

Newman Foundation Inc. at the University of Kentucky - Lexington, Kentucky

Distinguished Speakers Report

Homer White, Distinguished Speakers Program Co-Chair

The Distinguished Speakers Program began the year 2005 with all-new membership. Lesley Osborne and Homer White serve as co-chairs; other members are Hal Jankowski and Katie Yunker.

In April, the committee, in conjunction with the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice, assisted in hosting Kathy Kelly, the founder of Voices in the Wilderness, an organization that provides medical assistance to the citizens of Iraq and, since the end of sanctions, has attempted to be a witness for peace in that country. Ms. Kelley spoke at several venues in central Kentucky and delivered an address at Newman Center on April 15.

The committee is in the process of locating speakers for the 2005-2006 academic year and beyond. To date, two exciting speakers have currently indicated their willingness to visit the Newman Center.

Sister Tracey Matthia Dugas, who recently took her final vows with the Daughters of Saint Paul, is a student of religion and popular culture. Her interactive, multimedia presentation is entitled, "Even in the Darkness: Encountering

God in Popular Films."

Dr. Glenn Hinson retired in 1999 from the position of Professor of Spirituality and John F. Loftis Professor of Church History at The Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond, Virginia. He had previously taught for more than thirty years at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. In 1960 he began taking Southern Seminary students to the Abbey of Gethsemani. Thomas Merton served as their host. Among his numerous books are, *The Early Church: Dawn to the Middle Ages* and *A Serious Call to a Contemplative Lifestyle*." Dr. Hinson has membership in significant ecumenical organizations and has participated in the Catholic/Southern Baptist Scholars' Dialogues and in the International Catholic/Baptist Conversations. Among his honors is the Cuthbert Allen Memorial Award for Ecumenism, from the Ecumenical Institute of Belmont Abbey/Wake Forest University. The title of his address is "Christian Contemplative Spirituality in Ecumenical Perspective."

Dates for speakers will be posted at www.newmanfnd.org as the dates are confirmed.

Grants Support Diocesan-wide Projects

Dave Uckotter, Chair

The Grant Program administered by the Newman Foundation, Inc., strives to provide funding for projects that support both local and diocesan-wide projects, to aid in worship, fellowship and service consistent with the foundation goals.

The Foundation provided \$2609.80 for partial support to both Holy Spirit Newman Center, and St. Stephen Newman Center to send students to the National Catholic Coalition Conference in Washington, D.C., in December 2004. In addition, one student attended the National Catholic Student Coalition in Houston in February 2005, as one of the national Board members, a first

for a University of Kentucky student.

Another partial grant of \$1000 provided the opportunity for three Newman Center staff members to attend the National Convention of Catholic Campus Ministry Association in San Antonio in January 2005. The Newman Center Women's Lenten Retreat received a \$250 grant to pay for expenses for a retreat speaker and facilitator at their spring retreat at the Loretto Motherhouse in Nerinx. Assistance for 3 spring break trips, to a rural community in Louisiana; Camden, NJ; and Miami, FL, provided opportunity for students to put their faith in action in repairing housing and other facilities, share social

action activities, and serve people in need of help, both financially and spiritually.

Two special projects initiated by the Newman Center Health Ministries Program were also funded. The Yoga class received \$100 for purchase of equipment. The cost of attending a CPR class was made affordable by a \$400 grant. All the projects improved fellowship among all participants, provided hope for others and spread the spirit of sharing and support with many other people, fulfilling the purpose and goal of the grant program of NFI.

Grants Committee: Dave Uckotter, chair, Tom Gandolfo, Mary Molinaro, Brad Presley, and Tim Smith.

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Office Hours:
Tuesday — Friday
9:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m.

Grants Committee Deadlines

• **Thursday,
Oct. 6, 2005**

• **Thursday,
Feb. 2, 2006**

• **Thursday,
April 6, 2006**

Spotlight: New Board Members

Samantha Freitas is pursuing doctoral studies in public health with a focus in epidemiology and environmental health. Previously, she did research on malaria and took a Masters in Chemistry at Georgetown University, Washington, D.C. Originally from Bombay, India, Samantha ministers as an altar server at the Newman Center and enjoys attending Theology on Tap and, on occasion, the Merton Study Group.

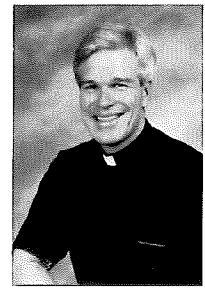
Collin Linebach, a junior in the Landscape Architecture program at U.K., has participated in two Spring Break Service & Learning Trips (Miami 2004, Louisiana 2005). As a Newman Center student director, Collin organized students volunteering with Lexington's Habitat for Humanity. Collin will serve as a Newman Center director again in 2005-2006.

Dave Uckotter, a member of the Newman Center since 1984, has been involved in many different activities: the divorced and separated ministry, remarriage preparation ministry, family life ministry, and Eucharistic ministry. He and his wife, Donna, coordinated activities for the Epiphany ceremonies as well as the First Communion program for several years. They have also provided foster-home assistance to several infants. Recently retired

as a civil engineer from LFUCG, Dave enjoys fishing, hiking, and woodworking. He and Donna have eight children, two of whom are adopted from Korea, and 20 grandchildren.

Bernie Vonderheide was public relations director at U.K. for 23 years before his retirement about 8 years ago. He frequently writes on nursing home issues. He is widely regarded as the most knowledgeable and outspoken advocate for nursing home reform in Kentucky. Bernie is president and founder of Kentuckians for Nursing Home Reform. He is a former president of NFI (when it was known as Newman Center Inc.). He and his wife, Barbara, have four grown children and 10 grandchildren.

Homer White is a mathematics professor at Georgetown College. He and his family have been at the Newman Center since the fall of 2001. His wife, Mary Lou, teaches the kindergarten Sunday School and is a lector. They have three daughters, two of whom are altar servers. Homer is especially interested in Catholic social action, monastic spirituality and contemplative prayer, comparative theology, and the relationship between science and religion.



Summer Rambles

*Fr. Tom Farrell,
Newman Center Pastor*

The three musketeers. That's what I dubbed the trio of graduate students who came, during Holy Week, first to the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Thursday, then to the Liturgy of Good Friday, and finally to the celebration of the Easter Vigil. They came faithfully, night after night, and always together, to participate in the Sacred Triduum. They took part in everything from the Washing of the Feet to the blessing of the Easter Fire, and stayed for the reception after the Vigil. They commented that they had never experienced such "interactive" liturgies (their word).

The three musketeers represent a body of students whose number I cannot count: the stream of young men and women who come, Sunday after Sunday, and on days like Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, or the Vigil of Easter, to participate in worship at the UK Newman Center. They not only see how life-giving the Church's liturgy can be when we aim for the "full, conscious, and active participation" of the faithful; they also make it happen! They generate life by their presence, energy, spirit, involvement, and vigorous singing!

I've often thought, as I look out at the assembly and see the students who help to fill it, how grateful (and maybe surprised) their parents would be if they could stand in my shoes, at the altar, and see what I see. I hope to give parents, alumni and every patron of Newman Foundation Inc. a window into my world through the story of the "three musketeers." They, and the students they represent, inspire my thanks and praise. I hope they do yours as well.

2 Message from the President

Timothy Wills

Historically, NFI's primary mission has been to raise funds to provide for the construction, renovation and maintenance of facilities at the Newman Center, and to sponsor spiritual and theological programs for U.K. students, the Newman Center, and Lexington. This has not always been an easy task, but with the aid of the Holy Spirit, NFI has been successful in fulfilling its mission.

NFI has provided a rewarding experience to many of us at the Newman Center. We are greatly indebted to those who have served as board members for NFI and our many donors. Without their vision, leadership and financial support, NFI would not be the vibrant

organization that it is today.

Now in its 31st year, NFI is planning to announce a major fundraising campaign in the near future that will have an everlasting effect on U.K. and the Diocese of Lexington. The necessary components for this campaign are coming together through the efforts of present and former NFI board members, Bishop Gainer, Father Tom Farrell, and Dean Steven Hoch of the U.K. College of Arts and Sciences. NFI truly has been blessed. We have a lot for which to be thankful as we look forward to these challenging and exciting times. With your continued support, the best of NFI is yet to come.

www.newmanfnd.org

The Newman Foundation Inc. is excited about the continuing development of our new website. The website, still under construction, can be found at www.newmanfnd.org. The website will include information about:

- ☆ **Distinguished Speakers Program**
- ☆ **Newman Foundation history**
- ☆ **Grants Program**
- ☆ **Board Trustees**
- ☆ **Newsletter, latest edition**
- ☆ **Finance & Development**

You can remember Newman Foundation Inc. in your will. Call the office for information.

Spring Break Reflections

In March, four groups of Newman Center students participated in spring break service-learning trips in eastern Kentucky; Natchitoches, Louisiana; Camden, New Jersey; and Miami, Florida.

... I was left with a deeper sense of faith and a renewed commitment to serve God's people.

Cristin Schroering, sophomore, Louisville



Erin Mallory, Coady Kleinert:

On the trip this year, I saw how the beauty of the hills diminished the poverty in the valleys. I know eastern Kentucky is very beautiful, but the hills appear to be barriers for the poor in only allowing them to see so far while the wealthy live on the top of the hills where they can see for miles. I realized that Appalachia is a perfect representation of poverty. As the valleys get deeper, the hills become higher just as the rich get richer, the poor get poorer. On our trip we helped to level the ground.

Brian O'Dea, junior, Louisville

The best part about the trip to culture. All my life I have lived in cities, whether small or large, and I have grown to know the city life and culture. Growing up, my idea of poverty was if a family only had one car in their driveway. After this trip, I realized that my ideas of life were outright wrong. There are people in eastern Kentucky that are in poverty, but that doesn't get them down. The people are friendly all the time, even with people they don't know. They will help someone at any time, and that was very refreshing.

Thomas Gleason, junior, Madisonville



Natchitoches, LA

A person I met in Louisiana who made an impact on me was David. David was hit by a car while riding a bike a long time ago where he was visiting his family in Europe. He lost his memory, had to drop out of school, and is now rebuilding his life. Even with all the trials and tribulations that David had to face, he did not stray from God. David is being very strong and wants to become a priest. David really touched my heart because he allowed me to see and be thankful for all the little things in life and realize all the beauty around me that other times I would have let pass by.

Ashley Noll, freshman, Villa Hills

Every morning as we ate breakfast and made ham and cheese sandwiches in the kitchen of the "Fulford Inn" (Miami), I could not help but gaze at the magnet on the refrigerator. I had heard the prayer before, but it had never really touched home. "God, grant me the Serenity to know the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference." This summed up the meaning of my spring break experience. Here we were twelve college students and Gene, dedicating our week to help people we did not even know. We drove 19 hours to sleep on the tile floor of a Methodist church and build houses. We were unsure about what challenges we would encounter, not sure what spring break fun we would miss out on. After the first day of work, we knew we were in a life-changing experience. We bonded as a group. We enjoyed our work. We got lost, and still had fun. Every day was an adventure. We learned that no matter how insignificant our service may feel, to someone else it might mean the world. Unto those to whom God grants the ability, he also bestows the responsibility for action.

Nicholas Such, freshman, Prospect



Habitat for Humanity work crew, Miami, FL

Please clip and mail to Newman Foundation Inc. 320 Rose Lane, Lexington, KY 40508-3306

We can continue our success only with your dedicated support. Please assist us in sustaining our mission of providing the ministry and programs described in this newsletter by indicating your interest in additional information and/or through your financial support.

Yes, I wish to support the ministry of NFI with my Enclosed tax deductible donation in the amount of \$ _____

Contact me about NFI major donor programs

_____ Last Name _____ First Name
 _____ Address
 _____ City _____ State _____ Zip
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New Student Directors, 2005-2006

- Sarah Fagan (jr.) Bardstown; Retreat Coordinator
- Thomas Gleason (sr.) Madisonville; Hospitality
- Brent Hayden (jr.) Owensboro; Co-Coordinator Social Events
- Anne Jesse (soph.) Tipp City, OH; Co-Coordinator KY Welcome
- Collin Linebach (jr.) Louisville; Habitat for Humanity & Service Committee
- Stephanie Martin (jr.) Irvine; Religious Education & Hospitality
- Lee Metzger (jr.) Villa Hills; Intramural Sports
- Maria Teresa Reynolds (jr.) Indianapolis; Cultural Events
- Allen Rust (soph.) California; Pizza Theology & KY Cath. Student Coalition
- Colleen Santo (jr.) Louisville; Intramural Sports & Faith Sharing
- Cristin Schroering (jr.) Louisville; Spirituality Committee
- Angela Seay (soph.) Louisville; Social Activities Committee
- Kristen Snyder (soph.) Morehead; Faith Sharing Committee
- Nick Such (soph.) Prospect; Co-coordinator KY Welcome
- Katie Twist (jr.) Lexington; Public Relations & Outreach Committee
- Nathan Wagner (jr.) Independence; Pastoral Council member

NFI Board of Trustees, 2005

| | | |
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| Tony Cecil | Kristy Maggard | Tim Smith |
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| Samantha Freitas | Fred O'Bryan | Homer White |
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| Hal Jankowski | Lesley Osborne | Mary Wimsatt |
| Al Lawing | Vic Parlanti | Katie Yunker |
| Collin Linebach | Brad Presley | Fr. Tom Farrell, ex officio |
| Rose Lucas | Darlene Silvestri | |

NFI Mission Statement

Newman Foundation Inc. is an independent and non-profit corporation that seeks to deepen and integrate personal, spiritual, and intellectual development at the Newman Center, the University of Kentucky, and the Catholic Diocese of Lexington by providing financial resources, physical facilities and initiated programs.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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