

DOING GOOD!!

An E-Publication of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Diocese of Cleveland



DOING GOOD

is sent monthly.
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Give Hope

Donate a car
Give hope to those in need

Donate old vehicles to SVDP by calling 1-800-322-8284 or by visiting svdpcle.com.

All donations stay local.

2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

BOARD MEETING

All Vincentians welcome
March 14—Noon- Our Lady of Hope
300 Center Rd., Bedford

KENTUCKY DERBY DAY

May 7—Great Lakes Brewing Company
2516 Market Ave., Cleveland

BOARD MEETING

All Vincentians welcome
June 13— Noon Our Lady of Hope
300 Center Rd., Bedford

INVITATION FOR RENEWAL

July 13-17 Indianapolis, IN

Vincentian Communion Breakfast

June 19—St. Patrick, Cleveland

1st ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

Friday, July 29
Grantwood Golf Course in Solon

SVDP USA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

August 30-Sept 3 Columbus, OH

BOARD MEETING

All Vincentians welcome
September 12— Noon Our Lady of Hope
300 Center Rd., Bedford

FRIENDS OF THE POOR WALK

September 24

BLANKET SUNDAY DRIVE

All parishes—October 8 & 9

OZANAM ORIENTATIONS

October TBA

CONFERENCE ANNUAL REPORTS DUE

October 31

If you need help, our office can help.

INVITATION FOR RENEWAL

November 9-13 Indianapolis, IN

BLESSED FREDERIC OZANAM FEAST DAY

December 9

JOHN WAIN APPOINTED TREASURER



Bob Reuter announced that he has appointed John Wain as Board treasurer to fill the vacancy left last year by the resignation of Joe Ptak. Bob was quoted as saying, "I am extremely grateful for Mr. Wain's interest in our Society and the knowledge he brings to us with his extensive business background. All areas of our service to others will benefit from his expertise".

John is a CPA and a principal of *The Alpha Group Agency*, which specializes in the design and implementation of employee benefits and retirement plans.

Prior to his ownership in *The Alpha Group*, John was a controller with two multi-national corporations and a regional printing company. He has a strong background in financial management. John is a graduate of The Ohio State University with a Bachelor of Science degree. He is a member of The Ohio Society of Certified Public Accountants, The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and the Northeast Ohio Health Underwriters Association.

He has also been active in a number of community service programs, including Project Children, the Akron Regional Development Board Member Benefit Committee and chairman of the Broadview Heights Civil Service Commission. He currently serves as a member of The Food Center Task Force and The Center for Family & Children Program Advisory Council.

John resides in Brecksville with his wife, Maureen.

As provided by the SVDP Rule, the Board president appoints fellow executive officers and their term of service is the same as the appointing President. Bob's term as President will expire at the end of our fiscal year September 30, 2017.



DIRECTOR'S CORNER

John Litten, Executive Director

Because Feeding Those in Need is What We're All About

After a year's worth of prayerful discussion and negotiation, and with a great deal of thanks to our board members for their thoughtfulness, questions and patience, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be taking over three food pantries run currently by the Centers for Families and Children. These three pantries, which were under WSEM (West Side Ecumenical Ministry) previously, were under a threat of closure, and we've been able to build a sustainable path to their staying open under SVDP leadership.

The three pantries, all in Cleveland, are "Community Corner" which is located at West 83rd and Detroit Ave, "Brookside" located on Pearl Rd. in Old Brooklyn, and "Near West" located within St. Patrick Church on Bridge Ave. The latter also has a community meal three days per week, and is known by some as the "St. Pat's Hunger Center".

The transition will take place on or around April 1st. There will be a lot more information about the partnership going forward, including ways your Conference can get involved if desired. In the meantime, please note that there will be an event to benefit these pantries on May 7th known as Kentucky Derby Day at the Great Lakes Brewing Company in the Ohio

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"I THIRST"



With much of the recent news headlines about water with high lead levels, I am reminded of the words of Christ from the Cross as He was dying for our sins: "I thirst" (Jn 19:28). His throat parched, body beaten and bruised, exhausted from carrying His Cross, He asked for something to drink. A Roman soldier soaked a sponge in vinegary wine and put it to the lips of Jesus, who after wetting His lips, said, "It is finished" (Jn 19:30).

We are blessed in the United States by our proximity to clean, fresh water. Yet there are those among us who do not have access to this necessary life-giving resource. There may even be some among our clients whom we visit. A simple drink of water instead of sugary sodas or caffeinated energy drinks can help some individuals as much as a bag of food. Christ also said, "And whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because he is a disciple - amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward" (Mt 10:42). May your Holy Week be blessed.

Yours in Christ,



Father Doug Brown
Spiritual Advisor

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven”

MATTHEW 5.16



SVDP to Host “Outdrive Hunger: An Inaugural Golf Outing to Benefit Our Food Pantries

By Natalie Schrimpf



(Continued from page 1)

City neighborhood. This is a 16th annual event and we'd love to see you there! I'm also very excited about our first ever golf outing on July 29th, and really hope that you strongly consider being a part of this special event.

Forget the grey skies and snow. It's time to set your sights on the green as we plan our inaugural golf outing to raise money for our food pantries. Scheduled for Friday, July 29 from 8AM to 4:30PM at [Grantwood Golf Course](#) in Solon, the theme, “Outdrive Hunger” echoes the Society's commitment to hunger prevention by providing meals to some 10,000 individuals and families monthly. Your support is key to making this event a success so that we can nourish others in need. We're seeking sponsors, golfers and committee members. Please consider participating, and share this information with colleagues, friends and family. For more information, contact Natalie Schrimpf at 216-696-6525 x. 2520 or nschrimpf@svdpcle.org. To order tickets online, [click here](#).

WOULD YOUR CONFERENCE LIKE AN EXTRA \$5,000?



Is your Conference interested in applying for a Friends of the Poor Grant? The SVDP National office has up to \$5,000 grants available for SVdP Conferences in our area.

The National Council will be accepting grant applications from our region from May 15-31. This simple application can be downloaded from the National Council Development Toolbox - Friends of the Poor Grant tab at: <http://new.svdpusa.com/developertools>.

Grants are typically awarded for Emergency Assistance Projects and for Systemic Change Projects.

Please send complete applications to the National Office. Email applications are preferred. Call Gerri Sample at 314-576-3993 x211 or email her at gsample@svdpusa.org

Save the Date!!

By Anelize Nader

This year's **SVDP National Assembly:**
Columbus, Ohio, Aug 30 – Sept 3.

The schedule of events has not yet been released, but you may attend the entire event or choose to attend specific sessions. There are presentations on spirituality, Special Works, service and much more! It is a wonderful eye-opening opportunity to hear what other Conferences and Councils are doing, and to learn from each other. We assure you that you will come out of this event both invigorated and energized, as you come to a deeper understanding of what the Society is all about. Stay tuned for details as more information becomes available.

CENTRAL OFFICE RESPONSIBILITIES

From time to time, our members inquire about the function of our central office. The following is a list highlighting some of our staff responsibilities. If you have questions or suggestions about other services you would like to see, please call John or Bob anytime.

Please note that the Central office CANNOT send funds to people that call the office for help because they do not visit the poor in their homes. Only Conferences can do this. This is why we try to connect needy callers with the nearest Conference.

Provide support to Conferences, such as connections, referrals, joint efforts, research on issues, etc.

Answer an average of 20 calls daily from clients and other agencies looking for assistance, referring them to appropriate Conferences or other resources in the community.

◆ Operate the Conference Supply Center (CSC), purchasing items in bulk and reselling them to Conferences at 40% of cost (inventory management, deliveries, bookkeeping).

◆ Operate and provide support to food pantries that serve over 13,000 hungry men, women and children monthly (food pick-up and delivery, volunteer management, bookkeeping).

◆ Help organize annual Friends of the Poor Walk, so Conferences can raise funds for their local programs.

◆ Promote District meetings as an opportunity for discussion of mutual problems and successes throughout the District service area.

◆ Organize annual Communion Breakfast to provide Vincentian networking opportunities.

◆ Provide educational and support materials to members, Presidents, Spiritual Advisors, Treasurers and Secretaries.

◆ Help form new Conferences (established 3 new Conferences last year: St. Joseph in Cuyahoga Falls, St. Joseph in Mogadore, St. Ignatius of Antioch in Cleveland).

◆ Publish monthly newsletter with articles and information of interest to Vincentians.

◆ Offer Care Club Grants to Conferences in financial hardship or for special projects, so they can obtain up to \$5000 for assisting the poor in their area.

SVDP DISTRICT MEETINGS	DATE & TIME	PLACE	DISTRICT PRESIDENT
Akron	April 24 9 am	St. Francis de Sales Akron	Mike Zorena Akron@svdpcle.org
Lake/Geauga	March 29 7:30 pm (meeting)	St. Gabriel 7 pm (mass)	Marilyne Brandoni Lake-Geauga@svdpcle.org
East Cuyahoga	TBA	TBA	John Patton EastDistrict@svdpcle.org
Lorain County	May 12 7 pm	Sacred Heart Chapel, Lorain	Jim Watling LorainDistrict@svdpcle.org
West Cuyahoga	March 1 7 pm	St. Patrick	Jim Beesley WestDistrict@svdpcle.org

There are many more duties of our Central Office. To read more [CLICK HERE](#).