

# MANNA

*in the wilderness*

The Newsletter of the Las Vegas Catholic Worker

February 2012

Volume 26, Number 3

## John & Katie Visit Open Door

by John Yevtich

In our efforts to visit other intentional communities (and also take a holiday) we just spent a week visiting the Open Door Community. The 50 plus room house is located in northeast Atlanta, Georgia near the Jimmy Carter Library and Museum. They have a community of over 20 people. They do not call themselves a Catholic Worker; but are often referred to as a Protestant Catholic Worker House. The Open Door Community shares some of our same values of non-violence, community and service to the poor. Started in 1981, we were fortunate to help celebrate their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a beautiful dinner, singing and wonderful speakers.

Much of the speaking topics

dealt with the death penalty, which the Open Door is committed to dismantling. We learned that in the empire's broken justice system defendants are better off if they are rich and guilty than poor and innocent.

Open Door's large and gracious community energized us as we participated in some of their projects including a foot clinic. Sunday they have worship. This was a treat – very uplifting. We even got to sit in with the band. On soup line days when we are finished serving our brothers and sisters, the community gets together for a communal lunch and "clarification of thought", usually with a visiting speaker. Perhaps the best part of our visit was just having time to meet with like minded and truly welcoming people.

## New Book: Broken and Shared

**About the Book:** The essays that make up *Broken and Shared* were originally published bi-monthly over a forty year period in the newspaper of the Los Angeles Catholic Worker, *The Catholic Agitator*. Collected together for the first time in this book, these essays constitute Jeff Dietrich's witness to poverty on Los Angeles' Skid Row. The vast scope of Jeff Dietrich's essays introduces the reader to a world like no other. These essays combine the stories of poor women and men with a record of the author's civil disobedience, with a chronicle of the city's attitude of depraved indifference when it comes to the treatment of its poor, with a day-to-day history of the rapidly changing landscape that is downtown Los Angeles. The arguments and analyses in this book are predicated on singular and radical readings of the Biblical texts in counterpoint with a varied and rich array of philosophical, literary, and critical ideas.

### Praise for *Broken and Shared*:

"What you are doing is

something beautiful for God."

—*Mother Teresa, Nobel Laureate and Humanitarian*

"Jeff's life-giving text held me enchanted, page after page, hours on end. I was at the mercy of a magister... a verbal magician, who is also, gift beyond price, a friend."

—*Daniel Berrigan, S.J., Activist and Poet*

"Jeff writes with self-deprecating humor and extraordinary insight, confronting his fears, and confirming his faith."

—*Martin Sheen, Activist and Actor*

"Each issue of the *Agitator* contains a new surprise of ways in which anger, ennobled by grace can be sweet."

—*Ivan Illich, Philosopher and Social Critic*

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## TWELFTH ANNUAL NEVADA CLAY GUILD Empty Bowl

## Benefit



## Luncheon and Auction

## Helping to Feed the Hungry in Las Vegas

Saturday, March 10, 2012

11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Green Valley High  
School Cafeteria,

460 Arroyo Grande Blvd.

(just North of Warm Springs Rd.)

Henderson, NV, Adults: \$15,

Children 12 & under: \$12

A lunch of soup and bread will be served in hand-made bowls. Each attendee will select their own unique ceramic bowl made by members and friends of the Nevada Clay Guild and keep it as a lasting reminder of world hunger. All proceeds from the luncheon will benefit the Las Vegas Catholic Worker and their soup line serving the poor and homeless. There will be a live auction of original ceramic art and art from the Fiber Guild from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. A silent auction will also take place. Tickets will be sold at the door. For advance tickets or info contact Julia at 234-0755, or [julia@lvcw.org](mailto:julia@lvcw.org), or Donna at 799-0950 x114034. Thanks to Green Valley High School, Aardvark Clay, and all the artists who participated in making the bowls. This event is sponsored by the Nevada Clay Guild, Green Valley High School, Aardvark Clay, and the Fiber Guild. (ARTWORK BY CHRISTA OCCHIOGROSSO)

[www.lvcw.org/emptybowl.htm](http://www.lvcw.org/emptybowl.htm)  
Buy tickets online (small fee)

# Finance Report, 2011

by Gary Cavalier

We need to let you know we received less donations in 2011. But, we received our first ever inheritance from Elinor Holcomb in the summer of 2010. We used some of this money to cover our \$25,420 loss for 2011.

We are proud of the frugal ministry we run. Our five buildings are paid for. The four of us (John, Katie, Gary and Julia) who run the Catholic Worker receive room and board, use of a vehicle, and \$50 per week. There are extra costs with Gary and Julia on Sabbatical with the Institute for Attachment in Colorado and travel back and forth. We also pay four of our Hospitality Guests a weekly stipend of \$10 to \$50 per week for their invaluable help with the soup line.

We debated appealing for donations while we have money from the Elinor Holcomb Inheritance left. At the same time, without the Inheritance we would have been broke awhile ago. We are trusting in Catholic Worker co-founder Peter Maurin's wisdom: "If you are doing good work, the money will come."

Elinor Holcomb Inheritance Fund: We received \$149,496 in July 2011. We spent \$15,247 on building improvements (painting, remodeling, repairing), \$8,890 on our 25th anniversary International Catholic Worker Gathering, we tithed \$20,017 to other charities, we used \$25,420 for our 2011 loss, leaving us with \$79,922.

## Non-Profit Savings

Most Catholic Workers have philosophical problems with becoming a non-profit. We originally became a non-profit to get the buildings and finances out of our names, but we save money in the following ways:  
 Membership in Food Bank: \$17,000  
 Post Office non-profit mailings: \$600  
 County Property Tax exemptions: \$4,000  
 Nevada Sales Tax on Bowls, etc.: \$ 600  
 Yearly Savings as Non-Profit: \$22,200

WEBSITE: [www.lvcw.org](http://www.lvcw.org)

| Income (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011)                | 2011              |
|--|-------------------|
| Christmas Appeal mailing (\$23,382 in 2010):   | \$ 11,567         |
| Empty Bowl Benefit:                            | \$ 29,455         |
| Large Gifts (over \$500):                      | \$ 10,500         |
| Monthly Donors:                                | \$ 19,150         |
| General Donations:                             | \$ 8,746          |
| Rent help from Hospitality House guests:       | \$ 2,423          |
| Other Income:                                  | \$ 229            |
| <b>Total Income: (\$103,497 in 2010)</b>       | <b>\$ 82,070</b>  |
| <b>Expenses</b>                                |                   |
| Soup line food and supplies purchased:         | \$ 26,475         |
| Hospitality Day costs for lunch meal:          | \$ 1,012          |
| Assistance to others (bus, utilities, etc.):   | \$ 2,855          |
| 500 & 502 W. Van Buren building utilities:     | \$ 13,324         |
| Other building costs (maintain, insurance):    | \$ 6,531          |
| Vehicle costs (insurance, maintain, gas):      | \$ 6,920          |
| Newsletter and appeal bulk mailings:           | \$ 595            |
| Supplies and postage:                          | \$ 3,703          |
| Food for Hospitality Houses:                   | \$ 1,892          |
| At-Will Tenancy Hospitality Guest expenses:    | \$ 2,901          |
| Expenses for 4 community members* (see below): | \$ 26,770         |
| Weekly stipends to 4 soup line helpers:        | \$ 6,396          |
| Social Security, Worker's Comp costs:          | \$ 3,601          |
| 4 Retreats (PLC, Colorado, PeB, Sr. Houses):   | \$ 1,399          |
| Travel to 8 Other Catholic Worker houses:      | \$ 1,438          |
| Other expenses:                                | \$ 1,678          |
| <b>Total Expenses: (\$114,074 in 2010)</b>     | <b>\$107,490</b>  |
| <b>Loss for Jan. - Dec. 2011:</b>              | <b>-\$ 25,420</b> |

\*Includes \$50 weekly stipend to four; John, Katie, Gary & Julia (\$10,400), flights from Colorado (\$2,673), and vehicle costs for Gary and Julia (\$9,806) and other needs for all four as discerned. Community expenses are down 35% over 2010, in part because there is no longer the expense of Julia and Gary's family home.

**PRAY FOR  
PEACE  
IN OUR  
WORLD!**

(FOR  
TAB)

**Pray the Rosary: 8 a.m., Fridays, 647-0728**  
*Nevada Desert Experience will hold their Sacred Peace Walk from March 31 - April 6.*  
[www.nevadadesertexperience.org](http://www.nevadadesertexperience.org), 646-4814

## The Crisis of Global Capitalism: Pope Benedict's Social Encyclical and the Future of Political Economy

A new book (edited by Adrian Pabst, Cascade Books) framing the discussion and debate on the recession of 2008-2011 in the light of Pope Benedict's *Caritas in Veritate*.

By arguing for an economic and political system that is re-embedded in the reciprocal relations and civic virtues of civil society, Benedict's vision of a political economy transcends the old secular

dichotomies of state and market, and left and right...*Caritas in Veritate* rejects the secular logic of separating the market from morality.

The Pope seeks a Catholic "third way" that combines strict limits on state and market power with a civil economy centered on mutualist businesses, cooperatives, credit unions, and other alternatives at the grassroots level.

### PLEASE JOIN US:

- Wednesday-Saturday\*, 6:00 a.m.:**  
Morning prayer at Catholic Worker.
- Wednesday-Saturday\*, 6:30 a.m.:**  
Breakfast served to the poor & homeless.  
\*closed on fourth Saturday of month
- Wednesday, 8:00 a.m. - noon:**  
Hospitality Day, we invite 20 homeless men home for showers, to wash clothes, and to have a great lunch.
- Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.:**  
Vigil for Peace in front of Federal Court-house, 333 Las Vegas Blvd. S.
- Thursday, 10:30 a.m.:**  
50 Bag lunches delivered to homeless.
- Third Saturday of month, 8:00 a.m.:**  
Deliver food boxes to homes in need.

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