

January 2006

Volume 9 Issue 1

Dear Friends of Life:

I am going to give a building update in this letter, but I want to tell you first about the "usual" educational activities that are continuing on a daily basis. Ellen Markham visited Nativity Middle School with Marian Bourek to explain the upcoming March for Life and encourage people to go. Nine buses are going to Washington, D.C. for the March for Life on January 23 (seven are from Dubuque County!). Don't forget, we will have our own Dubuque County "Walk for Life" on Saturday, January 21, in Washington Park across from the Post Office. Watch for announcements regarding the time (approximately 10:30 A.M.).

Ellen Markham and Connie Hardie (a nurse and our speaker training coordinator) debated Karen Kubby at NICC in downtown Dubuque on December 1st. Karen Kubby is the Director of the Emma Goldman Abortion (killing) Clinic. About 75 people were there, and Ellen and Connie did a great job presenting the pro-life view. Another debate with Planned Parenthood representatives is scheduled tentatively for February 28 at the University of Northern Iowa. This invitation resulted from our office preparing a packet of information for the Student Right to Life group at UNI. At least four UNI students are going to the March for Life in Washington, D.C.

Colleen Pasnik, our Executive Assistant, and Ellen Markham traveled to Elma, Iowa (about 3-1/2 hours away) to network with their pro-life group - Tri-County Citizens for Life. They exchanged information and had a good discussion with the pro-life folks in Howard County. It is nice to know that there are good pro-life people all over Iowa who need our help.

We updated our web site so please look at dcrtl.org on the Internet. We also previewed three Life Dynamics DVD's which will now go to Mediacom for our cable program.

All of the above educational efforts have been proceeding while the office also handles hundreds of information requests each month for informational materials on things like the Planned Parenthood boycott list, the March for Life, specific facts on abortion laws, and the MIME for Life.

Meanwhile, we have been doing all of the other things you expect: helping with organizing the buses to Washington, D.C. from DCRTL, sending out membership information and letters, meeting as a Board to direct the overall actions of DCRTL, and last but not least, building our new office and educational center.

So, here is the building report. We hope to have the building completed by January 31, although the move-in date and dedication ceremony have not been scheduled. Approximately \$30,000.00 in outstanding pledges remain. Those are all scheduled to be paid in 2006. If you have made a pledge and would consider paying off your balance immediately (most pledges were due by the end of 2005 anyway), we would appreciate it. Because pledges have been made over time, and the pledge calendar did not coincide exactly with the building calendar, we have had to borrow some funds to pay for the project as it proceeds. If you drive by the new office location at the corner of Asbury and Carter Roads, you will see that we are constructing something the pro-life movement can be proud of. It may be made of wood, bricks and mortar, but it is really "built" on the following: faith, perseverance, loyalty, love of life, courage, hope and last but not least, truth. The new office and educational center will show the tri-state area and the entire country that Dubuque County Right to Life, Inc. is a vibrant pro-life force that is here to stay as long as it takes to restore legal personhood to the Unborn and all who suffer because of the lack of respect for life.

A final note. Most of you receiving this newsletter probably did not pay for it. That's pretty amazing, isn't it? However, our records show that we send out over 3,000 of these letters but have only 810 fully paid members of Dubuque County Right to Life. If you are reading this, you should be a paid member! Please join up now by calling the office at 556-5960 or sending your check for a membership today. We need your prayers, your service, and yes, your financial support to keep Dubuque County Right to Life, Inc. the leading pro-life educational organization in the Tri-State area.

Thank you for reading this newsletter and let's make 2006 the best pro-life year ever!

Sincerely,

Arthur F. Gilloon, President

As usual, instead of our January **MONTHLY MEETING** we will be holding our annual **WALK FOR LIFE** in Washington Park @ the Gazebo. There will be a short program beginning at 10:30 on January 21st followed by a walk past the court house and on to the K.C. hall for a chili luncheon. Many thanks to Steve Fuerst for chairing this event and to Mike Meyer & Ron Herrig for arranging and preparing for the chili luncheon. Thanks also to the Loras Duhawks for Life who will also be helping us out.

BOYCOTT UPDATE: The latest list should arrive in our office before you receive this newsletter! Corporations slated to appear for the first time include: AIG, Altria, Circuit City, Cost Plus World Market, Price Chopper/Mini Chopper, New World Restaurant Group, Nike, Tommy Hilfiger, SBC Communications & others.

Not on *The Boycott List* because the Corporate Funding Project doesn't consider matching funds as giving to PP, but of concern to us is **Pioneer Seed**. They admit to sending matching donations to Planned Parenthood (\$525 to PPGI in 2005 so far-early December; \$950 to PPGI & \$100 to PPFA in 2004; \$250 to PPGI & \$100 to PPFA in 2003). When asked if any group was excluded from matching funds they relied, "Yes, religious groups." We would encourage a boycott of Pioneer Seed and a letter writing campaign to let the company know why you've decided not to purchase their products. In addition, a letter to their parent company—they are owned by DuPont— would further spread the word that we don't want our purchases to benefit Planned Parenthood in any way, *shape or form!*

Our **visit to the abortion mill** in January will be on Tuesday, **January 17th**. We will not go on Saturday, **the 21st**, because of our Walk for Life. Tuesday's visit will be to the Cedar Rapids Clinic for Women, leaving from the Resurrection parking lot after 7:00 A.M. Mass. Call Tom (563-588-1635) if you are able to go.



BUILDING PROGRESS

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: I'm not sure how many of you got the message to contact Senator Harkin on Dec. 19 about his block on HR 2520 –the Stem Cell and Therapeutic Research Act of 2005. This bill was not controversial (involving cord blood stem cells) but Senator Harkin demanded a "date certain" for debate & vote on HR-810 (which would gut President George W. Bush's policy protecting taxpayers from being forced to subsidize the killing of embryos for experimentation on their body parts), and he demanded a guarantee that the anti-ethical bill would not be subject to amendment. **ANYWAY, WE DID IT!** Due to our calls, Senator Harkin eventually removed his block and the Senate approved the bill by unanimous consent! The House accepted the Cord Blood Bill and it is expected to be signed by the President soon. :-)

COMING EVENTS

- WALK for LIFE in Washington Park—January 21, 2006
- Sanctity of Life Sunday—January 22, 2006.
- Iowans for Life bus trip to Washington, D.C.—Jan. 21-25, 2006. **Plan now to attend.** *
- Day of the Unborn—March 25, 2006

***WE HAVE ADDED A BUS AND NOW HAVE SEATS AVAILABLE! CALL QUICKLY IF INTERESTED!! 556-5960**

MEMBERSHIP FORM: Please mail to DCRTL, 2205 Carter Road, Dubuque, Iowa 52001

\$300 Lifesaver \$50 Supporter Other
 \$200 Defender \$35 Family
 \$100 Patron \$25 Individual

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____ PHONE: _____

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

Dubuque County Right To Life, Inc.
2205 Carter Road
Dubuque, Iowa 52001
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED