

**Sister Carole Anne,
Program Coordinator**

“Glance at the sun. See the moon and stars. Gaze at the beauty of the earth’s greenings. Now, Think.
–Hildegard of Bingen

Wasn’t it wonderful to welcome Spring a little earlier than usual!

There were certainly less worries this winter due to the milder weather. The volunteers didn’t have to shovel out their driveways or streets to get to the church on time for their duties. We didn’t have to worry about some of our guests having to be outside all day in the bitter cold. Are we actually experiencing global warming in Hamilton?!

Something better than global warming has been happening in Hamilton for the last couple of winters. Thanks to the Provincial and Federal Governments, many of our homeless people (mostly men) have been housed in apartments around the city. Not only have they been housed, but they are also receiving the support they need to reestablish themselves back into society.

Finally, the government bureaucrats are taking their heads out of the sand and waking up to the needs of people who are poor and homeless!

Because of this success story, we didn’t feel the need to have our overnight shelter this past winter. But to our dismay, we found out that the women we sheltered in past winters were sleeping outside. So in January, we resumed our overnight program.

The Good Shepherd Centre is building a new centre for women at King Street West and Pearl.

Hopefully, the women that we shelter will feel welcomed at the new Good Shepherd Women’s Centre next winter. Our plan is to not have the overnight program next winter.

After thirteen blessed years as coordinator/director of HOOTC, I have decided to “hang up my hat”. I have asked Sister Nancy Sullivan to take my place as director. Sister Nancy is a Sister of St. Joseph as I am. She is a Hamiltonian and has a business degree.

Three years ago, she returned from a 14 year missionary stint in Jamaica. So she understands and has a compassion for the cry of the poor.

Sister has been working in our office since last September and is presently coordinator of our program at Christ’s Church Cathedral.

Thus, I feel that I am leaving the program in good hands. I know she will be a blessing.

You have all been a blessing to me over these last 13 years. Your generous spirit in so many ways whether you knit hats, purchased underwear, provided scarves, gloves or toilet articles, or helped us financially – each was very important and appreciated.

To all the coordinators, coordinators of volunteers and volunteers, I am very indebted to you for making the program so successful all these years. Your hard work and dedication have indeed been an inspiration to me.

I would also like to express my deep appreciation to my sister Nancy who has been our faithful book-keeper since the inception of HOOTC. She spends

many hours each month balancing the books, entering donations, filling out government forms etc, etc., as well as being the Recording Secretary at our Board Meetings since 2003. Nancy has expressed her wish to retire from these positions. I’m sure Sister Nancy and Janice will miss her expertise, she’ll likely be happy to be an advisor. Thank you Nancy!

I am truly grateful for our unflappable Janice Ormond who works so diligently to keep all in order in the office and in all our venues. She has been a blessing to work with these last 4 years and I know that she will be a blessing to Sister Nancy. Thank you Janice! May God grant you many blessings for all whom you have touched so beautifully and to me.

To all our fundraisers, Ancaster Film Fest and Design Hope, I am truly grateful for all you have done to help finance our program over the years and for your continued support. We would not have been able to open the last 3 or 4 churches without your financial assistance.

Mother Teresa of Calcutta said” Together we can do something beautiful for God.” Indeed that is what happens at Hamilton Out of the Cold!

In gratitude I will bless you with Aaron’s prayer for all you have been to me:

*“May the Lord bless you and keep you
May the Lord let His face
Shine upon you
And be gracious to you
May the Lord look upon you kindly
And give you peace. Amen.”*

It’s not goodbye but Auf Wiedersehen.



NOTES FROM REV. THOMAS KAY...

MacNab Street Presbyterian Church has sometimes been referred to as 'the cathedral on the corner', and has the kind of solid stone presence which can be both impressive and somewhat forbidding. The external appearance, however, belies the congregation's reputation for giving a warm welcome to those who enter our doors --- and that welcome has now been extended to the volunteers and guests of Hamilton Out of the Cold. This past fall, the Session (our governing body) agreed to let HOOTC use our hall and kitchen on Monday evenings on a trial basis. Although no appeal was made, more than a few members of MacNab came forward to volunteer, and when the needs of the program became clear, Session offered the hall and kitchen for Saturdays as well.

As the still relatively 'new' minister at MacNab, I have been impressed and delighted by the way in which this somewhat staid, historic downtown congregation has thrown its doors open to the community through HOOTC. I am equally impressed and delighted by the way in which HOOTC has quickly proved to be a blessing, allowing us to reconnect with the surrounding community through compassionate service. Participation in HOOTC has prompted still ongoing conversations about other ways in which we might reach out to serve the community.

At its April meeting, the Session conducted its required review of our 'trial basis' participation in HOOTC. The discussion was short and positive, and resulted in a unanimous decision that our participation in HOOTC be extended indefinitely.

Thomas J. Kay

The following are our Exceptional Leaders

Monday - Mac Nab Presbyterian

Nanette Hynes, *Coordinator*
Michelle & Don Whelan, *Coordinators of Volunteers*

Monday - James Street Baptist

Margaret Firth, *Coordinator*
Paul Simpson, *Margaret's right hand man*
Gerda Biro, *Coordinator of Volunteers*

Tuesday - Centenary United

Alicia Haynes, *Coordinator*
Bob Tilbury, *Coordinator of Volunteers*

Tuesday - James St. Baptist (Beth Jacob)

Cindy Richter, *Coordinator*
Joanne Anderson, *Coordinator of Volunteers*
Lila Strubb, *Coordinator of Volunteers*

Wednesday - Erskine Presbyterian

Paul Lewis, *Coordinator*
Stella Lewis, *Coordinator of Volunteers*

Thursday - Central Presbyterian

Johanna de Bruin, *Coordinator*
Mary Smith, *Coordinator of Volunteers*

Thursday - Central Presbyterian

Once a month the Ismaili Muslim Community, under the direction of Diamond Jiwani, prepare and serve the evening meal.

Friday - Wentworth Baptist

Russ & Vyvyan Reilly, *Coordinators*
Barb Adamson, *Coordinator of Volunteers*

Saturday - Christ's Church Cathedral

Sister Nancy Sullivan, *Coordinator*
Nora Crawford, *Coordinator of Volunteers*

Saturday - Mac Nab Presbyterian

Sister Carole Anne, *Coordinator*
Geoff Moneypenny, *Coordinator of Volunteers*

Please...Hurry and Rest Up....November is just around the corner...



Volunteer Appreciation Night 2010

It's hard to imagine that we've just had our 13th annual Appreciation Night Dinner. And what an exceptional evening we had!

With approximately 267 of our volunteers able to attend and with Jeff Goodes our honorary HOOTC's volunteer, as our Master of Ceremonies; one couldn't help but enjoy oneself!

This year's entertainment, the "Islay" Band truly entertained us with their Scottish and Irish folk music. Well Done!

"Luigi's" made sure all were fed and contented. Thank you to Luigi and Anna for taking such excellent care of our hungry gathering. The food was outstanding. It's so wonderful to be able to nourish our remarkable volunteers who work so tirelessly and conscientiously all season to nourish our guests.

And just when you think they can't get any better, Diamond Jiwani and his fantastic group put on an exceptional raffle once again this year. Thank you to

Diamond and his team and all those who contributed so generously to our raffle.

Thank you to everyone who helped to set up, clean up, organize, and support us for this special once a year event.

There never seems to be a way to say thank you enough to all our amazing and dedicated volunteers. Without all your time and talents Hamilton Out of the Cold would not be able to do such a tremendous job of feeding our friends in need. But we do

THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH!

You are so VERY much APPRECIATED!

Thank you to the following individuals/groups that so generously donated items for our very successful Appreciation Night Raffle...

Ancaster Film Fest
Asmail Adatia & Family
Dilshad Abba & Family
Mary Agro
Riaz Ahmad & Family
Kathy Conway
Julian D'Angela
Johanna DeBruin
Dell Pharmacy, Dundurn/Aberdeen



Family Fitness - Jackson Square
Beryl Harrison
Anis Hudda & Family
Salim Ladhani & Family
Shafiq & Shemin Lavji & Family
Taj Jetha & Family
Laurenzo's School of Business
Linda Learn
Judy Maybury
Michele's Salon & Spa
Anil Musani & Family
Shiraz Natha & Family
Opera Hamilton
Nizar Rehmatullah & Family
Nadine Rehner
Cindy & Lowell Richter
Ariel Rogers
Gisele Rottaris
Royal Touch Auto
Shahnawaz Shivji & Family
Mary Smith
Jeanne Sullivan
Sister Nancy Sullivan
Barbara Thistle
U.S. Steel Lake Erie Staff
Vellani Family
Ali Virani & Family
Wrights Cleaner

