

Dear Friends of Life:

I am writing my first letter as your new President. I have been President of Dubuque County Right to Life, Inc. before, and I accepted the calling again because I believe in the Right to Life movement and in you, our membership.

January 22, 2003 marks the 30th anniversary of Roe vs. Wade. What were you doing 30 years ago? Did you ever envision that the national battle for life which began in earnest after the Supreme Court's Decision would still be raging 30 years later? Could we ever have contemplated that the battle would include partial birth abortion, embryonic stem cell research and cloning?

Thirty years ago I was a sophomore in college. I can remember reading Roe vs. Wade, and wondering why the media kept telling the American public that the decision only legalized abortion during the first three months of pregnancy. My, how long did it take before our educational efforts made people realize that Roe vs. Wade meant abortion on demand throughout all nine months of pregnancy! Should it really have taken the horror of partial birth abortion for people to understand that the legal killing extends even outside the womb?

I recall what some national pro-life leaders said on January 22, 1973. Many were saying, "We will not rest until this decision is overturned!" Others said, "We will do everything in our power" to protect the Unborn! Many of us need to ask whether, in the last 30 years, we have rested a bit too much and not done everything in our power in the fight for life. Don't get me wrong. Even after 30 years of legalized killing, I remain optimistic. Even after 30 years of seeing child abuse increase, domestic abuse increase, and the general lowering of community standards in almost every phase of life, I remain optimistic. Why? Because our job is not to decide when the tide will turn, our job is only to try to turn the tide. To turn the tide in favor of respect for the Unborn, true respect for women, and true respect for life at every stage from conception to natural death. Our mission is an educational one where a person's talents might be different from their neighbor's. Some will be public speakers, others will write letters, others will organize, most will pray, some will witness at abortion clinics, some will help at crisis pregnancy centers, and many more will support the Life movement in other countless ways with their time and talent.

As we look toward the year 2003, it is time for us to renew our drive, our hopes, and our efforts. We are just tools in the civil rights movement on behalf of the Unborn. We will not decide the day nor the hour that the tide turns, we will only decide whether the wave keeps moving toward the beach and how high it is. The speed, the height, and the power of the tide will hopefully be the result of our collective pro-life efforts. When it hits the beach in the hands of the Almighty.

*Arthur F. Gilloon, President
Dubuque County Right To Life, Inc.*

DUBUQUE COUNTY RIGHT TO LIFE, INC. 18th ANNUAL WALK FOR LIFE:

Help us speak for the voiceless, innocent babies. Join us at Washington Park on Saturday January 18th, 2003 at 10:30 AM. The event will include a short program featuring speakers, music and prayer followed by a silent procession to the Dubuque County Courthouse. The Loras College Respect Life Group will host its annual chili luncheon following the walk. This is held at the Knights of Columbus Hall. We encourage you to participate in our peaceful protest of the slaughter of over 40 million innocent preborn babies who have died as a result of this decision.

NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 2003. PLEASE JOIN OUR ANNUAL WALK FOR LIFE INSTEAD!

ATTENTION!

OUR NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING will be on THURSDAY, February 6- 7:00 P.M. in the Cathedral Center behind the church @ 231 Bluff Street. More information will follow in our next newsletter.

Join us for **PRAYER AT THE ABORTION MILLS:** We are going to Madison on Tuesday, January 21st. The group will leave from Resurrection parking lot after the 7:00 A.M. Mass. Please call Bill McDonough (563-582-4436) or our office (563-556-5960) if you plan to go. There will also be a group praying at an abortion mill in Washington, D.C. during our trip out there. [**The bus is nearly full**, but as of this printing, there are a few seats available. Call if you're interested in joining us. [see below]

MARCH FOR LIFE 2003

It's time to make plans to join us for the Iowans for LIFE (IFL) bus trip to Washington, D.C. in January. The buses will leave on Monday January 20 and return on the Friday the 24th. The fee is \$250, payable to IFL. This fee includes transportation to and from D.C. and a hotel room, based on 4 person occupancy, for 2 nights. Meals and incidentals are your own expense. Buses will leave from Des Moines (with a pick up in Iowa City) and from Dyersville (with a pick up in Dubuque). Call now to reserve your seat or if you need more information (5556-5960). [there is a free day for seeing the

DOUG SCOTT, President of Life Decisions International, will be speaking at Coe College in Cedar Rapids on Monday, January 27, 2003. Final arrangements are not complete but it is possible that he will be debating someone from Planned Parenthood. If you want to attend, **call (563-556-5960)!**

MEMBERSHIP FORM: Please mail to DCRTL, 1205 Cleveland Avenue, Dubuque, Iowa 52003

_____ \$300 Lifesaver _____ \$50 Supporter _____ Other
_____ \$250 Defender _____ \$25 Family
_____ \$100 Patron _____ \$15 Individual _____ \$5 Student

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____ PHONE: _____

Dubuque County Right To Life
1205 Cleveland
Dubuque, Iowa 52003

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
Dubuque, Iowa
Permit No. 266

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED