



613 S. Main St. * Lombard IL * 60148-3341 *

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**To paraphrase the Munchkins in the Wizard of Oz:
“We are not just merely alive, we are most sincerely alive!” Read on.**



Thank you! Thank you!

Our long time friends and supporters, the St. Matthew Knights of Columbus, Council 9893, stopped by and presented a donation of over \$9,000 to RRAF in honor of Brooke Davis and her family. The picture to the left shows the happy occasion. Thank you to everyone in the Council for making this possible. Pictured are (from left): Roger Davis (proud father of Brooke), Robert Resuali, Marilyn Flanagan/RRAF, Grand Knight, Ron Metty, and Jerry Jenkinson.

From the Board of Directors of RRAF

CARF, the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, is a Tucson based independent non-profit organization which provides accreditation services worldwide at the request of health and human service providers. CARF has surveyed RRAF a total of five times over the last fifteen years. RRAF has always done very well in their review, receiving the highest three-year award term each survey, but RRAF has also benefited from the skill and experience that the individual surveyors have brought to the survey process. The CARF surveyors are themselves leaders and executives from other human service providers, each chosen as the result of their demonstrated accomplishments in their field.

The Board of Directors of RRAF is quite pleased to report that Marilyn Flanagan, RRAF's Executive Director and President, has been invited to join CARF's select team of surveyors. This is a true testament to all that she has accomplished in her leadership of RRAF throughout the years. She has accepted this position, and reports for training in early August.

This will not mean that her role at RRAF will change. As a CARF surveyor she will be required to attend initial training of several days, followed by a few surveys each year, each lasting a week or less. Thus, her time away from RRAF will be minimal.

As proud as we all are of Marilyn being chosen for this position, we also realize that the true winner in this will be RRAF itself. Marilyn will be surveying agencies in other states and Canada, which face different challenges, different funding environments and from which we hope a great deal will be learned. She will also have the opportunity to observe how others implement and carry out different programming opportunities which will help to build our foundation of knowledge to move into our desired residential capacity. We are all excited about the lessons that Marilyn will bring back to RRAF from her surveys of other service providers.

Please join us in offering to Marilyn our congratulations on being chosen as a surveyor at CARF.

WHERE REALITY IS RESPECT, APPRECIATION AND FULFILLMENT

FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I write this our legislators are struggling to decide the State of Illinois FY'12 budget for the state. How human services will fare overall is anyone's guess.

But, what I do know, is that through the tremendous support of friends, family, and community partners we are a stronger agency today than we were before the financial picture of our State began to erode. What an unusual thing to be able to say, and something that everyone reading this can take personal pride in being a part of. Our collective thanks to all of you.

These tough times have challenged us, but they have also strengthened our resolve, increased our outreach of supports, kept us firmly in touch, and given us a strong, conservative financial base from which to grow our future.

I am, on a personal note, definitely excited about the opportunity to survey for CARF, but, I also recognize the importance of this opportunity on behalf of RRAF.

As much as I am thrilled to be telling our story to other agencies to help them weather times such as we have experienced, I am also very aware that the lessons I will take from other agencies will help us grow. I do not want to miss even one of those lessons.

CARF's mission is to provide a peer review accreditation process. That is what they are proudly known for. That is why RRAF chose CARF over other accreditation possibilities. That is also why we choose to remain accredited, by CARF, even when other agencies are choosing not to continue in an accreditation direction.

Our future is heading in the right direction. I had a new staff start Monday. I have two staff that have now finished direct care staff training and are ready and willing to grow and take

on more responsibilities. I have another three tenured staff providing the continuum of care so important to those we serve.

And, on Mother's Day one of our moms was recognized as a special mom by the Daily Herald newspaper that covers DuPage County. My congratulations to Diane Carpenter (and daughter Beth), but truly all of our moms and dads are special and so appreciated by us at RRAF.

Then, the next day, I was contacted by a group of college students who were doing a project to highlight local charities. They chose us as one of several to highlight. So we will shortly be on a local access TV show, our peers on camera being themselves. An opportunity to further expand our network of community supporters.

The interviewer asked me our five year goals - I, of course, mentioned residential. Then she threw me a curveball - are we planning on going national? I, of course, got to talk about CARF - but, think about the very fact that a young adult thought, after just learning about us, that we were capable of taking our story, our mission, our programming nationally. What a tremendous compliment that was!

We continue to have our work cut out for us, but we are ready for the challenges. After all, being alive to talk about the past years, and still talk about the future? That speaks to the collective spirit we share.

It is not about politics. It is not about individual position titles within RRAF. It is not about what the State hands us. It is about what we want, what we know we need, and where we know we need to go.

We need to always remember, that in spite of what challenges or difficulties are handed us, it is our choice to respond to those challenges positively with RRAF's needs and wants as our focus. Our future remains intact and growing. I do not see that changing anytime soon.

Thank you,
Marilyn J. Flanagan



Kris Borchers and Brooke Davis take a break under our gazebo.



Andy Santos could not wait to take a turn at using the wheelbarrow.



John Conroy loves to help out with tasks inside and outside of RRAF.

UNRESTRICTED CONTRIBUTIONS: (February 1, 2011 through April 30, 2011)

IN MEMORY

Joan Baron
George and Dolores Lasota

Dolores Bartels
Penny Anderson
George Bartels and family
Karen Bartels
Tim and Denis Behrens and family
Tracy Behrens
Phyllis Cooper
Kathy Cundiff
Don and Debbie Edelstein
Keri Foley
Rita Guajardo
Joseph Habura
Paul and Cindy Habura
Steve and Anita Habura
Don and Jo Hamilton
Dolores Kochanek
Mr. and Mrs. Phil LaSala
Michael and Rhonda Mack
Mr. and Mrs. Danny Michalak
Mary Michalak
Frank and Kathy Pater
Jim and Barb Simich
John and Judy Steier
Peggy Swanson
Bill and Debby Wedow

Dawn Carnes
Roger and Sandy Davis

Greg Gatz
Paul and Cindy Habura

Joan Helwig
Susanne McGinnis

Kathy Leick
Elaine Kopoulos

Joseph Masick
Barbara Sturz

John Sugrue, Jr.
Roger and Sandy Davis

Herb Sturz
Barbara Sturz

Rev. Franklin Tasker, O.Carm
Roger and Sandy Davis

**Many thanks to Jack Island
of the Silverado Grill in
Elmhurst!**

**Since 1995 he has been
opening up his restaurant and
his heart to us for our annual
Chili Sunday. This year's
event was another good day
communing with friends and
family while raising much
needed funds for RRAF.**

**Over the years Jack's
generosity has raised over
\$40,000.00!
(And the chili is great!!!)**

IN KIND

Costume and Antique Jewelry

Jeannie Clyncke
Bernie Dooley
JoAnne Schaper
Marilyn Schmid
Lorraine Vercillo

Miscellaneous Program Supplies

Nancy Sykora



GENERAL

Friend (\$10 - \$49)
Don and Ann Yurik

Sponsor (\$50 - \$99)

Centurian (\$100 - \$499)
Greg and Karen Schuler

Benefactor (\$500 and above)
Knights of Columbus, St.
Matthew Council 9893

IN HONOR

Kara Altman
Bree Grimaldi and her friends
at Markel Corporation

Peter and Maria Barry
Roger and Sandy Davis

Marianne Black
Elaine Brockmeier

Jack Buckingham
Kathy McGinnis

Beth Carpenter
Margot Clark-Brown

John Conroy
Jeff Belford
John and Carol Conroy

Roger and Sandy Davis
Rod and Dolores Schwartz

Bonnie Habura
Tracy Lee Behrens

Richard and Mary Ellen Kelly
Roger and Sandy Davis

George and Dolores Lasota
Roger and Sandy Davis

Albert Mitton
Roger and Sandy Davis

Robert and Donna Resuali
Roger and Sandy Davis

**Robert and Donna Resuali's
50th Anniversary and
The Davis Family**
Mrs. Barb Anderson
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brown
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bruno
Mr. and Mrs. David Chitkowski
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Davis
Mr. and Mrs. Don DeVale
Mrs. Arlene Dingillo
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Domzalski
Mrs. Patricia Ellington

Mr. and Mrs. Terry Foliard
Ms. Angie Johnson
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Mr. and Mrs. John Mulkerin
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Pelletier
Mrs. Michael Pitello and Pam
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Pitello
and Anthony
Mr. and Mrs. Rick Pitello
Mr. and Mrs. Tano Puzon
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Randazzo
Mr. Robert Resuali and Evan,
Sam, Avery, and Brynn
Ken Sawalski
Mr. and Mrs. William Scales
Rod and Dolores Schwartz
Capt. and Mrs. Todd Veazie
Mr. and Mrs. James Vendegna
Mr. and Mrs. Tim Zofkie and
Amanda, Andrew, and
Elizabeth

Josh Robison
Virgil and Leona Gulliford

Carol Setecka
Lorraine Morrall

Steve Stojanovic
Al and Judi Stojanovic

John Sugrue, Sr.
Roger and Sandy Davis

Mary Urick
Judy Boyer
Elaine Brockmeier
Richard and Kathy DiPrima
Joyce Fischer
Lucille Fisher
Carol Jacobsen

Elizabeth Vrona
Rita Vrona

JEWELRY LOVERS:



Join us July 10, 2011, at the Elmhurst "An Afternoon in the Garden" Jewelry Sale. (We will have a booth in the Boutique located in Wilder Park). The sale hours are 10 am -4 pm.

Join us again on August 27, 2011 at the "Elmhurst Flea and Craft" show being organized by the First Congregational United Church of Christ. (The address is 235 S. Kenilworth.) Hours are 9 am - 3 pm.

Our "Jewelry Cartel" will have its usual grand display of refurbished costume and antique jewelry available for each sale.

Our Developmental Training program received another 100% licensure compliance rating when it was surveyed by the Department of Human Services in May 2011! This makes the 14th time in 15 years that we have received a 100% rating.

We were also recently surveyed under new, stricter standards for our CILA program and even with many of these standards very recently decided and targeting new areas of conformance we were still found 98% compliant on our first attempt.

We have a 2nd scout from troop #575 who has selected RRAF as his preferred Eagle Scout project. Derek Brese wants to wainscoat the lower walls of our original 613 building and add a fresh coat of paint to the upper walls. After 10 years of wear and tear, we appreciate his efforts on our behalf. We hope to be able to tell you more of this project as plans get approved, firmed up, and put into action. Thank you Derek for your time, energy and thoughtfulness.

RRAF
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“WHERE REALITY IS RESPECT, APPRECIATION AND FULFILLMENT”

Please accept my donation in the amount of:

_____ Benefactor, \$500 _____ Centurian, \$100 _____ Sponsor, \$50
_____ Friend, \$10 _____ Other

This donation is in memory of: _____

honor of: _____

Please send acknowledgement to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Please make checks payable to RRAF and mail to 613 South Main Street, Lombard, IL 60148-3341. RRAF is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. All donations not exchanged for goods or services are tax deductible to the extent allowed by IRS regulations. Should you wish a copy of our certified financial audit, please request it in writing to address above.

Newsletter, May, 2011

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kathleen Altman Roger Davis
Jill Mueller Thomas Flanagan
Roberta Robison

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Executive Director and President
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ACCREDITED BY THE
REHABILITATION
ACCREDITATION
COMMISSION (CARF)
THROUGH AUGUST 2012

WISH LIST

GASOLINE GIFT CARDS
OFFICE STORE GIFT CARDS
JEWEL GIFT CARDS
BLACK PENS / NOTE PADS
PAPER TOWELS
MULTI-FOLD OR C-FOLD PAPER TOWELS
WHITE AND COLORED COPY PAPER
CRAFT KITS FOR PEER PROJECTS
TEMPURA PAINTS
UNWANTED JEWELRY (BROKEN OR NOT)
JEWELRY BOXES
PICNIC TABLE
- AND -
FALL BENEFIT RAFFLE PRIZES

**HAVE YOU MARKED
YOUR CALENDAR?**

**Our 2011 Fall Benefit
will be October 2, 2011,
11:30 am - 3:30 pm
At the Empress Banquets,
200 East Lake Street,
Addison, IL**

**MORE DETAILS
SOON!**

