



AWESOME GIRLS FIRST PLACE WINNERS!

Shortly after hurricane Katrina a wonderful youth program called "The Awesome Girls" was looking for a new home. This program has operated in the Treme area of the city for the past eight years and seemed to be quite stable. The doors of St. Anna's were opened wide and the youth program was welcomed in. "The Awesome Girls" is a youth mentoring program established for young ladies ages 9-17 from the inner city areas of New Orleans.

The group is generally limited to about 20 young ladies at a time with a total enrollment of about 30.

The staff of the *Awesome Girls* is directed by Mr. James Rogers with a staff of wonderful well qualified mentors. During the school year the ladies meet five days a week from about 3:00 p.m. until about 6:00 p.m. Next fall we hope to make available space that will extend their time until 7:00 p.m. During the summer the girls meet from about 9:00 a.m. until about 4:00 p.m. five days a week.

According to Mr. Rogers the measurable goals are simple: teen pregnancy (-0-eight years); drug use (-0-reported eight years); graduate from

High School (100% reported for eight years); in fact many of the girls go on to college. The emphasis every day is on self respect, self worth, dignity, and responsibility. From that flows work ethic, manners, valued education, and personal goal setting. This very effective program has collaborated with missions and ministries and most notably, St. Anna's Mobile Medical Mission. Recently the girls were given a 'video voice' project coordinated by SAMM, and tasked with producing a film that reflects life in New Orleans in 2009. The film

INTEGRITY CHAPTER STARTED AT ST. ANNA'S CHURCH.

Integrity, USA New Orleans held its first formal meeting for the newly reorganized chapter at St. Anna's Episcopal Church May 16th, 2009. Persons representing St. Anna's, Grace and Trinity Episcopal Church of New Orleans were in attendance.

Integrity is the leading public voice for the full inclusion of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) persons in the Episcopal Church. Integ-

riety has grown to become an organization with members across the country—LGBT, straight, rural and urban, in congregations large and small. Integrity fulfills a key uniting role, seeking to bring together individuals and congregations who share the vision of a church in which all the baptized are fully included in the Body of Christ.

All interested parties are invited to join the organization and to join us at the next chapter meeting:

TIME: 12:30 P.M.

PLACE: Grace Episcopal Church, St. Matthias Chapel, 3700 Canal St.

DATE: July 18, 2009

QUESTIONS: 504-947-2121 Luigi (Convener)

THIS OLD HOUSE: Our Journey to Restoration

Since receiving the UTO Grant last year and with a legacy from the estate of Gordon Maginnis the Restoration Committee, now headed by Will Bradshaw, have had to deal with some obstacles. The major obstacle was the insufficiency of one of the contractors to complete the job to satisfactory standards as recommended by our architects and engineers. So, like any remodeling job we had to go back to square one.

The Restoration Committee is VERY pleased to announce that it was concluded or will soon conclude renegotiated contracts with our restoration specialists and work will very soon begin or has begun by the time that you receive this newsletter.

The general scope of work will insure that the overall building is sound, fit, and tight. This will include final corrections to the shoring and leveling; rebuilding the front and side balconies including canopy; and removal of rotten wood.

With this newsletter, I am asking parishioners and friends of St. Anna to consider a special 'large gift' to further the work to be done. Because we have had to remediate some work we are short on the budget end of completing all phase one work which would have included adding the quinions to the

house as original in the 1880's and painting at least the front elevation if not whole building.

THE GOAL IS TO RAISE \$50,000 !

With that amount of monies the church should be able to be properly and professionally painted, all exterior restorations completed and possibly some very needed new plumbing work done.

We will soon be including a "Restoration Envelope" Sunday in June to see what can be raised.

Those who wish to make a substantial gift are always invited so to do and it has been historically acceptable to do so as a memorial with the appropriate Memorial plaques installed. We also welcome corporate sponsors who may wish to help us in this enterprise. So, if you have a likely corporate sponsor and are willing to help us raise some monies please contact Fr. Terry with your proposals.

The really good news is that we are on our way! We all owe a sincere debt of gratitude to Fr. Dan Hanna past chair, and current chair Will Bradshaw for their tireless efforts in bringing this project along. The staff is at the



point of grant writing for the continued reworking of the church campus to meet the ministry demands and needs of this neighborhood.

Again, the ultimate campus reworking will consist of re-doing the 'double parlor' in the old house as a Parish Hall (McGinnis Hall); building out the current Parish Hall as the The Rev. Robert Dodwell, D.D. Memorial Chapel—a multi purpose worship and media space; adding proper storage for worship vestments and holy hardware; building office space by rebuilding the 'Dependency' behind the church; and adding elevators and bathrooms that make the entire complex handicap accessible. The total project cost is around \$1,200,000. Keep praying....

THE PARISH HALL AND BEYOND

For those that have not noticed...the Parish Hall, Bathrooms and Kitchen all have new wall paper. It certainly has improved the look of the church adding dignity to our midst.

We all owe a VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Kathleen Mumme, Design Tech of Mandeville, for donating the

very high end wall paper for the project.

Jack Hoffert, Rust-o-leum, Mandeville, for donating the Primer and Adhesives.

Dennis Gauthier, President, National Guild of Professional Pa-

perhangers, New Orleans Chapter, for getting it all done and pulling it together.

The addresses of each on posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall please take time to write them a personal note of thanks.

We are looking good!

AWESOME GIRLS (CONTD.)

“**From Our Point of View: Joining Hands to Save Our Community**” featured Paul Vallas, James Carter, Al Harris, Deacon Joyce Jackson, with soundtracks by Glen David Andrews and Trombone Shorty. We are very proud to announce that the Awesome Girls won **FIRST PLACE at the New York Human Rights Film Festival**. The premier, shown at St.

Anna’s Church attracted over 200 attendees in two showings.

To cap all of this off, Mr. Rogers and the Awesome Girls were recently recognized on the Dr. Phil Show, along with others, and given a **Dr. Phil Grant** for their work. St. Anna’s and the Awesome Girls are developing ever deeper collaborations and we look forward

to further developing and expanding this program together. Donations for this wonderful program may be sent to St. Anna’s Church, 1313 Esplanade Ave., NOLA 70116...please make checks payable to THE AWESOME GIRLS.

WORSHIP ETIQUETTE

A SERIES OF HELPFUL HINTS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

St. Anna’s Church has long enjoyed a tradition of prayerful worship that isn’t stuffy or stifling. While continuing that tradition and continuing the strong sense of hospitality and openness there are many unwritten expectations for worship that maybe helpful for us to remember. This series will attempt to cover some of those helpful hints for worship.

- It is most important to **arrive for worship on time**. Should you arrive late, please enter the church discreetly and wait until one of the breaks in the service to be seated e.g. remain in the back of the church while the Gospel is being read then be seated after the Gospel during the Sequence Hymn. There are many natural ‘breaks and pauses’ in the worship service. This kind of discretion allows those already worshipping to remain focused on the mass.
- If a **child or infant** becomes very anxious or unsettled, not just the usual squeaks, gurgles, and occasional comments, then it might be helpful for the child to go to the parish hall until they are calm...we have coloring books available; and we hope to soon offer a nursery. But please understand we want the kids in church as much as they can stand! That is how they learn about church...
- **SILENCE** at least 15 minutes before mass is expected. Some come to pray, say the rosary, and light candles. Please respect this effort to center for worship.
- The best place to visit and catch up is outside the church or in the **FELLOWSHIP Hall** where beverages are usually available. Please restrain from loud talking and chatting before and after mass in the church. Again, some wish to pray and meditate and we are blessed with enough church space so to do.
- Persons wearing **lipstick** should ‘blot’ the lipstick before receiving communion, it is very hard to remove lipstick stains from the linens.
- **The Priest is available** for discussion, consultation, or individual prayer after mass. Just let them know when leaving that you’d like to speak with them.



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***"All are welcomed -none are
shunned."***

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SUMMER TIME GOALS FOR A BETTER CHURCH

- Several New Members have expressed an interest in establishing an expanded *Early Childhood Sunday School*: **Goal** to 'fix up' part of the double parlor as a Sunday School and Choir Rehearsal space before September: **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**.
- Voices needed. As our music program develops more voices are needed. You need not read music and we invite you to try the 'Summer Choir' on for size. Ask Fr. Bill or Jimbo Walsh about our 'Summer Choir.'
- The Esplanade Ave. side of the campus is in dire need of some serious landscaping. Our church campus should be an example and place of tranquil beauty for the neighborhood honoring our Lord. Some things to think about:
 1. A pallet of St. Augustine Grass plus a volunteer crew to place the sod.
 2. Completely rework the garden around the bell in the courtyard with new foundation plantings etc.
 3. Remove and transplant day lilies and other blooming plants from current beds to perhaps a new bed in front of the church. A full day of volunteer service will do it.
- Each month we will host a special Sunday Bruch and we will offer a short topic of interest or discussion. This program is designed to help communications and to further our community life together. This will likely start in June.
- At least one workshop each with BBQ for: Altar Servers, Readers, Greeters, and Altar Guild....consider joining one of these Sunday ministries. What you put into the church in time you will receive in grace ten fold in return.....