working and living among the poor and marginalized, by living simply and in community with other Jesuit Volunteers, and by examining the causes of social injustice.

Since 1956, the Jesuit Volunteer Corps has worked in collaboration with Jesuits, whose spirituality the volunteers incorporate into their work, community and prayer life.

The Jesuit Volunteer Corps offers the volunteers a year or more of experience that will open their minds and hearts to live always conscious of the poor and committed to the Church's mission of promoting justice in the service of faith.

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Simplicity

Jack MORRIS, SJ, *St. Mary by the Sea, Rockaway, OR*

The old Quaker song says “It’s a gift to be simple. . . .” That’s absolutely correct, but what does it mean to be simple? We can start with the very ancient and telling insight of philosophy that God is simple. The dictionary, looking at the human aspect of it, says “simple: easy to understand, or easy to deal with, to be plain, unembellished”. A simple person is unassuming, without pretense, unsophisticated, real. Simplicity may seem innocuous, but it is robust, stable, resilient and the path to wisdom. Simplicity is far more a matter of the heart than the head, far more about listening than acting. Simplicity bespeaks order, harmony, patterned symmetry, and therefore beauty. It is co-natural with the deepest longings of the human person. The face of a child is simple. So is the vast surface of the ocean, the depth of night. Genuine love between two friends is also simple. It’s just there, and recognized without any words. One’s true self longs for simplicity, and knowing that it’s a gift listens and waits. Simplicity repeats the words of Isaiah, “Pay attention, come to me, listen, and you will live.”

When we come to apply the word simple to “simple life style” as in JVC lore, we’re talking about eliminating excess, clutter, complexity, pretense, and getting beyond game playing. This movement toward simplicity, (and it’s always something in process), must aim toward the substance of life, penetrating beyond superficialities. The means to true simplicity (biblically called “poverty of spirit”) is through honest dialogue. Sure, it means tripping over sacred cows, something beyond eliminating excesses in clothing, furniture and food. How about the TV and radio noise that assault us, and the false values dumped our way each day? And the way we don’t really listen to those we don’t like? We cannot become aware of our



Jack MORRIS, SJ

inner, true self without concern for simplicity. The false ego-tistical, restless, anxiety ridden self craves noise, intrigue and lack of clarity; it is the forest in which it hides and plays games.

If I’m striving to be simple, then I learn to listen carefully, in an ongoing way, to others. Note the concentration it takes to be a true listener, which is a manifestation of how scattered and complex inner life is. Simplicity and listening are twin sisters. Our culture gets D- when it comes to teaching the art of listening. Community life is a perfect place to practice. Be real with and for one another. That’s simplicity.

Simplicity is at the heart of ecological spirituality, and sworn enemy of consumerism, which means challenging our sloppy, undisciplined, anti-life culture. One cannot be in touch with the deeper truth of ones being without engaging the realities that orbit the notion of simplicity. Avoiding this engagement, for instance, by smoking, betrays ones very nature, our catholicity, the environment and mother earth. Community life must engage the issue of simplicity or there is no justice, and without it prayer becomes remains superficial and pretentious.

Scarcity drives the poor to be simple, and this is one of the many reasons Jesus says, “Blessed are the poor.” To consciously deal with the reality of simplicity in ones community or family, is de facto to be engaged in listening. Simple living gives leverage, it is redemptive, and it heals the restless soul. The Quaker song has it right, “simplicity is a gift”, one cannot on one’s own catch and possess it. We need to dispose ourselves through gentle dialogue and inquiry with one another; by slowing down and learn to take a quiet walk, or just be.

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Simple for Life

Paul Grubb, SJ, '95-96 Juneau, AK

My housemates would be the first to tell you that I was no superstar JV. I took a few more days off of work than I should have. I picked a few fights in community meetings. I left a few dishes in the sink. I smoked and drank a little too much and I often “forgot” to do my chores. I may have even been a little egotistical and sexist. But I loved being a JV. I look back to 1995 and marvel at the growth that has come from being “ruined for life.”

JVC didn't want me to be perfect when I applied, or as I entered or even when I left. JVC merely wanted me to be open to the experience and willing to grow. I have caused a few headaches along the way but I have grown in the Ignatian tradition that JVC finds its home. And now I have lived in community for the last six years as a Jesuit.

Over the years I have had many conversations with people about the four tenants of JVC. I have written papers and essays on them: Community, Justice, and Spirituality... these are things we can wrap our minds around and philosophize about. Simplicity seems to be in another category.

I think that Simplicity is a symptom of living the other tenants. Living Simply is a side affect of integrating personal spirituality with the beloved community and God's Justice (Kingdom Justice). Simplicity is not just recycling and cutting down on your consumer impulses. Simplicity is what happens when we live intentionally. Spiritual people live simply, (see Gandhi, Jesus, Mother Theresa, Buddha, Dalai Lama). Community works when the group sees abundance rather than scarcity. And when the shocking reality of the injustices of our world becomes part of our being an authentic response is often a kind of humility leading to a counter cultural simplicity.

A few years ago I spent the summer in the small country of East Timor teaching English to former refugees. That summer

was like a tourist's immersion in genocide. The occupying Indonesian forces had killed one in every three people in the country over a 30-year period. The people in this desperately poor country continued to suffer in front of my eyes. Suddenly my understanding of the situation required that I make some sort of radical change in my daily life. Somehow I had to live more authentically. Sallie McFague in her book *Life Abundant* explains better what I mean, “Christian discipleship (involves) an alternative notion of the abundant life which will involve a philosophy of “enoughness”, limitations on energy use, and sacrifice for the sake of others. We . . . need to repent of a major sin — our silent complicity in the impoverishment of others and the degradation of the planet.”

As a Christian I am called to sainthood. I do a great job at failing in this task but I am called over and over again to the path of sainthood. Recently I was speaking with a JV who was struggling with a community member. As we spoke it was clear she was having a problem with empathy. Once she could see the other person's brokenness in the light of “a faith that does justice” empathy entered and a kind of simplicity awoke in her. She is called to a sainthood that requires a simple kind of loving.

In JV communities we struggle with compost piles, electricity bills, recycling, water use, loving relationships, difficult work and the like. What we are really doing is responding to the broken world we see around us. We are working for wholeness. We are following our call to sainthood. Hopefully our response to brokenness is lifegiving.

Gandhi said that we “live simply so that others may simply live.” Since my JV year I have become a vegetarian, calmed my consumerism, grown gardens and chosen to live more and more as a witness to a counter cultural lifestyle. These things are symptoms of a greater love. How this love response is manifested is different for each of us.

The beautiful part of simplicity is that we get to choose how we best respond to the

In memory of deceased members of
Moses family
George Moses
In memory of Dick Spils/Mickey Bymes
Ray and Shirley Murphy
In memory of Betty Noem
Josh and Stacey Noem
In memory of Dr Miguel Ondetti
Dr. Josephine Ondetti
Giselle Ondetti
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Bernard and June Pausback
In memory of Dorothy Styslinger '55-62
Marion Peterson
In memory of Rose Pfeifer
Diane Pfeifer
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father Robert
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In honor of Andy Dufner and
Colleen Dean
Geof Bakewell and Rosie Townley
In honor of Marco Balducci
Claudia and Lodovico Balducci

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In honor of Paul and Emily (Banks) Cappellano
David and Wendy Banks

In honor of Stephanie Barr and Community
Jane and Joe Barr

In honor of Thomas Battibulli Sr.
JoAnn and Tom Bertsche

In honor of Liza Blandin and Jeff Randolph '68-70
Victor and Elizabeth Blandin

In honor of Anne-Marie Maida
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Michele and Michael Cannizzaro

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In honor of Brian
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William and Mary Anne Ford

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In honor of Bethel JVs '89-90
Ann-Elizabeth Grabowski

In honor of Bill Luby
Michael Gaul

In honor of John Matcovich
Michael Gaul
Donna DiGiusseppe and Rick Matcovich

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Paul and Fran Genovesi

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Elizabeth Cashin and Richard Girards

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Joe and Peg Gorciak

In honor of our son,
Julien and Ana Goulet

In honor of Sitka, AK JVs
Christopher Growney

In honor of Paul Grubb SJ
Richard and Mary Louise Grubb

In honor of Missoula '02-03
Ann Guskowski

In honor of a great JVC year '81-82
Debbie Hagan

In honor of Anchorage '01-02 JVs
Lisa Hahn

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Larry and Paulette Fox
Rita Harris

In honor of all serving in the Northwest
James and Sally Helin

In honor of Meredith Henderson Kleinhenz
Diane and Dale Henderson

In honor of Sarah Hill
David and Kathryn Hill

In honor of Fiona Margaret Gautschi
(born 8/20/04)
Tom and Margaret Hoarty

OMAK TALKS. . . Continued from front page

Live at Leeds, or *The Band's Last Waltz*, the turbo Mach 3, or the Norelco electric, the five-year-old Converse All Stars, or the three-year-old running shoes. In the long run none of those decisions were worth stressing over because music is a JV necessity, shaving or cutting of any hair seems to happen rarely with us JV guys, and both pairs of sneakers should have been sacrificed in the name of simplicity because they stink. Now having been in JVC for months I am beginning to realize simplicity is not so much a jumble of decisions we make along the way but rather enjoying the way itself.

— Lewis Cataldo

Sometimes life doesn't seem simple at all. Some days, working within a new culture as teachers provides us with more challenges than we are ready to handle. Blinded by obstacles, the daily temptation is to withdraw and complain. Miraculously there has always been light following the darker moments of despair. On days when we think things can't possibly get any worse, an angel in disguise always comes bringing a connection we thought we'd never share. It is through the acceptance of challenge and darkness that we have started to find grace in the simplest of ways. . . .

Simple Patience is beginning each day with a fresh outlook, even when work, a relationship or life seems hopeless.

Simple Peace is to witness from your backyard the transformation of the mountains through the seasons.

Simple Love is receiving a hug from a child who was able to read their first book.

Simple Service is to witness a culture that gives so much to others even when they do not have much for themselves.

Simple Joy is appreciating the connections you have made with people based on who they are and not what they own.

Simple Living is allowing the present moment to be the most important time of your day.

Simplicity is knowing that Grace is bigger than the greatest obstacle, and that you will always be blessed with everything you need!

— Kim and Jeff Miller



Kitchen Duty at JV Retreat

Simple Cooking, Simple Community

TRISTA RODEEN, 1998-99 Chicago, IL

“Even if it is a little thing, do something for which there is no pay but the privilege of just doing it.”

— Albert Schweitzer

On the second weekend in October, strangers were joined together to cook eight glorious meals for the JV retreat at Pinelaw Campground. Little did we know the innovations needed to pull off this task! Our challenge was in knowing the quantities to make for 80 people as well as the ill-equipped kitchen where we were sequestered — no sharp knives in the entire kitchen, an overly hot and inconsistent cooking surface, no dish soap, no conversion charts (do you know how many cups are in a pound?), and a challenged dishwasher, to name a few. Our work was cut out for us!

Luckily, the simple preparation of a meal and the creativity used were a great opportunity for forming community. Our community had its own personal aroma from the plethora of garlic cloves used. We were also a sentimental bunch, sharing many tears together while chopping the innumerable onions. You can never have too much seasoning became our credo for the weekend. The most important facet we discovered is that meals made with God’s raw ingredients, stirred with love, sifted with patience, and sprinkled with hope would turn out wonderfully despite any hindrances experienced along the way. Faith was the only seasoning we needed for each meal to be a loving reflection of why we had gathered for this retreat. In the simpleness of cutting all the vegetables, buttering the bread for the grilled cheese sandwiches, and sharing our stories of JVC past and present, we had woven warmth, hope, and laughter into the meals we prepared — why wouldn’t they be stupendous!

With great culinary and utensil creativity as well as good humor, we hope the kitchen crew shared “love in deeds more than in words,” as St. Ignatius would say. It was our

pleasure to serve those who have answered God’s call in their lives! Here’s a little about the kitchen crew from that weekend:

Trista Rodeen completed her JVC year at a women’s shelter in Chicago, IL 1998-99. She is a current support person for the Spokane JVs and relishes her time facilitating and participating in groups at St. Aloysius Parish, especially the high school youth group. “I appreciated the opportunity to make wholesome meals from scratch for those who serve God’s will so readily and savored the many stories shared by everyone living the JVC spirit.”

Rob Cellini currently resides in Portland, OR working as a carpenter/remodeler. A native of New Jersey, he spent a year at Andre House in Phoenix, AZ as a Catholic Worker from 2001-02. About his experience on the retreat, Rob says he, “liked collecting the food from the communities, hearing stories over a cutting board, and of course the ice cream social.”

Janice Devlin Charles has deep roots in JVC history serving from 1970-74 as a teacher for two years in Fairbanks, AK, one year in Tacoma, WA, and 1 year in Guam. She and her husband Tom have raised four daughters while living in Spokane for the past 25 years. Janice recounts her retreat experience, “I was delighted to be able to return in small measure all that JVC has given me.”

Matthew Pyrc is a transplant from the Midwest and is also a support person for the Volunteers in Spokane. He is a counselor for the High School Drop-Out/Intervention Program and is actively involved with Parish Social Ministry at St. Aloysius. “I really enjoyed serving those who have

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- In honor of Eric Holt
Marge Holt
- In honor of Jim Bunker/Jenn
Homer Family
Ralph and Peggy Horner
- In honor of Juneau JVC
Joe and Maryane Hubert
- In honor of Juneau JVs '02-03
Bridget O'Loughlin
- In honor of Aimee Maier
Tom and Elizabeth Hudak
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Jennifer Iby
- In honor of Jennifer Johnson
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Johann and Elisabeth Siebenmorgen
- In honor of Sisters of the Road Cafe
Kathy Jones Martin
- In honor of Shannon Kahle '02
Janet and Robert Kahle
- In honor of The White House in
Seattle '88-89
Patricia Kakalec
- In honor of Amy Kemer '98-99
Carolyn Kemer
- In honor of Mary Curry Narayan '79-81
Bernadette and George Koenig
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Fritz and Renate Kopp
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Laurette and Kevin Matthews
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James and Margaret McCall
- In honor of Montana JVs '99-00
Pat McCauley
- In honor of David McConville
Therese and John McConville
- In honor of Michael, Brian and Rina
Fitzpatrick McNamara
James and Anne McNamara
- In honor of Greg McNamee and
Anne Mancuso
- In honor of Norma Daley
Regina and Thomas McNamee

In honor of Roseanne and Paul Basile
Cornelius and Carol McShane

In honor of Elizabeth Misiaveg-Patel
Charles and Susan Misiaveg

In honor of All Jesuit Volunteers
Michael and Cynthia Moore

In honor of Zach Mountain
Susan and Tom Mountain

In honor of Katie Bowles and
Daniel Fagnant

In honor of Katie Vilanno and
Elizabeth Caldarola
Bob and Claire Murphy

In honor of Anna Lehman
Bernard '85-87
Patti Nagle

In honor of Jennifer Nehlsen
Fairbanks '94
Peter and Jane Nehlsen

In honor of Bernadette O'Connor
Ken and Dot O'Connor

In honor of Sean O'Mahoney
Anne and Michael O'Mahoney

In honor of St. Labre FJVs '99-02
Courtney Overland

In honor of Bonnie's 65th birthday
Sharon and Bob Paz
Rae and Woody Richen
Gerry and Nancy Schwartz

In honor of Sarah Pearson '00-01-02
Jeff and Mary Pearson

In honor of Mark Phelps
Richard and Judith Phelps

In honor of Melissa Masini/
Alexander Bassos
Susan Quaintance, OSB

In honor of Michael Quinn '90-92
Joseph and Marilyn Quinn

In honor of Constance Racanelli '92
Rochelle and Martin Racanelli

In honor of Elyn Rideout
Fran Rideout

In honor of Teri Stroschein
Elizabeth and Clyde Ries

In honor of Kari Pohl, CSJ

In honor of Susan Bippley
Aaron Ritz

In honor of Irene Rogers
Jack and Kristin Rogers III

In honor of Maria Elizabeth (Vogt) Ryan
Nancy and Joe Ryan

In honor of Jane Salisbury
Raymond and Mary Salisbury

In honor of Linda Shea '97
Ed and Jane Shea

In honor of Terence Shields and Mary
Shields Driebe
Robert and Betsy Shields

In honor of Elena Dix '04
Bernard and Celine Stanly

In honor of 20th JVC Anniversary '84-85
Lauren and Michael Steck Caswell

In honor of all amazing Jesuit Volunteers
Kristi Steinberg
Jim Uhlarik

In honor of Jonathan Stevens '04
Ted and Marilyn Stevens

In honor of Kristen Strauss Harrison
Lloyd and Joanne Strauss

In honor of Rebecca Stumpf '03
Marian and Tom Stumpf

In honor of Nora Kennaway/Anne
Sulzmann
James and Margaret Sulzmann

In honor of Dave Lawler/Kelly
Connelly marriage
Jim and Frances Swanson

In honor of Rich and Molly Swift
Richard and Christine Swift

In honor of Lisa Thiebaud '02
Bonnie and Robert Thiebaud

In honor of Br Fred Mercy SJ
Jim and Janice Thomas

In honor of 25th wedding/26th
anniversary of JVC
Sherri and Chet Thomas

In honor of CVS '71
Mike Tierney

In honor of Dennis Todd; Noel Collins;
Jessica Collins
Clyde and Helen Todd

In honor of Claire Tolliver
Irena and Roland Tolliver

In honor of Janet Van Fleet '85
Doug and Ann Van Fleet

In honor of Vasnessa Waldref and
Jeff Brogan
Rita and George Waldref

In honor of Casa de Paz '00-'01
Elizabeth Walker

In honor of Rob and Liz Franco-Lee
Debbie Wetmore

In honor of Dr. Tracy Pepper and
Mrs. Matthew Arnold
John and Nadine White

In honor of Alyson and Stuart
Dench's new baby
Megan and Nate Williams

In honor of Jackie Bohrer's 40th birthday
John Gonzalas and Julie Yeggy

In honor of Francis and Edith Whalen
Mary and Conrad Zarek

In honor of MAC House '02-03
Mary and James Ziegler

In honor of Anchorage JVs '89-90
Wendy Zug-Brown

In thanksgiving for prayers answered
Antonette Trimble

On behalf of Heather Bradford/Jeffrey
Gilbert
Edward S. Moore Foundation

Fidelity Charitable Trust Foundation
Lorraine Hubrich

The Pride Foundation
John Rochford and Nick Utzinger

St. Martin de Porres Trust
Jim and Ginny Adams
Barbara and John Aheame
Gary and Barbara Allen
Meghan and Todd Anderson
Jennifer Appleyard
Augustus Aquino
Susan Artome-Fricke. OSF
Gertrude Bailey
Helen Bannan-Baurecht
Martha and Paul Barber
Matthew Baute
Arnadene Bean
Katie and Vern Bensching
Richard Bentley
Jeffrey Bergbauer
Walter and Jerry Bernards
Richard Botteri
Father Ed Boyle
Erminio Braidotti
Dorothy and Philip Brandt
Ann and Tom Brannen
Molly Kledzik and Paul Breen
John Brenkle
John and Peggy Brockamp
Alice and James Brogan
Jeff Brogan
Celeste Kersey and Jim Bronce
Paul Brown
Mary Ann and Jim Buck

KITCHEN DUTY. . . Continued from page 6

committed themselves to others," he says about his experience on the retreat.

Natch Ohno, SJ is the sacramental minister at St. Aloysius Church as well as working at Gonzaga Prep and the Manresa Community in Spokane. He is a former JVC Board Member and has a special respect to those who actively commit to the four tenets of JVC. "I enjoyed the actual, simple service of preparing the meals to allow others to reflect on themselves in the context of their work and growth in their lives."

Because Joan Conlin Leeds wasn't allowed in the kitchen during her JVC stint at Copper Valley, she reveled at the opportunity to prepare meals for the retreat. She labored in the boy's laundry room and taught typing her JV year from 1964-65. She is the Director of Religious Formation and a Pastoral Associate at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Community in Spokane. Joan, "enjoyed the experience of knowing others in service to others," with her time on the retreat.

Note: In addition to volunteering for JVC: NW as a member of the kitchen crew at JV retreats, Trista is also a "matching gifts" donor. Here's her story.

Matching Gifts

TRISTA RODEEN, 1998-99 Chicago, IL

Does your employer offer grant money for non-profit organizations? It can be a cinch donating money to JVC: NW. Here's what I did:

- 1) Visited my company's website;
- 2) Clicked on the link and did a search for JVC — I found that JVC: East had already been an acceptable recipient of funds since my employer is based in the east;
- 3) Sent an email to make sure JVC: NW would be suitable as well (because although their office is in Portland, I volunteer time with the local JVs in Spokane);
- 4) When I heard back the next day that JVC: NW was acceptable as well, I filled out the info needed including the JVC: NW address; how I wanted my donation allocated; and the number as well as type of volunteer hours I've given the Spokane JVs (i.e., sessions with the JVs as a support person and cooking on the October retreat). My company then sent out the needed paperwork to the JVC: NW office and voila — I have a better day knowing I helped my local JVC Community. The best part is that I can donate the same amount of funds each year. So little time spent, such great rewards to the JVs and the broader community served by all the volunteers! Can you be the next to donate with "matching funds?"

CROSSROADS

'85 James Ouellette (Nome, AK) has a band, Slant 6 & The Jumpstarts that has a song titled "Gimme A Beer" in an indy film called "Freedom Park" released 9/04. You can see the band at www.cdbaby.com. Type in name of band in "Search."

'89 Sarah Ward (Anchorage, AK) reports that in August 2004, the 1989 Anchorage JVs gathered for a family reunion in Yellowstone National Park. Schwartz, Whetzel, Ward, Patterson-Burtchaell and Zug-Brown enjoyed four days together. They hiked at Mammoth Hot Springs, swam in the boiling riving and ate and ate and ate. In true JV form the ten adults and 17 children put on a phenomenal talent show. These kids are going places!! All missed Judy, Ray, Julie and Joe. Plans for the next reunion in 2006 in the Poconos are in the works.



'92 Jen Gutmann Tyne (Bethel, AK) and her husband, Andy, welcomed daughter Eleanor Madden into the world on Aug. 15, 2004. She joins big bother Patrick, age 2. Jen and Andy live on the coast of Maine where the winters are not quite as cold or as long as Bethel.



'94 Jennifer Nehlsen and Joe "Tex" Yurchak (Fairbanks, AK) moved to western North Carolina last summer with their two-year old daughter, Ava, and two dogs, Grizz and Sal. Jennifer works for the Guardian ad Litem Program as part of the NC Court System and Tex works for Children First. Jennifer says, "North Carolina is very different from Alaska, but it's a great community to be a part of."



Chiara Mecagni (Bethel, AK) is currently living in Berlin, Germany. Her husband, Volker Blum, is a German physicist. They met 12 years ago in England, reconnected two years ago and married in Germany and Massachusetts a year ago! (Moe Markey, May (Johnson) Kemp, Elizabeth Cashin, Bryan Burpee all present in MA — Rob Lee and Seann Hallisky unable to attend at the last minute.) The couple lived in Boulder, CO for about a year when Volker received an offer for a potentially interesting position in a research institute in Berlin and they decided it was a great opportunity to explore Berlin and have an adventure. They moved in July and Chiara is currently trying to learn German,



absorb culture, and follow the bureaucratic process to acquire a physical therapy license to practice PT there. She would love to hear from other FJVs in Berlin, Germany, Europe.

'95 Mercedes Bransfield (Seattle, WA) married Markham Carr on Oct. 5, 2002 at Immaculate Conception Church in Chicago, IL, and she kept her name. Mercedes works for a domestic violence prevention agency as a court advocate. Contact her at merche95@yahoo.com.

Kendra Hovekost-Weast (Yakima, WA) and her husband, Jason, are the proud parents of William Vincent born May 27th, 2004. Kendra's sister, **Seana Hovekost-Whapham ('97 Medford, OR)** gave birth to her third child, Mark Thomas, three weeks later. The cousins are now starting to practice their "verbal" skills with one another.

'96 Heather Mack (Sitka, AK) recently started a Spiritual Direction practice after graduating from Seattle University with a Master of Arts Degree in Pastoral Studies, and completing a certification program in Spiritual Direction.

Jennifer Trinkle (Portland, OR) recently graduated from Naropa University in Boulder, CO with an MA in Transpersonal Counseling Psychology and Art Therapy. She works for HospiceCare of Boulder and Broomfield as the program coordinator for child and adolescent bereavement services.

Jen Iby (Yakima, WA) married Ben Brose on July 3, 2004. She is currently in her fourth year of teaching high school English and enjoying it. Ben is in a doctoral program at Stanford studying East Asian Religions.

'98 Pam Courtney McNeil (Bend, OR) got married on June 4, 2004 to Jason McNeil. They are enjoying married life in

Timothy and Catherine Buckley III
 Mary Ellen Caiati
 Dawn Capelli
 Jo Ann Carbonetti
 Marcel and Carol Ann Cartier
 Joseph Carver, SJ
 Gail and Roger Casey
 Stacy and Joseph Cates-Camey
 Judy and Peter Cherichetti
 Cort Christensen
 Mary Clark
 Linda and James Clevering
 Tim Fortune and Anne Cloherty Fortune
 Frank and Ellen Connell
 John Connors
 Carole Conrad
 Mike Conway
 Terence and Patricia Cosgrove
 Stephen and Carolyn Costa
 Brian Costello
 Timothy and Marilyn Crawley
 James Crowley
 Mark Curran
 Mary and William Cutri-French
 Jo Ann and Norbert Cvengros
 Bertha and Raphael Daigle
 Kathleen Daily
 Kristina Danchetz
 Rich Davey
 Karen and Bryan Davidson
 John De Luca
 Michael De Zego
 Jackie and Ed Debevec
 William and Dorothy Deery
 Kristina Dell
 Gordon and Mary Ann Dickey
 Tom Comerford and Pam DiDente
 Bob and Evelyn Dieringer
 Maria Diez
 Carole and Dan Doerner
 James Doherty
 Becca Dombrowski
 Jeff Stanly and Joanne Donohue
 Meg Dooley
 Michael Wilcox and Liz Dorney Wilcox
 Robert and Bonnie Douglas
 Betty Drapela
 Luke Hill and Mary Driscoll
 Martha Droge
 Ed and Debbie Drouin
 Maria and Steven Dzida
 Barry and Valerie Eberling
 Lansing and Lura Eberling
 Noel Edson
 Joan and Vincent Esposito
 William Evans
 Ellen and Kevin Evrard Fay
 Robert and Marion Fairbank
 Katie Falgoust
 Priscilla and Michael Farrall
 Marty Hanley and Jude Favata Hanley
 Eugene and Betty Feltz
 Mary Margaret and Gene Ferrell
 Charles and Elaine Fettig
 Bob and Sue Feulner
 Joseph and Barbara Fink
 Bill and Margaret Fissinger
 Patrick Flanagan
 Barbara Fleming
 William Fleming
 Joan and Vic Forni
 Mike and Debra Foy

Sherry Frank
 Dennis and Erleen Frey
 Bernard and Karen Gallagher
 Andy Garrison
 John Garrison
 Gastineau Human Services Corp
 Christian Gaul
 Michael Gaul
 Jo Gelinas
 Jane Glastetter
 Judith and Michael Goonan
 Patricia Gorman
 Larry Kent and Suzette Goul Kent
 Ann and Francis Grady
 Mary Grady
 Tim and Celeste Grennan
 George and Bonnie Griffiths
 Anmmarie and Jim Gross
 Michael and Mary Hainley
 Mary Ellen Halverson
 Jesse and Ann Hansen
 Jack and Kerry Hastert
 Aimee Hayden
 Sandy and Paul Haygood
 Joe and Eleanor Heinz
 William and Gloria Hiblar
 Laurence and Sara Hogan
 John Zeller and Missy Holland
 Janet and Les Holthaus
 Andrew and Beverly Honzel
 James Hoy
 Gerald and Kathleen Huffman
 Mary Anne and Joshua Israel
 Mary Clare Jakes
 Jane and Brian Jesperson
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 Joan and William Johnson
 David and Judith Jones
 Jen Jones
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 John and Jane Kadlec
 Le Roy Keller
 Michael and Marianne Kellogg
 Marion Kelly
 Teresa Kendall
 Nora Kenneway
 Donna and David Kent
 Jane Nibler-Keogh and Jim Keogh
 Johnny and Elizabeth Kim
 Michael Kirby
 Ann and Joseph Klunk
 Teresa and Jim Knipper
 Ed Leibold and Ann Koch
 James and Diane Konen
 Patricia and William Krause
 Suzanne Krivoy
 Robert and Maryanne Lanckenau
 Bill and Claudia Larkins
 James and Pat Latham
 Helene and Timothy Lavelle
 Dave and Kelly Lawler
 Sharon and Michael Lawler
 Gregory Madden and Kae Lawler-
 Madden
 Mindi Lawton
 Rosalie L'Ecuyer
 Beth Libbey
 Megan Linz
 Mary Loar
 Katie and Tom Lorden
 John and Ruth Lynch
 William and Jeanne MacDonald

John MacEachen
 Brian Mack
 Susan Malone
 David Maloney
 Kate Marshall
 Alisa Masterson
 Margaret and Richard Mattson
 Kate McCann
 Lisa and Matt McConnell
 Jim and Nancy McCrickard
 Jack McCullough
 Charles McQuillen and Tracy McDermott
 John McDermott
 Aileen McInnis
 Brian and Rina McNamara
 Mary Helen McNeal
 Mary Medved SNJM
 Carol and Fred Meirose
 John Miers
 Madalyn Mingey
 Charlene and John Mitchell
 Don and Paula Morgan
 Beth Mottau Schaller
 Constance Muessle
 John Mullen
 Julia Hagan and Michael Murphy
 Kathleen and Francis Murphy
 Charles Murray
 Matthew and Mary Murray
 Meredith Murray
 Kathleen Myers
 Fred and Carol Naffziger
 Dan Nash
 Gerald and Patricia Nathe
 Norman Neuberry
 Joe Obersinner
 Charlie and Doris O'Connor
 Christine O'Connor
 John O'Gorman
 Paul Oppedisano
 Robert and Mary O'Reilly
 Michael and Marie Orzano
 Matt and Laura Osborn
 Patrick and Mary Ann O'Shea
 Anne and John Ourand
 Tom Pagano
 Randy and Lori Palmer Morris
 Shelley and Peter Park
 Sarah Patterson
 Jack Donahue and Maggie Pax
 Debra and James Peters
 Michael and Nancy Pfau
 Courtney and Derek Pierce
 Roland and Eileen Pinza
 Jenn and Jon Pizzagalli
 Mary Porsche
 Meg O'Brien and Scott Powers
 Megan Powers Chesney
 Jean Prahl
 Diane and James Quinn
 Catherine and James Rakowski
 Alice Ray
 Mary Ann and Ron Rettig-Zucchi
 Angie Reynolds
 Joy Downing Riley and Mark Riley
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 Charles and Mary Romanelli
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 Joseph Loboizzo and Margaret Sammon
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 John and Mary Jane Savage
 Tracy Scatterday
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 Jo Anne and Greg Schell
 Gerald Schmotzer
 Laurence and Joanne Schott
 Lisa Schunk
 Lynn and Paul Schwartz
 Annette Scognamillo
 Karen and William Shea-Daley
 Jane Sheeran
 Leo Sherry Jr.
 Thomas Davidson and Lillian Shirley
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 Susan Kreusch and Kevin Smead
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 Karen and Paul Sonefeldt
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 Church
 Jay and Margot Stegmaier
 Jason Steinle
 Jeanette and Dan Stengel
 Julie Sterling
 Annie Stewart Gilligan
 Don and Dede Sullivan
 Marsha and Tim Sullivan
 Daniel Sweeney
 Steve De Nardis and Eva Swiontkowski-
 De Nardis
 Bernard and Elvina Szopinski
 Kathleen Waters and Joy Szopinski
 Rick Tavares
 Lloyd and Kathleen Temes
 Sarah and Kirk Teuwen Vashaw
 Karen and Michael Thomas
 Anne and James Thompson
 Thomas Timoney
 Cathy and Julio Toro-McCue
 Robert and Mary Ann Tuerk
 Barbara-Jean Turick
 Diane and Thomas Turick
 Mary Underwood
 Suzanne Uschold
 Greg and Joan Van Pelt
 Julie and John Vanlaanen
 Ed and Thale Varana
 Joan and Matt Vranizan
 Edward and Rita Walsh
 Michael Walsh
 Sean Walsh
 William and Patricia Walsh
 David and Mary Jean Welch
 Mary Wellehan
 Susie and Mark Weller
 Lorraine and Paul Wenger
 James and Rosalia Whitehead
 Eugene and Marjorie Wiemels
 Jonathan Wight
 Christine and William Wild
 Thomas Wilson
 Penny Mann and John Wood
 Walter and Jeannene Yeggy
 Bob Zenker
 Molly Ziegler

their new home together in Tuscaloosa, AL, where she is a Massage Therapist at the Spine Care Center.

Rachel Jones (Bethel, AK) married Tom Jones in August 2002, with **Moe and Dan Fallon (Bethel, AK)** as very welcome guests at the wedding. The honeymoon was in Alaska, and Rachel and Tom were privileged to be at the wedding of **Jeanae Schmaljohn (Bethel, AK)** and Boyd Belmas while in AK. Rachel and Tom are living in London where she is working on a PhD in Sociology, looking at urban regeneration, race and identity in the North of England.



'01 **Matthew Camardese (Yakima, WA)** moved to Baltimore to start an MSW program at the University of Maryland that will take two years to complete.

'02 **Elizabeth Brandt (Sitka, AK)** is still living in Sitka and has no plans to move anytime soon. She spends time sea kayaking, and is planning some big trips. She is working with a domestic violence shelter and trying to find funding for new programs. Contact her at lizfire79@yahoo.com if you will be traveling to Sitka.

Jennifer Guterman (Billings, MT) has moved to Boston and is living with two other FJVs: **John McHugh (Billings, MT)** and **Crista Carrick (St. Labre, MT)**.

Katie Higgins (Anchorage, AK) and **Mark Denecke (Anchorage, '99-'00)** have moved from Anchorage to Buffalo, NY. They drove across the country visiting FJVs **Dave Lawler, Liz Chomicz** and **Jessica Zigmund (Anchorage, AK)** along the way. They are looking forward to their wedding on March 12, 2005 and already miss Alaska and their FJV friends.

Chocolate Chip Cookies, Justice and Peace

A Message to new JVs

Louis Cocchiarella (Bethel, AK, 1979)



Louis Cocchiarella

It has been 25 years since I have stood where the new volunteers stand, at the beginning of a year of service, struggle, adventure and growth as a member of the JVC. What I began learning from my JV experience and continue to struggle to learn today, is that the seeds of justice and peace need to continually be planted and nurtured in my own heart and life if I am to have any hope of trying to promote justice and peace in the world around me. This is not a new message. I am sure you have heard it a hundred times before, starting with the many sermons you had to sit through about the importance of taking care of the beam in your own eye before being concerned with the splinter in the eye of your neighbor. The problem is that this message is easy to understand and extremely difficult to live out on a day-to-day basis. It is oftentimes much easier and less painful to try to work for justice in our local community or in a far off country then to try to face the hardness of our own hearts and the lack of forgiveness, mercy and compassion we have for ourselves, our family members and the people we see, live and work with in our everyday lives.

I work for Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Toledo, Ohio. Part of our mission is to serve the poor and vulnerable in our community. Sometimes I forget that serving the poor does not just mean providing financial assistance to people walking through our doors. Sometimes I forget that the poorest, most vulnerable person I may

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E-FOCUS Coming soon

In the Spring of 2005, the first issue of *E-FOCUS* will be sent to everyone who has provided us with their e-mail address. This on-line publication will be sent to e-mail addresses as an attachment, as well as being posted on the JVC website as a pdf file. *E-FOCUS* will include:

- ◆ Notes from the office
- ◆ Calendar of events
- ◆ Recommended reading list
- ◆ Two short articles by FJVs
- ◆ One short article written by current JV

Don't be left out! Send your current e-mail address to joy@jesuitvolunteers.org.

meet on any given day could be a co-worker who is having health or marriage problems or who has lost a loved one. It may be my wife or one of my daughters or some other family member or friend. Maybe the poorest, most vulnerable person in your life right now is your father or mother who can't understand why you are "wasting" a year in the JVC or one of your community members who misses their family and friends and just can't seem to fit in with the rest of the group.

In Chapter 4 of Luke's Gospel, Jesus tells us that he came to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim freedom for prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind. What we need to remember is that there are many forms of poverty, captivity and blindness in our world. People can be held captive by grief, illness, addiction, loneliness and loss of hope. They can be blinded by anger and pain and so fail to see their own goodness and potential. Circumstances in our lives can serve to make us feel isolated and alone and can create in us a real poverty of spirit and a feeling of despair.

To feed the hungry, to clothe the naked and to offer shelter to the homeless are certainly important parts of the social mission of the Church. However, the scope of this social mission goes beyond our response to the need for food and clothing. It also embraces the needs we all have for support, touch, a listening presence and a compassionate response. As Jesuit Volunteers you are being asked to promote the social mission of the Church through the work that you do in your agencies. However, I hope that your work at promoting justice and peace doesn't end there. I hope that during your volunteer year you will have the opportunity to look into your own heart to see where you need healing and how you can address the poverty you see in your own family or in your JV community.

I have some advice for you. (I promised myself this article wouldn't turn into a "lecture" but I can't help it, I'm a parent.) On one of your days off, rather than going to a protest march against the war in Iraq, stay home and prepare a batch of chocolate chip cookies for your community members to enjoy when they return home from their jobs. It will probably not help to end the war in Iraq but it will provide comfort to your community members and some good memories for you all to share.

In closing, I would like to share with you a quote from Mother Teresa. "Do no great things, only small things with great love." Have a great volunteer year.

Telling the JVC Story to Youth

Cortney Christiansen, 2002-03 Tacoma, WA

When I was a JV in Tacoma a couple of years ago, I was what one might call a “non-trad.” To borrow the term from college, basically it means I didn’t fit the demographic of a typical JV. Unlike most volunteers, I was not fresh out of college. I was 27, and I had graduated from college five years earlier. I had worked in a professional job for several years, and was living on my own in a one-bedroom apartment. JVC was not on my radar screen, and if it were not for an unlikely series of events and coincidences, I never would have found my way to JVC.

Looking back, I am thankful for the twists of fate that led me to Tacoma. After all, throughout high school and even college, I was never aware of JVC as an option to even consider. I never gave serious thought to devoting a year of my life to volunteer work. I almost slipped through the cracks.

With this in mind, I enthusiastically accepted an offer from my church’s youth pastor to speak to the high



Left to right: Cortney Christiansen, Katharine De La Garza, Roger Turcotte, Colleen Brannen, Katie Wertin.

school youth group about what it means to devote a year of your life to exploring social justice, simplicity, community, and spirituality.

I spoke of those four core values of course. But mostly I just shared pictures and stories that relate how these values influenced my daily life as a JV, and how

living as a JV has affected my outlook on life and has influenced the choices I make to this day.

I think, I hope, that I planted a seed in their hearts that will eventually “ruin them for life.” It will be several years before we know if any of this took root, but perhaps this is the only time they will hear about JVC. I’d rather not leave it to chance that they might accidentally stumble across this opportunity, like I did. If I have helped even one person discover and explore this path, then I’ve done my job.

Please help us to plant seeds in young hearts in the hopes of recruiting future JVs. Talk to your parish youth group; contact campus ministry; or share your experience with a high school or college class. If you want materials to help you, contact Joy Wallace at joy@jesuitvolunteers.org or 503-335-8202.

SIMPLE FOR LIFE. . . Continued from page 4

world. We become healers . . . shamans . . . peacemakers. We choose to feed the hungry, visit the incarcerated or change sinful structures. We walk on the path to sainthood and simplicity factors into our everyday choices. Suddenly where I get my coffee, what I eat or consume is a part of my spirituality and connection to other humans.

In the end I realize that I am as broken as an oil pipeline spilling on the tundra. I am a hazard and the best I can do is to continue to have hope that God will clean up my mess. In the mean time I will work to mitigate my destruction so that when I meet the face of God I can honestly say that I tried to make the world a better place.

Paul Grubb, S.J. is a Jesuit Scholastic teaching Theology at Gonzaga Prep in Spokane WA.

Reunions

Copper Valley School volunteers: The class of 1965 from Copper Valley School is having their 40th reunion at the old school site on August 5th, 6th and 7th, 2005. They invite **all staff** who volunteered at Copper Valley School while the school was in operation to join former students in celebrating this event. For more information contact Richard Jung at richjung@unicom-alaska.com.

St. Mary’s Catholic High School: The Ursuline Sisters of the Western Province invite FJVs who served at St. Mary’s Catholic High School to join them on April 29th and 30th to celebrate 100 years (1905-2005) of Ursuline service in Alaska. A potluck on April 29th and a Mass at 11AM on the 30th will be held at St. Patrick’s in Anchorage, AK. For more information contact Sister Josephine Aloralrea at josephineosu@gci.net.



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What's new with you?

What's new in your world? Fill out this form and send it to JVC: NW, Attn: Crossroads, PO Box 3928, Portland, OR 97208-3928. As space allows, we'll tell the JVC world all about you in the next *FOCUS* issue. Please print your news clearly, or Email to jvcnw@JesuitVolunteers.org. Digital photos are great too!

Name _____ Email _____

JVC placement locale(s) _____

Year(s) _____

Currently living in: City _____

State _____

My news is _____

explore Jesuit Volunteer Corps' website at www.JesuitVolunteers.org

Ways to Give to JVC

Tax Deductible Monetary Gifts

On-line giving: Go to www.jesuitvolunteers.org; click on "Northwest"; click on "Donate Now."

Long Term Pledge: When we telephone you, make a multi-year commitment to make payments over one, two or three years. We will happily remind you.

Tribute Gifts: Make a gift in memory and in honor of loved ones. We will send an announcement card to the honoree and note the tribute in *FOCUS*.

Planning for the Future

Bequests: Designate JVC: NW to receive a specific dollar amount, asset or percentage of your estate.

Life Insurance Gifts: Name JVC: NW as a beneficiary of your individual or group life insurance policy.

Other Ways to Give

Matching Gifts: Ask your employer if you have a "matching gifts" program. Your contribution could be worth twice as much!

In-kind Donations: Support JVC: NW by donating materials or services.

For more information, contact Joy Wallace at joy@jesuitvolunteers.org or 503-335-8202.

Spring *FOCUS*:
COMMUNITY

... at all times is the need for sharing life
with others and the search for community.

- Virginia Hamilton

