



Year-to-Date Statistics Fresh food saved and donated to feed the hungry:

Total Pounds Total Servings	18,660,026 56 Million
Volunteers	<u> </u>
Events	
Potato & Produce Project	8,127,679 lbs
Gleaned Produce	10,532,347 lbs

THANK YOU

to the following **FOUNDATIONS & CORPORATIONS** that donated \$1,000+ in the third quarter:

Altria Companies Employee Community Fund Richmond, VA
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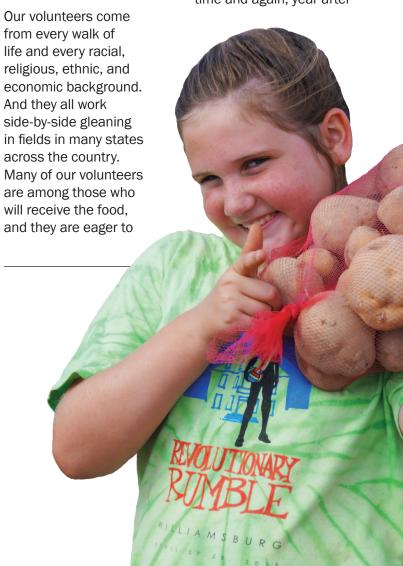
Executive Director's Report

Volunteers Help Make it Happen

olunteers are important to many programs, and they are especially important to SoSA. How many ministries, besides SoSA, do you know that have 30,000 to 40,000 volunteers each year? You might be hard-pressed to name any at all, yet that is the number of people who give up their time to participate in this remarkable ministry.

do what they can to help feed themselves and their neighbors. If you've gleaned with SoSA, chances are you worked with some of our food recipients and didn't even know it. That is the nature of gleaning and this ministry.

Seldom do our volunteers participate only once. Gleaning can certainly be work, but it is also fun, and the vast majority of our volunteers come back time and again, year after



year, to join in. Often, entire families participate, and there aren't many programs where that is possible. An old friend of mine, Sam Hodges, once said, "Gleaning is like crack-cocaine—it's addictive!" Now I happen to know that Sam didn't know what cocaine was like, but you get his point. Sam also

Network 28 years ago. I've seen it impact the lives of so many volunteers over the years, not to mention the lives of those who benefit from all the healthy food our volunteers save and distribute. Gleaning is so much more than simply picking up good food left behind after harvest.

"Seldom do our volunteers participate only once."

demonstrated that gleaning is something that our seniors can do as well. He was a great example for others. My own personal experience with SoSA came from volunteering in the Harvest of Hope and Gleaning

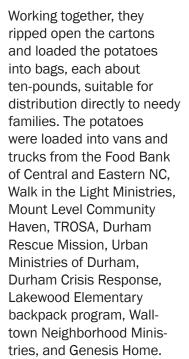
You'll learn about some of our volunteers elsewhere in this newsletter. There are thousands of wonderful stories we could relate. Visit our website and get in touch with one of our offices to volunteer yourself. We make it easy for you; all you have to do is show up. Come on out. We'll glean side-by-side in the fields and orchards somewhere! •

The Fastest Potato Baggers, Ever - continued from page 1

That proved true. The timing was good, and more than 300 volunteers gathered in the parking lot to donate their time and energy. The group included freshmen, upperclassmen, faculty, and staff. They unloaded 42,000 pounds of Maine white potatoes from the truck, and stacked the cartons in the parking lot.

hours for unloading the truck go, loaded up, and on their way to feed thousands of hungry families. •

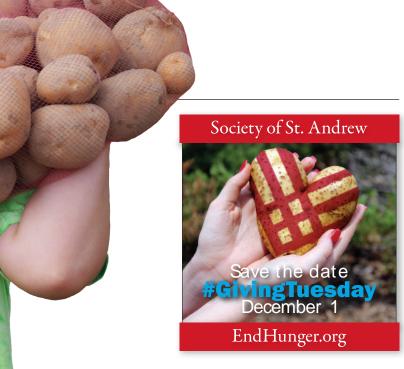
These were beautiful and nutritious potatoes, unsellable at the time because they were surplus, or odd-sized, or because of cosmetic reasons. The farmer had donated them because they were grown to be food, and food they would be. If not donated, this valuable food would have to be thrown away. rhood Partnership, and Duke Student Involvement.



Meg, our Program Coordinator, had scheduled about 5



From left, brothers Gio, 8, and Marco Gullotto, 7, drop bagged



FOR ANNIE, FEEDING SENIORS IS THE BEST

t's a sunny morning in a corn field outside Charlotte, North Carolina. It's the first part of the morning, and the day hasn't yet heated up. And that's the way Annie Bates likes it. A clear day that's not too hot is just perfect for Annie, and for all the gleaners who arrived to spend a couple of hours gleaning corn before the field is considered done for the year and the farmer cuts it all down.

for potato bagging in the pouring rain, pulled corn in the 90-degree July heat, and tugged turnips from



she and the other gleaners pick the remaining good ears of corn off the stalks and load them into cartons, the gleaners pack the cartons into vans and pickup trucks for delivery.

air feels good to her. After

Annie joins in here, too. She loads her little SUV so the boxes of vegetables are wall-to-wall and up to her windows. She delivers the food to food banks, a women's shelter, the Salvation Army, and to the food pantry at her own church: Trinity Presbyterian, in Salisbury, North Carolina. Because she also delivers the food, Annie gets to watch as some of the corn, potatoes, cabbage, squash, turnips, or watermelons she helped gather in the field that day actually arrives in the hands of people who so greatly need it. Annie loves to volunteer with SoSA. She enjoys the work and she has a good

Continued — see For Annie, Feeding Seniors is the Best on page 5

Over the years, she's arrived for potato bagging in the pouring rain, pulled corn in the 90-degree July heat, and tugged turnips from the almost-frozen ground.

Annie is 77-years-old. She's been gleaning for nine or ten years now. In retirement, she gleans with SoSA twice a week throughout the summer and into the fall. Over the years, she's arrived

the almost-frozen ground. Sometimes she brings help with her—one of her children, or grandchildren, or even great-grandchildren. She likes to pass along the practice of using her own time and talents to help others who are in need.

After a full career as a bookkeeper at Wachovia Bank and at Catawba College, picking crops in the sunshine and fresh





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In Memory Of

Bud Curtis Carl Douglass William Benjamin Emerson Arlene Garrett Clarence & Elizabeth Griffin Evine King Michael Ramey Elisa Young

For Annie, Feeding Seniors is the Best continued from page 4

time with the other gleaners. ... everything about gleaning But it's the last part of the process that makes her come back time and time again. For Annie, the most gratifying part of volunteer-

is good, but when she gets to personally deliver food to seniors in need, that's the best of all. And that's why, even if it rains, or it's

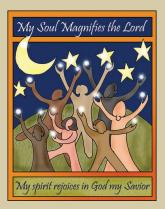
For Annie, the most gratifying part of volunteering with SoSA is when she delivers the food directly to seniors and to homes for senior-citizens.

ing with SoSA is when she delivers the food directly to seniors and to homes for senior-citizens. Sometimes. she even shucks the corn herself so it will be ready for the seniors to cook. And that's the best, says Annie

hot, or it's cold, you can be sure Annie will be back out field again next week. -

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SHARING GOD'S LOVE AT CHRISTMAS



Card painted by artist Jerry Malzahn is full color. Folded card is 5"x7"

Between Raton New Mexico and Trinidad, Colorado, this chapel was built in the late 1800's and still stands strong, including the cross. It stands at an elevation of 9,000 feet. It's timeless existence is a reminder of the hard work Christians have endeavored through the centuries to spread the word and works of Jesus. We hope that you will share this beautiful card with your loved ones this Christmas season.

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Orders must be received by Dec. 5 to ensure delivery before Christmas. We will make every attempt to expedite late orders. Mail to:

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Alternative Christmas Card

Quarter

Endhunger.org

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