



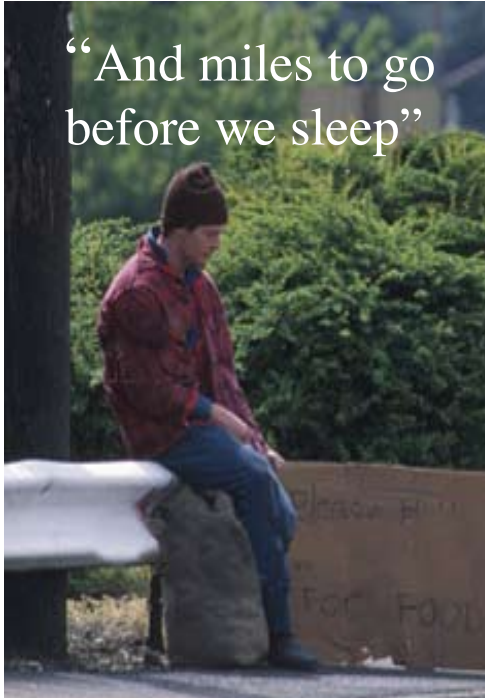
The Alliance of
THE OPEN DOOR AND THE UPPER ROOM

919 Pandora Ave, Victoria, BC V8V 3P4

VOLUNTEER'S NEWSLETTER

www.ourplacesociety.com Number 23 - January 15, 2008 Bruce More - Editor

"Our Place Society works in compassionate Christian love with those who are homeless and others in need to enrich and improve the lives of all."



"And miles to go before we sleep"

With the opening of the new building, we need volunteers More than Ever!

Who can YOU ask?

1. Drivers willing to **pick up bread** from local stores and deliver it to the drop-in centre both on weekends and weekdays. Back-up driver volunteers are also needed.
2. Workers are needed **every day:**
7am until 3 pm.

Contact: Antoinette as above

Volunteer Coordinator - Update

Well, here I am: entering my second month in my new role. How time flies when one is having fun. And I am indeed having fun. I have enjoyed getting to know many of you over the past month or so, and I am also working hard to learn more about the programs and services offered to our family members.

The learning curve is proving to be a steep one, so I would like to ask all volunteers to be patient with me as I, day by day, meet each of you and take the opportunity to hear your experiences, thoughts, ideas and suggestions. I believe that there is much that we can be doing to build on our current volunteer practices, and I consider your input to be critical to creating a richly rewarding and enjoyable volunteer experience for all.

You can reach me by phone at 388-7112, extension 243, or by e-mail at volunteer@ourplac.esociety.com. I look forward to hearing from you.

Antoinette Warren

A Huge Thank-You!

I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank-you to everyone who gave so generously of their time during the month of December. In addition to those of you who volunteer for our various programs and services on a regular basis, I was pleased to welcome a number of new volunteers for our December programs and events -- the Nativity Scene at Centennial Square, the Dickens Reading and the End of Year Feast. Each of these events enjoyed tremendous success, success which each of you played a key role in.

Happy January Birthdays!

Jeff L.; Ronnie B.; Peter R.; Dieter S.;
Ruthe T.; Selma S.; Fiona B.; Kenny K.

Ask Vickie



What can I expect from the new Volunteer Coordinator?

Dear Gentle Reader,

Antoinette, the new Volunteer Coordinator, is available to meet with you to hear your experiences, concerns, ideas -- anything that you wish to share with her. She has been spending time in each of the program areas (the soup kitchen and the drop-in centre, in particular) in an effort to get to know each of you and the valuable work you perform for Our Place Society. She is committed to ensuring that your volunteer experience is a positive and rewarding one and expects that you will hold her to that commitment.

Next month's question:

When & how will the drop-in centre be moving into the new building at 919 Pandora Avenue?

January Events:

A symposium entitled "Epiphany Explorations 2008." will be held from January 17 - 21 at First Metropolitan United Church. Program information can be found at www.firstmetvictoria.com.

We are looking for experienced volunteers to staff a display that Our Place will be hosting at the conference. Please contact Antoinette as above if you are interested in providing assistance.

DONATIONS:

WE NEED:

yarn; towels; bedding; blankets; sleeping bags; ground mats; toiletries (toothbrushes, feminine hygiene products, razors, deodorant, brushes and combs); knapsacks; backpacks; small tents.

Non-perishable foods: Canned or other dry packaged foods, coffee, peanut butter & pasta.



Happy times at the Dickens reading on December 20

"Unconditional love given in a non-judgemental way."