

Message from the Board President

I wish you all could have been members of the Board of Directors for the last eight months so you could have experienced the very exciting things that are happening behind the scenes for the Ecumenical Community.

First we have engaged Bill Laubscher as an architect and Ted First as our construction consultant to begin final planning for the renovations of our three historic buildings. Bill has an office in Mayville, but before “retirement”, he was one of three principals of a firm that had over 50,000 employee doing work all around the world. Ted is also “retired” but has never stopped working. He is a builder and contractor and has been very active in the Jamestown’s Habitat for Humanity as well as many other volunteer projects, here and abroad. Working together with other construction professionals, Bill and Ted engaged the Board members in the process of generating ideas for remodeling and renovation. The Board will review the revised set of plans at the June meeting for final approval. I believe that you will be very pleased with the changes that will be made in the future.

Ted and Bill made recommendations to the Board that we consider purchasing a pie-shaped piece of land between the Bird-Werner and the clinic. Owning this piece of land will provide permanent access to the new elevator as well as allow us to move the fire escapes from the porches and attach the fire stairs to the north side of the building. Ted and Bill also recommended that we petition the Chautauqua Institu-



tion’s administration for a license to create a landscaped garden between the Bird-Werner and the clinic which will greatly beautify that area. Finally they recommended that we ask the administration for an easement of two feet in front of the Bird-Werner and Shaw plus an easement of six feet on the south side of Shaw. These easements will provides us the future option of extending the front porches two feet and to create porches on the side of the Shaw Building. These requests were approved by the Board and have been forwarded to President Tom Becker for his consideration.

Ted is the husband of Deborah First, a member of our Board of Directors. Ted has been an informal consultant to the Board for several years, but last summer he offered his services to us knowing that we had a big job and limited funds. He had worked with Bill Laubscher on Habitat projects and thought he might be interested in our plans and fortunately for us he was interested. They have graciously volunteered their services so it will reduce the

cost of our project and allow us to put all donations to work on materials and labor. Bill and Ted believe as we do that Chautauqua is an experience that needs to be open to all people, and housing costs should not a limiting factor.

There is another exciting possibility on the near horizon. The Ecumenical Community was granted a provisional 501(c)3 in 2003 making us a not-for-profit organization. We were given five years to prove that our organization can be supported by contributions. We will learn in May or June if we have been granted permanent status when the IRS reviews our 990 form. We hope that we will be able to tell you when you arrive this summer that we have achieved this very important goal.

We are committed to keeping our expenses as low as possible. We have had a wonderful response from you to get our project going. We will be making our case to the larger Chautauqua community again this summer as we are convinced that most Chautauquans want to welcome people of all income levels to the feast that is Chautauqua.

Even though we are living in difficult financial time and we are all concerned about saving and conserving, I ask you to consider setting aside a gift for the Ecumenical Community in your estate planning. Your gifts will help keep the wonderful buildings in excellent condition for future generations.

(The Reverend) Bill Brockman
President, Board of Directors

Managers' Report

Bob and Sandy Boehm



A warm "Hello" to all of our returning guests and to the new people who will be staying with us this season. We look forward to renewing old friendships and making new ones.

We still have several rooms available weeks 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9. If you want to make a reservation, please call us at 716-357-3814.

It's almost time for another wonderful season and we need lots of help getting ready. Please come and share your many talents. Some of the tasks that need to be done are: lots of cleaning, washing curtains and then hanging them, painting, outside work

and much more. The dates for the Spring work weekends are: Friday, May 22 to Monday, May 25 and Friday, June 5 to Sunday, June 7.

Please bring your own sheets, towels and food. We usually go out to dinner together at a local restaurant on Friday night and we share a potluck dinner together on Saturday night. Come when you can and leave when you must. If you have any questions, please call us at 716-357-3814.

You can come to help during the Fall work week any time between Friday, Sept. 11, and Sunday, Sept. 20. Just call and let us know when you are coming.

Our hosts and hostesses for the first 5 weeks are Marge and Ed Johnston in the Shaw House, Jeanie and Tom Kerns in the Bird-Werner House and Mary and George Dillingham in the Westervelt. Our hosts and hostesses for weeks 6 through 9 are Mary and George Dillingham in the Shaw, Lois and Nels Sandburg in the Bird-Werner and E. Carol Maxwell in the Westervelt.

We look forward to seeing all of you again and catching up on your news. ■

Capital Fund Campaign a Success

The three-year capital fund campaign of the ECOC, "Continuing the Legacy," officially ended December 31. The total pledged was \$299,697.92. The figure had been over \$300,000 but due to the changed economic environment, some had to adjust their pledge or giving. Some arranged to complete their pledge over 2009 and 2010. So while the campaign ended, some gifts will continue to come in. Gifts are still welcome.

Campaign chairperson, Robert Boell, noted what a faithful group the Ecumenical Community is. Given the clientele, the response has been outstanding and he expresses his thanks on behalf of the Board.

The generous donors to the Capital Fund are listed on the following page. If you made a donation, please check that your name is listed and is spelled correctly. If you find an error, please contact Bob Boell at 801 Yale Avenue, #408, Swarthmore, PA, 19081; or email: bob.boell@ecunet.org. This way, the ECOC can ensure the correctness of the plaque which will be hung to commemorate all Fund donors. ■

New Web Features

The Ecumenical Community web site is constantly being updated by our web master (and ECOC guest) Bob Tupaj. When you visit the ECOC website, www.ecoc-chautauqua.org, you'll now find:

- Additional copies of the newsletter to download and print
- Information on accommodations, plus a reservation form to download and print
- Downloadable ECOC flyer

- Volunteer opportunities, with a form to print
- Capital campaign information, plus
- A new feature for submitting photos from your stay at the ECOC

Please e-mail Bob Tupaj (rdtupaj@netzero.net) with any questions you might have about the web site, or suggestions for making it more helpful and enjoyable. ■

ECUMENICAL COMMUNITY
MINISTERS' UNION
FOUNDED 1928

About ECOC: Welcome to the Ecumenical Community of Chautauqua, located on the grounds of the Chautauqua Institution in beautiful Chautauqua, New York

Newsletter

Positions Available

Accommodations

Renovation Plan

Volunteer at ECOC

Chautauqua Institution

ECOC Home

Share Your Photos of Chautauqua...right here

Continuing The Legacy...

Ecumenical Community of Chautauqua
P.O. Box 988 (25 Roberts Avenue)
Chautauqua, New York 14722
716-357-3814 (summer)
716-581-3659
info@ecoc-chautauqua.org

Generous Donors

to Continuing The Legacy... Capital Fund Campaign, 2006 to 2008

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Ecumenical Community of Chautauqua

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 716-357-3814 (Summer)
 716-581-3659 (Winter)
www.ecoc-chautauqua.org

ECOC Calendar

May 22-25, June 5-7	Spring Work Weekends
June 18-19	Spring Board Meeting
June 27	Season begins
August 30	Season ends
Aug. 31 - Sept. 1	Fall Board Meeting
Sept. 11-20	Fall Work Week



Chautauqua 2009 Themes

Week 1	June 27-July 4	Kids!
Week 2	July 5-11	Explore Our World With National Geographic
Week 3	July 12-18	State of Mind
Week 4	July 19-25	The Ethics of Capitalism
Week 5	July 26-Aug. 1	What Makes Us Moral? An Abrahamic Perspective
Week 6	August 2-8	On Cinema
Week 7	August 9-15	Imagine...
Week 8	August 16-22	CUBA: Enigma and Neighbor
Week 9	August 23-30	The History of Liberty

The Ecumenical Community of Chautauqua Newsletter is published twice a year, in spring and fall, and mailed to interested guests. It is also available on the ECOC web site: www.ecoc-chautauqua.org.

Editor and layout: Marcella Klein

To submit articles or photos, or notify us of an address change, email mklein5@rochester.rr.com

The Ecumenical Community of Chautauqua (ECOC), a not-for-profit corporation with a 503C3 designation, was founded in 2003 to provide low-cost housing for clergy, religious workers and lay people of all faiths.

The Ministers' Union (MU) was founded in 1929 to provide low-cost housing to clergy, clergy families and religious workers attending Chautauqua Institution.

The MU and ECOC share many values, but are separate corporations with separate boards of directors.