



Sisters of
St. Francis
of Assisi



NOJOSHING NOTES

WINTER 2012
VOLUME 26, NUMBER 1

3221 SOUTH LAKE DRIVE, ST. FRANCIS, WISCONSIN 53235-3799 www.lakeosfs.org

NOJOSHING is an Indian word. It means "Straight Tongue."

In 1849, the Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi built their Motherhouse on land that was called Nojoshing by the Indians, because it protrudes out into Lake Michigan like a straight tongue.

THE OSF CORNERSTONE CARD SHOP:

Sr. Helene Brings a New Look; Merchandise

When Sister Helene Mertes relocated to Milwaukee a few years ago, she wanted to do some volunteering and learned that the Cornerstone Card Shop at the Motherhouse needed some volunteers.

Her vision and skills have changed not only the appearance of the shop, but also broadened the variety of items for sale.

The face lift Sister Helene envisioned included revised display possibilities. New wall fixtures and shelving helped to achieve that. In addition, the décor in the shop changes seasonally. Sister's gardening skills are evident from the live plants that are part of that décor.

One of Sister Helene's goals was to make the shop a "community" gift shop, and she accomplished this by asking a number of sisters to offer their handcrafted items for sale. Some of the residents from Canticle and Juniper Court, the affordable senior living apartments on the convent grounds, also contribute items. Sister Helene makes baskets and wreaths and other items which she, too, has for sale.

So now, if you come looking for a greeting card, you may also like to buy an embroidered tee shirt, tote bag, or decorated kitchen towel, to name just a few of the items you can find in the craft corner.

Volunteers staff the shop when it is open, and Sister Helene has recruited several new volunteers since she came. They enjoy their work and are always eager to make a sale.

Customers tend to be the sisters and the residents at the Courts. When groups meet at the Motherhouse or special events/celebrations occur, the card shop is open for business and always attracts customers.



The card shop volunteer staff is pictured on the back page



Merger Made Visible . . .

Ten years ago, on the Feast of St. Francis, October 4, 2001, the Franciscan Sisters of Baltimore, Maryland, merged with the Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The official celebration for this took place at St. Elizabeth Convent in Baltimore, Maryland, with a follow-up celebration in Milwaukee, on October 7, 2001.

For this year's 10-year anniversary, the planning committee worked to find ways to mark the occasion by exploring the theme of *Merger Made Visible*. The first celebration took place in Milwaukee at St. Francis Convent on October 2, and the second celebration took place in Baltimore at Clare Court on October 4.

Techniques employed were writing and drawing with fabric pens, embroidery, photo transfer, appliqué and weaving. The squares were assembled in four banners, three with 15 squares and the fourth with 17. A booklet for each banner gives the information for each square.

A "family tree" was drawn on a large piece of paper and posted. On the days of the celebrations, sisters and associates wrote a word or a phrase about the merger on a



There were a variety of ways in which the theme was expressed.

Sisters and associates contributed a total of 62 quilt squares which they designed to express what merger means to them and how our lives have been touched by the merger. Some were made by individuals; others worked as a group to come up with an idea and create the square. Some of the tech-

leaf and these were attached to the tree. The sisters in Baltimore sent leaves to be a part of this tree, and the end result was a very healthy looking tree.

On the wall outside of the convent library, a "merged" time line was posted beginning with 1849 until 2001 and the significant dates for both congregations are indicated.

10th Anniversary Celebrated

In Baltimore, the Merry Merger Players (pictured in the lower right corner) presented *One 100 Plus Years of History in 15 Minutes*, directed by Sister Barbara Barry. Audience participation was encouraged and facilitated by the display of cue cards and joining in the closing song, *We Celebrate*, sung to the tune of *When the Saints Go Marching In*; text by Sister Eileen Quinn:

perennial nature reminds us of continual hope for a future. May these bulbs serve as an example of God's growth in us, the Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi, who are turned to the One in whom we live and move and have our being for light and sustenance.



***Here comes
Milwaukee,
And Baltimore.
Oh, when we all
come marching in
We will come full of
trust in God
And we will live in
hope and joy.***

Daffodil bulbs were distributed in Milwaukee and Baltimore. Sister Linda Tan concluded the celebration in Milwaukee with this message:

The flower for the 10th anniversary is the daffodil; a simple flower which is a reminder of joy, cheerfulness and happiness, moments that sustain a relationship of any endurance. As a reminder of our 10th anniversary of blending, you will receive a daffodil bulb, a sign of simple beauty and friendship. Its



At left, Sr. Martina D'Amour prepares to plant her daffodil bulb near the small grotto on the convent grounds.



Charitable Gift Annuity

Have you ever considered a Charitable Gift Annuity? Would you like to give a larger gift to the Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi – and receive an income for life in return?

1. How does a charitable gift annuity work?

You contribute a certain gift of cash, or its equivalent in securities, which the Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi invest in an annuity fund. In return, you will receive a fixed income for the rest of your life.

2. Is my annuity tax deductible?

Yes, at the time of the gift and as allowed by law. Moreover, a certain amount of the income from the annuity is also deductible. Because of this, a charitable gift annuity is permanent and non-refundable.

3. What is the minimum required to fund a gift annuity?

The Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi request a minimum of \$1,000 to establish a gift annuity. Any amount above this is always welcome.

Please contact us for more information:

Office of Planned Giving
Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi
3221 S. Lake Dr.
St. Francis WI 53235
Or call: 414-294-7337

Visit

WWW.LAKEOSFS.ORG/GIVING/GIVING.ASP
to make donations, order our cards
& reach us via e-mail

Basket for Donor Petitions

The Fund Development Office asked Sister Helen Mertes to make a basket to hold the petitions for prayer that our donors send us periodically during the year.

Here Sister Helene is holding the basket she made. It was used for the first time on All Souls Day.



Bequests - Our Gratitude to These Donors:

Eleanor Albrecht	Lois Foley	Joseph A. Losso
Elizabeth H. Ashton	Agnes M. Ganser	Edward Malek
Ann Denney Bantle	Paul Hojdik	Mortimer A. Shine
Eleanor M. Barnack	Benjamin A. Karsokas, Sr.	Dorothy R. Tarrant
Bernice Carroll	Clementine Kozinski	Margaret A. Zummo

Total: \$282,379.39

Card Shop Volunteers

Sr. Helene is pictured below at the far left in the back row.



Nojoshing Notes is a publication of the Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi.

Please send your comments and suggestions to:

Nojoshing Notes Editor, Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi, 3221 S. Lake Dr., St. Francis, WI 53235-7193
e-mail: jparrott@lakeosfs.org