Society of St. Andrew REPORT



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Gleaning America's Fields ~ Feeding America's Hungry

What's with that?

Blog this ... Ken Horne has started a blog, officially titled "The SoSA Perspective." In periodic postings - about once a week - Ken will focus on hunger and justice issues, personal ponderings he just can't suppress, and all matters SoSA related. Keep up with Ken's fertile mind and ruminations at www.endhunger. org/ken_blog. Add the link to your "favorites" – you'll be the better informed for it!

YouTube, too ... With the posting of our new video on YouTube, SoSA has jumped headlong into the wacky, wondrous web world. View and comment on this compelling video at www.youtube.com/societyofstandrew. It describes the need and SoSA's common-sense solution to saving food from going to waste and feeding the hungry. Share the link with your friends, too.

Work for the feds? ... Don't forget SoSA during this fall's CFC (Combined Federal Campaign). For the uninitiated - that's the "United Way" for federal employees and the military. The Society of St. Andrew's CFC # is 12046. Your pledge to SoSA will feed the hungry all year! Ask your church to run a small box in their Sunday bulletin and/or newsletter reminding members who are federal employees to support Christian charities like SoSA. SoSA can provide a ready-to-print piece for that purpose – call 800-333-4597 or email sosapr@endhunger.org.

4-Star SoSA ... Charity Navigator, one of the nation's top charity watchdogs, has given SoSA its top 4-star rating! To check it out, go to our website at www.endhunger.org, click on the Charity Navigator link to go directly to SoSA's listing on their website.

Are you an MVP? ... You are if you have a Food Lion MVP Card. When you register it at Food Lion's website, Food Lion will make a "micro-donation" to SoSA each time you shop with your card – at no additional cost to you! It's so easy - follow the instructions on page 3 of this newsletter and you'll be an MVP to the hungry. Ask your family and friends to register their MVP Cards, too.

From the Sheep Shed

By Ken Horne, Executive Director

You could say that there are two kinds of people in this world. There are those who believe great things can be done, and those who don't. I'll bet Society of St. Andrew is a serious pain in the neck to the latter type. When you think about it, most of



the reasons (excuses, really) that people give for not trying to change things are proven completely wrong by our ministry. You've all heard these excuses:

"I'm not able to contribute enough to accomplish anything." Well... not really. Our ministry puts a serving of good, nutritious vegetables on the plates of the poor for two cents a serving. We keep good, nutritious vegetables out of the land fill for about six cents a pound! Everybody has enough to make a difference at that rate!

"My little contribution won't make any lasting difference anyway." Well... not really. In 1983, when we started salvaging produce for the poor, no one had ever done it before. We built a great (thirty million pounds a year) ministry from a whole lot of "little contributions". And we've been copied and emulated by so many others across the nation that right now, every year over two hundred and fifty million pounds of produce are salvaged and delivered to the poor in this country that wasn't being done when we started! 'Little' contributions have changed the way we do emergency feeding in this country, and that is no small thing.

You could also say that there are two other kinds of people in this world. There are those who find a reason to care for others, and those who find a reason not to. I hope that Society of St. Andrew is a serious pain in the neck to the latter type. You've all heard the reasons not to care. Most of them are a variation on this:

"There's no need for anyone to be hungry, there are plenty of jobs around." Yes, there are. But what good do these jobs do you if you're too young or too old to work? What good do they do you if you are uneducated and unqualified for them? Can an available job cure mental illness? Or physical disability? Or any of the hundred other handicaps that keep people from self-sufficiency? The main reason some of us have plenty is so we can care for those who don't. Everyone with a functional soul can see that. There are some who can see it, but won't. They are like rocks, we are like the stream. We'll just keep flowing around them and eventually they'll wear down.

In the final analysis, you can't talk anyone into caring, or believing. But you can show them how. That's what we're about here at Society of St. Andrew. The work we do together, whether we're staff, donor, farmer, or partner agency, says we care and we can change things. More and more of the folks around are waking up to the possibility of a world without hunger. Thanks for being one of them. \Diamond

GLEANING AMERICA'S FIELDS ~ FEEDING AMERICA'S HUNGRY



Drought & heat didn't slow down these hunger fighters

Rain in the Southeast was in short supply this summer but volunteers to feed our brothers and sisters were not. North Carolina alone has saved over 3.6 million pounds of 62 different types of produce so far this year! That equates to 16 million servings, which means SoSA has made a major impact in alleviating hunger in North Carolina. • Burnt Store Presbyterian Church in Punta Gorda, Florida battled the August heat and humidity and picked 9,000 pounds of mangos. The 100 mango trees were donated by Gilling's Organic Mangos. This is the first time we have gleaned in Punta Gorda, so a huge 'thank you' goes out to the grower and the gleaners. • The Virginia Gleaning Network recently received a van to help with their gleaning efforts. The van was donated by members of

New Beginnings Community Church in the Winchester district to Betty Heishman, a gleaning coordinator for the Virginia Gleaning Network. Also in Virginia, the Apple Pickin' Jamboree was recently held. Only three orchards were gleaned this year, but almost 150 volunteers picked up over 17,000 pounds of fresh, beautiful apples. • In Mississippi, 648 volunteers picked blueberries, sweet corn, squash, okra, tomatoes, watermelon, potatoes and peas in one month, saving over 519,000 pounds. • 27,800 pounds of watermelon were saved in September through the efforts of SoSA OK Hunger Relief Advocate George Cockrum. • Joe Bartelsmeyer, Hunger Relief Advocate in Missouri, recently received 75 crates of sweet corn.

Collaborative efforts benefit everyone

In Florida, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans received national recognition for their partnership with SoSA. They conducted their first ever Potato Drop at Christ Lutheran in Fort Myers for their National Join Hands for Mission Day. Kathleen Bott, Community Services Specialist, said, "This was such a unique event none of us had ever done - to think that those potatoes are going onto someone's table instead of into a landfill is amazing and heartwarming. Society of St. Andrew is getting a lot of recognition from this because none of us knew about them before the drop and now everyone is asking how to get involved!" • Despite the challenges of a record breaking hot, dry summer, the Alabama Gleaning Network is continuing to put food on the tables of the hungry. First United Methodist Church and Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Cullman are working together on a new salvage program at the Cullman Farmer's Market. This joint effort is providing produce on a regular basis to three local agencies in Cullman. • A tractor-trailer load of cantaloupes secured by the North Carolina office was provided to SoSA's South Georgia Gleaning Network. The cantaloupes were donated to the Second Harvest Food Bank of Coastal Georgia in Savannah, providing more than 47,000 pounds of fresh fruit to people throughout Southeast Georgia. • 21 churches in North and South Carolina used our Vacation Bible School material, "Truckin' to End Hunger." The efforts of every one of the children involved provided money for 218,000 servings of nutritious produce! Nationwide, 182 churches from 27 states raised enough money to provide 1,968,561 servings through the VBS program! • Bill

Walker, SoSA's Asheville, North Carolina

Area Gleaning Coordinator, has recruited Congregation Beth Ha Tephila synagogue to pick up vegetables from the West Asheville Tailgate Market. They also recently conducted a service dedicated to the "mitzvah" of gleaning. • The Alabama Farmers' Federation continues their support of the Alabama Gleaning Network. In August, the Annual Commodities Conference of Alfa and the Alabama Farmers' Federation included a tour of SoSA board member Alan Eubank's Lucedale, MS

Gleaners still needed!

As the heat is subsiding, there will be many opportunities for gleaning events. The Mississippi office is looking forward to gleaning sweet potatoes, squash, and cucumbers. Please contact them at 662-263-8648 for many opportunities to go gleaning. • Volunteers are needed for the Pumpkin Pickin' in Alabama, which will take place the week after Halloween. Pumpkins will be picked from fields and salvaged from pumpkin sales in several locations throughout the state. Please call the Alabama office at 205-838-1927 for more information. ◆ Looking toward the fall harvest, the Georgia Gleaning Network anticipates more green beans, cucumbers, zucchini, yellow squash, and cabbage to be available. With more than 2,000 acres of green beans being harvested by just one grower, hundreds of volunteers will be needed to make certain that nothing goes to waste! Call 229-386-5800 to volunteer in Georgia. ◊



Bottom I. to r.: Volunteers still smiling after picking 9,000 lbs. of mangos. Picking citrus in FL. VA Gleaning Network receives van for gleaning. Man with armfull of corn in AL. **Top I. to r.:** Volunteers not letting a whole field of tomatoes go to waste. Cullman Farmers Market (AL) donates food. Volunteers load a trailer full of watermelons in MS. Bob Fritchey in MS holding part of the bounty of melons. Volunteers glean cabbage in NC.

Still going and growing ...

By Lauren Holcomb, Harvest of Hope Director

Harvest of Hope is going strong with 12 years under its belt and more than 10,000 outstanding participants!

We are excited to share with you that in early 2008, we plan to start a new weekend event in Florida! We also hope to continue 2007's new weeklong event, which took place in Mathiston, Mississippi. Details about these and all other 2008 Harvest of Hope events will be mailed this November to everyone on the HOH mailing list as well as published on

Adding new HOH events in different locations helps spread the Society of St. Andrew's mission around the U.S. At every new Harvest of Hope event, SoSA makes connections with new farmers, reaches different churches through participating groups, and ministers to a variety of agencies in whatever nooks and crannies we find to host the camps.

Please continue praying for Harvest of Hope's ministry and supporting us by volunteering on staff at an event, donating financially, or attending

the events.



Registration / event update

The last two fall Harvest of Hope intergenerational weekend events still have space! Call or email today if you plan to attend: October 26-28 in Georgia; November 2-4 in South Carolina. Call 800-333-4597 or email sosahoh@endhunger.org. ◊

Register your Food Lion MVP Card for donations to SoSA

- Go to www.foodlion.com/IntheCommunity/ShopandShare/ secure/RegisterMVPCards.asp
- Click "YES" to display nonsecure items (do this each time this box pops up during the registration process).
- Click on "Select Organization".
- "Select State" drop-down menu enter VA.
- *Select City" drop-down menu select **Big Island**.
- *Select Organization" drop-down menu select Society of St. Andrew and click OK.
- Click "Add MVP Cards", enter your MVP Card # (all 12 digits below the bar code on the back of your card).
- ▶ Enter your name and phone number without dashes or spaces.
- In the "Organization Box" if **Society of St. Andrew** is not already displayed then please type it in exactly as shown here. Click "Next".
- Review your information; click "Edit" to make any corrections.
- If you have the card information for others, click "Add Another", otherwise click "Finish".
- Feel really good and proud about doing something to help feed the hungry! Ask your family and friends to also register their MVP Cards to support the hunger-relief work of the Society of St. Andrew. ◊

SoSA engages national advisory board

Key political and business leaders across nation provide strategic advice to help continue SoSA expansion.

Fourteen business, political and philanthropic leaders have been named to the Society of St. Andrew's newly formed National Advisory Board. Senator Elizabeth Dole (NC), a longtime supporter of the Society of St. Andrew, is serving as honorary chair. The board will function as a forum to provide advice and direction as the Society of St. Andrew structures the strategic expansion of its hunger-relief programs.

Members of the new board are: Tamera Brooks, founder and president of Stray Dog Film Company, Nashville, TN; Wallace Bruce, Memphis, TN businessman and entrepreneur; Edward Cooney, Executive Director, Congressional Hunger Center, Washington, DC; Elizabeth Dole, Senator (NC), former Secretary of Transportation in the Reagan administration, Secretary of Labor in the George H. W. Bush administration, and former President of the American Red Cross; Tony P. Hall, former U.S. Ambassador to Rome and member of U.S. House of Representatives (OH), three time Nobel Peace Prize nominee, and founder of the Congressional Hunger Center; Dean Kleckner, past president (14 years) of the American Farm Bureau Federation, Iowa farmer; Constance Lane, a philanthropist from Rapid City, SD; Michael T. Lapsys, national and international businessman, entrepreneur and president of Crimson Cardinal, Inc. management consulting

firm (Austin, TX); Dennis Moore, five-term KS congressman; Jerry Moran, six-term KS congressman; Pat Roberts, second-term KS senator; Jim Slattery, 1994 candidate for Kansas governor, a U.S. Congressman (KS) 1983 to 1995, currently resides in McLean, VA and is a partner in a Washington, DC law firm; Fred Stanback, Jr., a retired business man and philanthropist from Salisbury, NC; Mary Kay Thatcher, a native of Iowa, Director of Public Policy for the American Farm Bureau in Washington, DC.

Having concentrated the majority of our field gleaning activities in the southeastern states, we recognize that there are a number of agriculturally rich regions in the country that could be providing excess food to the hungry. The National Advisory Board convened its first meeting to explore ways SoSA can be even more effective in its hunger-relief work. The meeting, held September 18th in the nation's capitol, was hosted by Washington Post chairman Don Graham in the Board Room at the Washington Post building.

Transportation being the key and most costly component in getting food

from where it's grown to where it's needed, the group looked at ways to maximize existing trucking and rail systems throughout the nation. Discussions also focused on establishing connections and partnerships with national corporations vested in the agriculture industry and making strategic contacts with state and federal legislators to ensure that hunger-issue legislation is effectively addressed.

SoSA has long felt that Kansas City would be the logical place to establish a hub for the expansion of our hands-on and large-volume hunger relief work west of the Mississippi River. The National Advisory Board will provide the necessary guidance and contacts to make that happen.

In coming months, SoSA will further explore with National Advisory Board members the implementation of ideas brought to the table during their first meeting. ◊





Willie Green, SoSA in North Carolina's oldest volunteer, died in September at the age of 90. Over the years Mr. Green distributed over 72,000 lbs. of fresh food to his neighbors in Charlotte's Druid Hills Community. He always answered our calls saying, "I was hoping it would be you!" It's not surprising

that Mr. Green was so consistently supportive – he worked for 33 years without missing one day of work! SoSA will continue to distribute food in his Druid Hills. Several of his neighbors have already volunteered to carry on the work he started James Moore, who at one time owned the 465-acre Moormont Orchards, one of the favorite gleaning sites for Central Virginia, died September 16. Gleaners still talk about how special his orchard wasSoSA in Florida mourns the passing of Frank Hubbard, who every year donated his large citrus grove to SoSA for gleaning. He was also a generous supporter of SoSA as well as many other FL charities. We remember Mr. Hubbard with gratitude for his generosity and compassion for the needy.

In Honor of ... Donations to SoSA have been made in recent months to honor:

Susan Allen ... Robert Anding ... Rev. Denise & David Bates ... James Blagg ... Janell Bobbitt ... Mary Margaret Brown ... Manilla Canaday ... Elisabeth Clarke ... Nancy Clem ... Carol Croft ... Barbara & Charlie Dalton ... Deb Adams & Dan Donica ... Gail Dunn ... Michael & Barbara Feichtinger ... Rev. Dr. Carroll Freeman ... Harold & Jackie Fuss ... Trinity Goad ... Mrs. Barbara Gray ... Rick Harrell ... Janet Hawkins ... Pat Inge ... Cassidy Kiger ... Nancy & Fred Kireta ... Rev. Forest (Jack) Lamneck ... Rev. Jim McGinnis ... Matthew Miller ... John & Jean Nunn ... Rev. Amy Pannell ... Janice A. Paris ... Nelle Pinchak ... Sherri Greg Plowman & Family ... Anne Putnam ... Mrs. Carole Reynolds ... Rev. William Ritter ... Allen Roberts ... Rev. & Mrs. Dennett Slemp ... Strawberry Plains UMC ... Billy Tew ... Nancy Tew ... Jim & Judy Tongue ... Mrs. Faye Nell Willingham.

In Memory of ... Donations to SoSA have been made in recent months in memory of: Bernard Lawrence Bettis, Sr. ... Malcolm Deacon ... Sally Edmiston ... Patsy Ford's Mother ... Joe Grey ... Verla Howard ... Joe Irby ... Robert Nase Johnson ... Leon Kimpland ... Virginia Kinzley ... Helen Leitah ... Emma Lynch ... Woodrow Martin ... Dorothy McKernan ... Kenneth Paul Melson ... Jenny Murphy ... Ervin Richards ... Dorothy Schminkey ... Veredella Short ... Jane Switzer ... Florence Webb.

Make an "Honor" or "Memory" donation to feed the hungry ... Just place your order and we'll do the rest. Your honoree or family of the departed will receive SoSA's exclusively designed 4"x5½" card announcing your meaningful gift to feed the hungry in their name. Minimum donation for each card is \$10, which will provide more than 600 servings of fresh food. Just call 800-333-4597; email brenda@endhunger. org or go to our online form at www.endhunger.org/memorials.htm. For your convenience, you can use your VISA, MasterCard or American Express credit card via our secure server. It is the perfect way to remember a person's birthday, anniversary, holiday, graduation, or other special occasion. ◊



"In deed and in truth" is not just a motto for SoSA

By Ken Bradford, Development Director

It's said the wealthy industrialist, Henry Ford, was once asked to donate money to help build a new medical facility. Ford pledged to donate \$5,000. The next day the newspaper headline read, "Henry Ford contributes \$50,000 to the local hospital." Understandably, Ford was a bit irate so he phoned the hospital fundraiser to complain that he had been misunderstood. The fundraiser said they would ask the paper to print a retraction the following day that would read, "Henry Ford reduces his donation by \$45,000." Realizing the poor publicity that would result, the industrialist agreed to the \$50,000 contribution. However, he insisted that in return for the donation a biblical inscription be carved above the hospital entrance: "I came among you and you took me in."

There are no words carved over the entrance to the Society of St. Andrew's building in Big Island, VA, but if there were it would be this biblical inscription: "In deed and in truth." That's because everything we do and every gift we receive is used to glorify God by feeding the hungry in His name. You can rest assured that SoSA will never engage in any practice designed to "take a person in." We have way too much respect for our donors to ever do that. At the same time, as the hotdog commercial used to say, "we answer to a higher authority." That's why we hold ourselves to the highest possible standards of honesty and integrity in all our dealings. Our commitment to quality performance and to achieving the highest standards in the non-profit world is reflected in our recent 4-star rating by Charity Navigator and an excellent evaluation by Giving.org.

One hallmark of our honesty is that SoSA never shies away from the fact that we rely on our volunteers and financial contributors to our ministry to provide the resources we need to accomplish the good work God has called us to do. We consider ourselves to be blessed incredibly by the generosity of our thousands of supporters and volunteers who enable us to glean America's fields and feed America's hungry. In fact, we see in our ministry the proof of what J. Hudson Taylor once said: "When God's work is done in God's way for God's glory, it will never lack God's supply."

As we approach the end of 2007 we hope our supporters will consider sending a generous year-end contribution. Your donation at this time of year is especially important because all across the U.S. food banks are facing major shortages. A volunteer at the Manchester, NH, food bank recently noted, "There's a lot less on the shelves, the shelves are really empty." The Food Bank for New York City reports, "Our shelves are bare." As the nation's largest non-profit provider of fresh produce to food banks, many of them have come to rely on SoSA as their primary source of fresh produce. We are perfectly positioned to replenish those empty shelves.

It's hard to believe millions of Americans are food bank clients. And it's hard to believe people in America have to choose between food and other necessities. But the tragedy of hunger in our land of abundance is very real. The good news is that it doesn't have to be that way. And thanks to the generosity of our supporters, together we are doing something about it. \diamond

Count your blessings with SoSA's Advent devotions quide

"God's Abundant Blessings" will guide you through Advent with daily scriptures, reflections, and prayers while offering an



opportunity to work of feeding the hungry. As we prepare for the Christ child you will be given a challenge each day to help you

deepen your walk with God. This year's devotions are a collection of personal stories by clergy and laity. We know you will be inspired by these experiences of how God has blessed each of our authors.

The weekday devotions encourage you to share in Jesus' call to care for the poor and hungry with donations to SoSA's hunger ministry. All materials are FREE. Use the back page order coupon to get your Advent Devotions packet or church starter kit and share Christmas with the hungry! This Christmas, may you find delight in finding God's blessings everywhere! ◊



Each \$12 Gift Card in honor of someone special feeds 800 people!

We will send your honorees or Christmas Gift Donation Card - thirteenth

in a series - designed exlusively for and donated to SoSA. The full-color, 5"x7" card features original art depicting God's "Light" come to Bethlehem in the form of the Infant Jesus. This one-ofa-kind card announces your generous gift to feed the hungry in the name of your honorees. You'll also receive the card with our thanks and confirmation of your order. It's the perfect gift for the person who has everything and a super stocking stuffer. No other gift can do so much for so many with so little! So finish your shopping today by mail, phone, fax or on line!

800-333-4597 ♦

Fax 434-299-5949

Honor family & friends. Feed the hungry.

Finish your gift shopping in the next 10 minutes with Society of St. Andrew **Gift Donation Cards!**

	ARISE I SHINE I For the Light has come in a manger in Bethlehem. Amidst the world's laughter and tears The Christmas Star shines bright each gear. Though some have little and some have much. We're all family through the Christmas touch. Because you are special and loved a gift in your honor has been made to share God's love to others by providing food to the hungy through the Society of St. Andrew. This gift, made by will help feed the hungry by providing at least 800 servings of nutritious food to those in need.
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Christmas	Gift Donation Card					
Minimum donation gift for each card is \$12						
Do not send cash through mail. Donations tax deductible as allowed by law. Make check payable to "Society of St. Andrew" or						
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Charge my: USA	☐ MasterCard ☐ AmEx					
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Signature						
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Your Name						
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Email						
☐ Send cards to me for personalizing and mailing.						
☐ SoSA sign and mail the following cards:						
In honor of						
A -1 -1						
Address						

We will make every attempt to expedite late orders. Mail to: Society of St. Andrew, 3383 Sweet Hollow Rd., Big Island, VA 24526

(Use separate sheet for additional names and addresses)

Orders must be received by Nov. 30 to ensure delivery before Christmas.

Sign this card:

Society of St. Andrew

Telephone: 1-800-333-4597 3383 Sweet Hollow Road Big Island, Virginia 24526 www.endhunger.org





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God's Abundant

SoSA's popular Advent Devotions program now available

This Christmas prepare for the coming of the Christ Child with SoSA's Advent Devotions guide using daily scriptures, reflections, and prayers. You'll be challenged each day to deepen your walk with God and given the opportunity to help feed the hungry, as He commanded, with donations to SoSA's hunger-relief ministry.

To order your personal packet or a church starter kit mail this coupon or call 800-333-4597, email sosachurch@endhunger.org, or go online to www.endhunger.org/advent.htm. **All materials are FREE.**

Please send me a FREE God's Abundant	Blessings	starter	kit today!
Contact Name			
Address			
City	State	Zip_	
Daytime Phone ()			
Email			
Church Name			
Mail to: Society of St. An 3383 Sweet Hollow Rd, Big Is		24526	(NL 10/07)

Great things CAN be done!
EVERY contribution accomplishes
something important and lasting!
There's no reason why anyone
should ever be HUNGRY!
CARING PEOPLE make the DIFFERENCE!

If you doubt it, re-read Ken Horne's "From the Sheep Shed" article on the front page of this newsletter and make a generous donation today to feed the hungry.

I do care! Here's my donation to feed the hungry.				
□ \$500 □ \$365 □ \$250 □ \$100 □ Other \$ (Make check payable to Society of St. Andrew)				
Name				
Address				
CityStateZip				
Daytime Phone ()				
Email				
Charge my: ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐				
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