

Pastor's Perspective

*Feast of the Ascension

This weekend we celebrate the feast of the Ascension. The bishops of the United States were given permission to decide as regions on whether to move it from its traditional Thursday spot, 10 days prior to Pentecost, to the Sunday before Pentecost, so that more people would hear and reflect on and celebrate the meaning of this feast. The bishops of Michigan and Ohio made that move, as did many other parts of the country.

The "ascent of Jesus" leads directly to the self-awareness of the disciples that there is no way forward without the gift of God's Holy Spirit to guide and direct. So too for us, the feast of the Ascension is a call to spend some time in prayer this week, open to the Holy Spirit, praying for that Spirit to renew and strengthen the Church in its mission and ministry.

*Pentecost Red

Next Sunday is Pentecost. We end our 50 days of Easter season by calling upon God's Holy Spirit to move us, form us, inspire us, as has happened throughout Christian history. The liturgical color of the day is red. **All are encouraged to where something red** as we pray earnestly "Come, Holy Spirit!"

(Continued on page 6)



Attention Class of 2006! Mass for Graduates June 11 at 9:30 a.m. Mass

SS. John & Paul will proudly acknowledge all our graduating seniors, high school and college, at a Graduation Mass on Sunday, June 11 at 9:30 AM. The mass will be followed immediately by a breakfast for the graduates and their families in the Activities Center. Invitations have been mailed out so if you did not receive one and would like to attend, please call the parish office. We'll have much to celebrate and would like to include you in the festivities!



Here's what's happening this week!

Monday, May 29:

- *Mass at 9:00 a.m.
- *NO 7:00 p.m. Mass
- *Offices closed

Tuesday, May 30:

- *Mass at 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, May 31:

- *Mass at 9:00 a.m.
- *Picnic meeting 7:00 p.m.
- *VBS leader meeting 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 1:

- *Adult Choir 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 20:

- *Individual Confessions at 3:00 p.m.

Regular Parish Office Hours

- Mon. - Wed. — 9 :00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
- Thursday — 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Friday — 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Saturday—12:00 to 3:00 p.m.
- Sunday — 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



Taizé Prayer
June 7
6:30 p.m.

Baptism Preparation



The next Baptism preparation session is **June 4th** after the 11:30 a.m. mass (12:45 p.m.).

You must register your child or your expected child before you attend your first baptism preparation session.

You may register for baptism by calling JoAnne at the parish office (586.781.9010).

“A Time To Speak”

Ecclesiastes 3:7

This is the final chance to submit nominees—the deadline is May 31. Note the qualifications and form below:

- Registered in the parish and 18 years of age or older
- Able to serve a three-year term
- Willing to work collegially in seeking consensus on issues

No election is held. Instead, names of all nominees are placed in a basket and selected at mass through a drawing by hand. A youth representative, high school age, is also needed. A separate selection will take place. Please return the following form in the collection basket, by mail, or to the parish office during regular hours by May 31.

An informational meeting for all nominees will be held Sunday, June 4, after the 9:30 Mass from 10:35-11:20 a.m. On the following Sunday, June 11, through the help of the Holy Spirit, five new members will be chosen.

Parish Pastoral Council Member Nomination Form

I would like to nominate the following person(s) to serve as a member of the Parish Pastoral Council. You may nominate yourself.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

High School Nominee:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

**REGISTER NOW
for the 2006-2007
Religious Formation
Program**

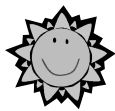


October-May

Early Childhood
(ages 3-4-5 years)
Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

Grades 1-6
Monday: 4:45-6:00 p.m.
Tuesday: 4:45-6:00 p.m.
& 6:30-7:45 p.m.

If you have an upcoming 1st grader or are new to the parish you may pick up registration forms in the back of church or in the Parish Office.



**SS. John & Paul's
SUMMER
SON SHINE
Vacation Bible School**

'Fiesta'

Dates: July 17-21
Days: Monday—Friday
Time: 9:00 a.m.—Noon
Where: SS. John & Paul
Who: Preschoolers thru
5th Grade
Fee: \$20.00 each child

Deadline: June 15

Registration forms can be picked up in the racks at the back of Church or in the Parish Office.



**Celebration of the
Sacrament of First Eucharist**



This weekend the following children will receive their First Eucharist. We ask that you keep them and their families in prayer as they continue on their faith journey with the Lord.

June 3 — 5:00 p.m.

Nicholas Blankenburg, Marissa Bollini, Brennan Ralston

June 4 — 9:30 a.m.

*Joshua Bilski, Dominic Crimando,
Lynne Lulis, Joshua Lulis, Alex Marshelak*

June 4 — 11:30 a.m.

*Austin Berger, Brett Elmer, William Gumbleton,
Lucas Kaczor, Christopher McGinnis, Nicole Molotky,
Camden Quenneville, Ruby Rygwelski*

Instruments of the Lord

Mk. 16:15-20

When the time came for Jesus to leave this world and return to the Father, he took his apostles up to the top of the Mt. of Olives. As he ascended he directed their eyes upwards, towards the place where he was going.

But he also pointed their eyes outwards. He showed them that there was a great world out there waiting to hear the Gospel. He gave them the task of bringing the Gospel to this vast world, and promised to send them the Holy Spirit.

The apostles liked it on the hill, so much so that they wanted to remain there. But a voice called them back to reality, asking why they stood there looking up into the heavens. Even though they had to go back down into the real world, their lives would never be the same.

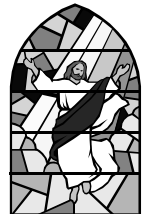
This feast is as much about us as about Jesus. His ascension shows us where the goal of our earthly journey lies. It is a goal and a destiny far beyond our imagination. It gives us a new and wider vision. It pushes out our horizons beyond the boundaries of this world. It gives an eternal dimension to our lives.

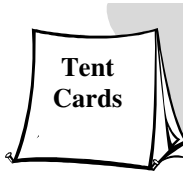
Jesus went back to the source, the Alpha and the Omega. This is the meaning of his Ascension. It is a journey home. His Ascension does not represent his removal from the earth, but his constant presence everywhere on earth. During his earthly ministry he could only be in one place at a time. But now that he is united with God, he is present wherever God is present; and that is everywhere.

We live in the hope that the words of Jesus will come true for us: 'Where I am, you too shall be.' Meanwhile we have a task to do: to preach the Gospel and to be his witnesses in the world.

He has no body now on earth but ours. He has no hands but ours to raise up the fallen. No feet but ours to seek out the lost. No eyes but ours to see the silent tears of the suffering. No ears but ours to listen to the lonely. No tongue but ours to speak a word of comfort to the sad. No heart but ours to love the unloved.

As timid and fearful disciples, let us have the courage to witness Christ to the world so that the Gospel will be preached and people will find their way into God's Kingdom.





The presence of the Spirit

Like Jesus, we are in this world, but we are not of this world. We are of the world beyond this world, the world of the Spirit, which we cannot see or touch, but which we know and believe. In the world of the Spirit, we have the confidence to pray and to accept what happens. We can trust the presence of the Spirit.

When the Apostles wanted to replace Judas, they called forth two who had been with Jesus until the time of the Ascension.—Barsabbas and Matthias. They did not vote, they did not have a competition. They merely prayed, trusted in the Spirit, and then cast lots, knowing that through their prayer and the presence of the Spirit, the right person would be selected. This person would join the other apostles in spreading the word and love of God to all.



*“Christ Jesus,
you are the shining light
of God’s glory.
We trust in the presence
of your Spirit
with us here on earth.
All that we are,
all that we have,
comes from you.
You send us forth to boldly
proclaim the love of God.*

*Bring us all into the light
of your presence.
Teach us to pray always.”*

Gathering of Leadership

Three times a year, Parish Council, Commissions, and Committees gather to share ideas and to discuss the future direction of our parish. Following are topics from our May 17 gathering that we were excited about and also topics where input from the parish would be appreciated. Ideas could be put into Parish Council box in hallway to Parish Center.

Hospitality:

- Excited about our first Registration Sunday, 14 new families registered.
- Committee would like to see change in Time and Talent surveys to make them clearer and easier to respond to. Suggestions are welcomed.

Christian Service:

- Excited about the move to a larger location for Samaritan House.
- Commission would like to start a coffee co-op and purchase our coffee (individual parishioners) from Higher Grounds Trading Co. They sell only Fair Trade Coffee and we have been buying from them for parish use. Input needed.

Worship Commission:

- Excited about looking for a Liturgical Consultant to help with enhancement of worship space. Would like input on what would enhance or enrich parishioners worship experience here at SS. John and Paul. Also would like to know if anyone knows a contact for a liturgical consultant.

Youth Ministry:

- Excited about the upcoming Pancake breakfast. (Which was yesterday and turned out to be a huge success. Yea teens! You did a great job.)
- Would like suggestions on how the parishioners, commissions, and committees could help in recruiting more teens for our Youth Ministry outreach.

Stewardship:

- Excited about the response to our annual CSA appeal. Hoping for more participation before it is over.
- Discussion for a new sign on 28 Mile Rd has resurfaced. Would like input or suggestions from the parish.

Evening for Seniors/Retirees

Monday, June 19, After 7:00 P.M. Mass

When we think of “vocation”, we usually think of a younger person who is being called to priesthood, religious life, or at least some professional field. But, as has been mentioned many times this year by our Vocation Awareness Committee, we all have vocations, because we are baptized followers of Jesus, and he continues to call us to grow, to serve, to be open to using our gifts and talents.

On June 19th, after the 7 p.m. Mass, we will have a speaker, Dave Feighan, a professor of comparative religions, but himself a senior with a wealth of experience both in the church setting and otherwise. He will be helping us look at the question of responding to God’s call as a senior and/or retiree. No, not in terms of Church vocations (though nothing is impossible!), but in general. The committee will be putting it on a flyer: “Is your senior status or retirement “Gold”ing or “Rust”ing or somewhere in-between?”

It should prove to be a very stimulating and enjoyable evening of reflection, shared conversation, support and faith-building. Please mark your calendars for that Monday evening, June 19th. Come to the Mass, if you can, and then stay for this evening for seniors/retirees.

**FOOD DRIVE
NEXT WEEKEND
JUNE 3-4**



Please bring your non-perishable food donations. Suggested food items requested for the month of June are:

Flour, coffee, oatmeal, canned meat, cooking oil, laundry soap, maxi pads, sugar, spaghetti sauce, powdered milk, pancake syrup, Spaghettios/Raviolios, diapers (sizes 4, 5, 6) and toilet paper.

Note: Low sodium and sugar free foods are needed in the pantry for clients with health problems.

Other non-perishable food items and toiletries are always appreciated as well.

In April, your donations helped provide 134 emergency food orders, which fed 414 individuals for 10-14 days. Your generosity is very much appreciated!

Rescheduled Adopt-a-Road Clean-Up

The road clean up that was originally scheduled for Saturday, May 13th has been rescheduled for Saturday, June 3rd at 8:00 AM. Please bring yard gloves and wear protective clothing and footwear. Water will be provided. Please call the office if you are interested in helping so we know who to expect and who to contact should we need to cancel.

Blood Drive Coming Soon

SS. John & Paul will once again sponsor an American Red Cross blood drive on Thursday, June 22 from 1:00 – 7:00 PM. A common concern among potential donors is their eligibility to donate if they are taking medication. In almost all cases, medications will not disqualify you as a blood donor. Your eligibility will be based on the reason that the medication was prescribed. As long as the condition is under control and you are healthy, blood donation is usually permitted. The following are guidelines issued by the American Red Cross for donor eligibility. Persons on these drugs have waiting periods following their last dose before they can donate blood:

- **Accutane, Amnesteem, Claravis or Sotret (isoretinoin), Proscar (finasteride), and Propecia (finasteride)** – wait one month from last dose
- **Avodart (dutasteride)** – wait 6 months from the last dose.
- **Aspirin**, no waiting period for donating blood. However you must wait 48 hours after taking aspirin or any medication containing aspirin before donating platelets by apheresis.
- **Clopidogrel** – wait 7 days after taking this medication before donating platelets by apheresis.
- **Coumadin (warfarin), heparin or other prescription blood thinners** – you should not donate since your blood will not clot normally. If your doctor discontinues your treatment with blood thinners, wait 7 days before returning to donate.
- **Hepatitis B Immune Globulin** – given for exposure to hepatitis, wait 12 months after exposure to hepatitis.
- **Human pituitary-derived growth hormone at any time** – you are not eligible to donate blood
- **Plavix** – wait 7 days after taking this medication before donating platelets by apheresis.
- **Soriatane (acitretin)** – wait 3 years.
- **Tegison (etretinate) at any time** – you are not eligible to donate blood.
- **Ticlid** – wait 7 days after taking this medication before donating platelets by apheresis.
- **Ticlopidine** – wait 7 days after taking this medication before donating platelets by apheresis.

Specific medical questions regarding blood donation can be answered by calling 1-800-GIVELIFE. Even if you are not able to donate, please encourage friends and family to do so. **Consistent donation will ensure the maintenance of an adequate blood supply for our community.**

Mother's Day Flowers

Thanks to the support of many parishioners, we were able to send Project Hope, Catholic Services of Macomb's crisis pregnancy center, a check for \$306.00.

The money we sent will be used to help provide such services as pregnancy testing, ultrasounds, prenatal care, pregnancy counseling, parenting classes, mentoring, respite care, adoption services, family counseling, life skills and other classes. The donation may also be used for needed food, maternity and baby clothes and furniture and other supplies. Thank you for your support of this life affirming agency.



**—Teens —
Look What's Happening!**

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you...

...to all who helped support our teens at the pancake breakfast. The breakfast was a huge success due to many families that gathered to enjoy a meal sponsored by their teens. Our teens are very lucky to have the support and kindness from our pastor, our parish staff, and our parish family.

We would also like to thank all the adults and teens who gave up their time to make this event happen. These special events can only happen when many hands come forward to help with all the needed tasks. You all did a terrific job! Thanks again.

Mrs. Peters



**All Aboard!
Teens and Altar Servers!**

The bus will be loading and ready to hit the highway for **Cedar Point** on Tuesday, June 27. Permission slips are now available in the office. **PLEASE NOTE:** Payment must be attached to your permission slip when it is turned in. Seating on the bus is limited, so get those permission slips in now. Any questions, call Mrs. Peters at 586.781.9488.

Confirmation Interviews

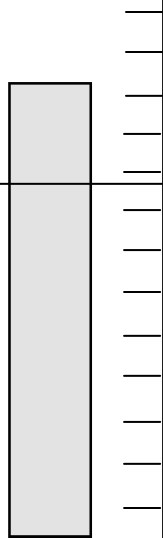
All candidates **MUST** call Mrs. Peters to schedule their Confirmation interview. Dates and times are listed on the calendar. Please call 586.781.9488 and book your appointment today.

CSA 2006

Total as of 5/21/06:	\$131,227.00	
Diocesan obligation:	\$ 88,627.00	
Return to parish:	\$ 42,600.00	\$88,627.00

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Participating Families: 375
 Gifts: 356
 Participation Percentage: 35.4%
 Average Gift: \$368.62



(Pastor's Perspective continued from page 1)

***Priest Jubilarians**

Each year the priests of the Archdiocese celebrate jubilees for priests ordained 25, 40, 50, 60 and more years. This year the jubilee takes place on Tuesday, May 30th. Since many of our parish members move here from other parishes, I thought it would be good to list the priests, just in case you know one of them and would like to send a note to them or pray for them.

60 years:

- Fr. Ron Heidelberger
- Fr. C. Paul Higdon
- Fr. Charles O'Neill
- Fr. Joseph Ryder
- Msgr. William Sherzer,
- Fr. Jasper Sirianni
- Fr. J. Walter Stanievich

50 years:

- Fr. David Brock
- Fr. Leo Broderick
- Bishop Thomas Gumbleton
- Fr. Sigismund Kowalczyk
- Fr. George Kowalski
- Cardinal Adam Maida
- Msgr. James Moloney
- Fr. Daniel Murphy
- Fr. James O'Leary
- Fr. Leon Page
- Fr. Bernard Pilarski
- Fr. Jacob Simonie
- Fr. Francis Skalski,
- Fr. Charles Zeeb

40 years:

- Fr. Brian Bjorklund
- Fr. Robert Blondell
- Fr. Paul Chateau
- Fr. Victor Clore
- Fr. Sidney Eckert
- Fr. James Mayworm
- Fr. John Nowlan
- Fr. Richard Perfetto
- Bishop Francis Reiss
- Fr. John Sullivan

25 years:

- Fr. Arthur Jacobi
- Fr. Bogdan Milosz
- Fr. Gary Morelli
- Fr. Lawrence Pettke
- Fr. William Siebert
- Fr. Thomas Slowinski

I will be on vacation this weekend through Wednesday. Let us remember all who have served our country and continue to do so. A special prayer this Memorial Day for those who have died in the service of the country.

Fr. Buersmeyer

PICNIC



June 25, 2006
2:00-6:00 p.m.



Food! Fun! Community!

Games and more!



**Bring your blankets...
 your lawn chairs... to relax
 and enjoy the day!**

This year's picnic committee has formed necessary committees and have begun to make arrangements for the food items, music, and games. A sign-up sheet for bringing desserts and salads is up in the hallway to the Parish Center. Suggestions for how and when to bring food will be in envelopes by the sign-ups.

We encourage everyone this year to bring blankets and lawn chairs to sit on for a more picnic atmosphere. There will be some canopies and chairs for those who need to sit, but we will not be renting the large tents as in past years. Our goal is relaxation and gathering with friends.

We will also be asking for helpers with the games, balloons, set-up and clean-up. Please try to be generous with your time and talents for this year's affair!



—Golf Outing—
August 27
1:00 p.m.

This year's annual golf outing will again be at Bruce Hills Golf Course. It will be a scramble beginning at 1:00 p.m. with prizes and dinner following golf. The cost stays the same; \$55.00 for 18 rounds of golf, deluxe buffet dinner, and prizes.

Registrations begin the first week of June. Register early...last year had more golfers than we could accommodate...so please consider registering soon. The registration flyers will be by the poster in the hallway going into the parish center and in the parish bulletin. Questions? Call the parish office at 586.781.9010.

Spring Clean Up Update



Despite rain all day on May 16th, by 6pm the weather cleared up and the sun came out for our annual Clean Up Day. Seven brave souls came out to pull weeds, fertilize trees, get the flower beds ready for planting and spread one ton of cobble stone rock near the drain. Many thanks to Ann Agosta, Mary Greenway, Tom Klakulak, Bob Lerczak, Marge Mulvaine, Suzanne Rielly, and Peggy Wright for their help in getting the church grounds spruced up. Because of the low turn out a few jobs did not get completed, so if you have a half-hour to spare, please come up and weed one of the islands.

The Landscape Committee is always looking for more members, so if you like getting your hands dirty or only have a little bit of time to share, we can find a job for you. Please call Paula at the office for more information. Spring flower planting is scheduled for May 31st.



Archdiocese of Detroit Promotes Catholic Education

To promote the value of Catholic education, the Archdiocese of Detroit began an ad campaign that includes billboards, radio spots and ads in local newspapers. The three-phased campaign began in April, with phase 2, to run in the fall, focusing on the value of Catholic high schools.

“We’re glad to see the Archdiocese taking steps to promote Catholic education,” said Leonard Brillati, president of Austin Catholic Academy, a co-ed Catholic high school targeted to open in the fall of 2008. “We’re working hard to raise \$30 million needed to build a Catholic high school in northern Macomb County, and this kind of campaign is sure to help.”

For more information on Austin Catholic Academy go to www.austincatholicacademy.org

Stewardship Report May 20-21, 2006

Weekly budget	\$11,600.00
Offertory.....	\$8,410.85
No. Sunday envelopes used.....	354
Total offertory	\$8,410.85

Other Monies / (# Envelopes)

Debt Reduction / (4).....	\$300.00
Children’s Env. / (9).....	\$9.00

Jesus is the perfect steward—watching carefully over all who have been entrusted to Him by the Father and then sending them all out into the world in service. May we similarly protect and wisely use the gifts entrusted to us!



Marriage

Congratulations Kia Wendland and Matthew Zygaj married May 26, 2006.

Wedding Banns

Kelly Huellmantel & Frederick Boonstra — June 17, 2006

Readings for the Week of May 28, 2006

Sunday, May 28:
Acts 1:1-11; Eph 1: 17-23 or Eph 4: 1-13 or Eph 4: 1-7, 11-13; Mk 16: 15-20

Monday, May 29:
Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68; Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday, May 30:
Acts 20:17-27; Ps 68; Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday, May 31:
Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16;
Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Lk 1:39-56

Thursday, June 1:
Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Ps 16; Jn 17:20-26

Friday, June 2:
Acts 25:13b-21; Ps 103; Jn 21:15-19

Saturday, June 3:
Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Ps 11; Jn 21:20-25

Sunday, June 4:
Day: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Gal 5:16-25; Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15

North Macomb Vicariate News

If you’re looking for news about our neighboring churches and local events, visit www.NMVonline.org or type in **North Macomb Vicariate News** on www.yahoo.com or www.google.com or www.CatholicWeb.com

Pray for our sick



Marjorie & Bob Aiken, Mary Angelosante, Mary Burcar, Donald Byrne, Bill Cauley, Ralph Cleary, Geraldine Dale, Lorraine Dawe, Chris Del Pappa, Lauren DeNio, Juan DiMusto, Alojzy Filipowicz, Krystyna Green, May Hoenle, Ronnie Housewright, Janet Johnson, Hayden Kroll, Jacob Main, Bernice Mayer, Bob Mehlick, Adele Miller, Larry Newsom, Dorothy Puffpaff, Hank Roman, Mary Ruppert, Albert Sabbe, Camille Smith, Michelle Smith, Barbara Supina, Karen Shea, Duane VanPamel, Marianne Vettrano, Richard Waluk, Toni Willoughby, Arthur Wiczko, Evelyn Wiczko

Sponsor of the week

Century 21 Collins

Pray for our military



Noel & Greg Ales, Nick Bassett, Augie Biache III, Mike Boback, Jon Brunner, Andrew Eppens, Eric Eppens, Tony Gentilia, David Krzycki, Jonathon Krusinski, Chris Krusinski, Matthew MacLeod, Paul McGowan, David Newberry, Thomas Schmidt, Vincent Titeriga, Jennifer & Warren Varney



**Eucharistic
Prayer
Requests**

**Saturday and Sunday
May 27-28, 2006**

David Cardwell by B. Cichoski
Rosa Sarti by Gai Family
Flo Poli by Family
Mildred Havener by E. Schindler

Monday, May 29, 2006

John Spath by Greenway Family

Tuesday, May 30, 2006

For the parishioners

Wednesday, May 31, 2006

Jason Smith by Pospiech Family

Saturday and Sunday

June 3-4, 2006

Norman VanDenBrouck by Family
Adelaide Crowley by V. Grubba
Anna & Thomas Balicki by Family

Liturgical appointments for June 3-4, 2006				
	5:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	11:30 a.m.
Celebrant	Fr. Buersmeyer	Fr. Sayes	Fr. Buersmeyer	Fr. Buersmeyer
Lectors	P. Brunet M. Catalano	J. Resutek M. Greenway	T. Fletcher R. Baes	S. Darga-Martino C. Gregory
Eucharistic Ministers *Captain	M. Beaudin* C. Bianchini M. Bonaudo B. Hellebuyck M. Catalano	M. Capp* B. Greenway P. Dobbs J. Fannon K. Fannon	J. Loebbs* M. Baes J. Krieg M. Krieg B. Mason A. Murray	T. Cianferra* A. Gilbertson J. Gilbertson D. Jiannuzzi J. Martino
Altar Servers	T. Culver	—Open—	T. Anderson	D. Gilbertson
Greeters	C. Bianchini R. Hunsucker	J. Fannon K. Fannon	D. Bernia G. Laird	C. Winde
Ushers	Team #2 M. LaRaia M. Hendershot J. Krieg M. Macha	Team #4 R. Giffin K. Grunewald B. Huellmantel H. Susalla	Team #6 M. Burcar B. Cammarata J. Pospiech B. Schulz J. Gerds	Team #8 L. LePage C. Klapec R. Kopera J. Kretchman K. McBride J. Pyke D. Waligore
Money Counters	Sharon Bourgeois, Donald Byrne, Len & Jacqueline Monfils, Dick & Pat Podolski			