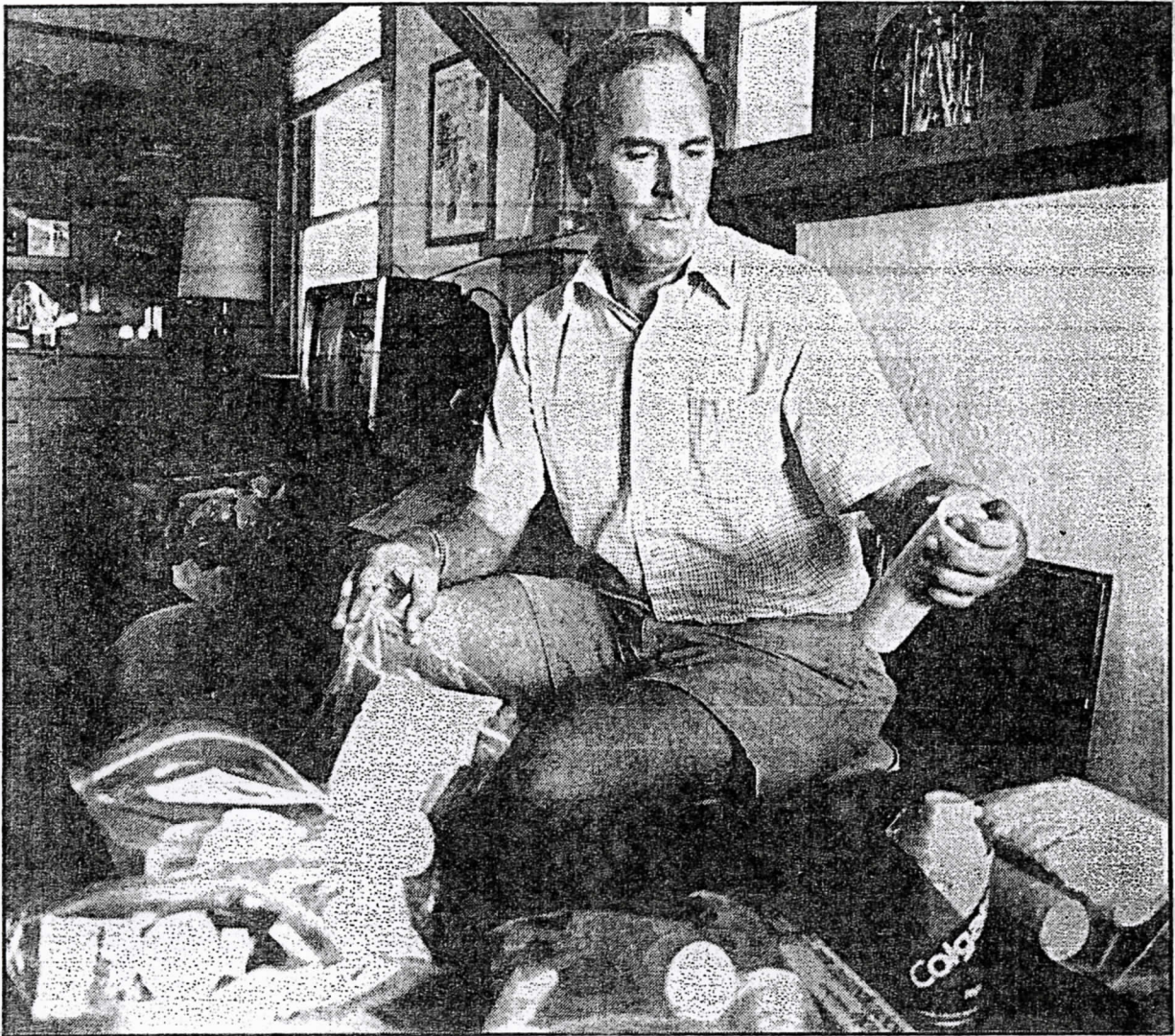


Midwest Bits and Pieces

October 23, 1989



Gary Ulik/The Arizona Republic

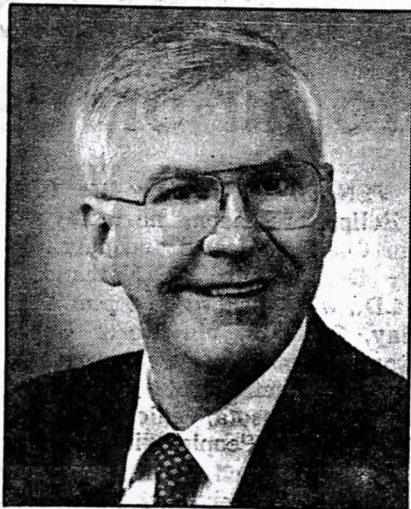
An article in a Phoenix, Arizona, newspaper, The Arizona Republic has a picture of Brother Richard Armstrong putting together "We Care" packets for the homeless. The packets consist of soap, wash cloths, sewing kits, socks, lotion, wet-wipe cloths, razors, laundry detergent and shampoo. Brother Richard indicated that they could use two or three hundred packets each week if they were available. That the packets are useful and appreciated is indicated by a letter from one of the eight workers at Andre House to Betty Kinney, the founder of the program. The worker told of two homeless men who came to the house one day. The temperature at the time was 115 degrees. The men asked if they could use the hose cool each other off, get a cool drink of water from the hose and then be on their way. The worker gave each a "We Care" packet. The looks and smiles on the men's faces made all the work worthwhile.

The packets are the brain child of Betty Kinney and are collected and prepared by a group of people from the Desert Hills Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Kinney said that it was difficult for the parishoners to understand poverty and homelessness because of their wealth and protected living areas. They willingly gave money for them, but Mrs. Kinney wanted them involved in giving of themselves. The experience has been a real education for them.

Alligator eggs & Chiggers

Brother Lawrence Stewart writes: I'm five weeks into the fall semester at Our Lady of Holy Cross College here in New Orleans. Tom Chambers is president of the college. I was hired as an Associate Professor in biology and am presently teaching human physiology and microbiology classes. I also have a position as Adjunct Professor at Tulane Medical School. I will be teaching an Applied Exercise Physiology course in the spring semester. I'm still running races and next week I'll attempt another stair-climb-race up a thirty-three story building in New Orleans. I raced the forty-four story AUL building in Indianapolis for twenty-two years, so this one should be easy.

From February to August I kept busy renovating a house in the Uptown Area for the Mount Carmel Sisters. I also kept busy collecting and hatching alligator eggs in the marshes. I found out the hard way what "red bugs" are down here. We call them chiggers in Ohio. And I had them all over my body from the egg collecting episode. We collected over four thousand eggs from the nests in the marshes, using the swamp air boat of Pete Lege, with whom I worked on the project. Great fun! Also, I discovered that the summer heat and humidity of New Orleans, about which the New Orleanians complain so much, is not as bad as that which I experienced in Ghana.



Bishop's Faith Appeal

The 1989 Bishop's Faith Appeal (for the Diocese of Venice, Florida,) generated more than \$2 million for the diocese, announced Brother Peter Nault, CSC, Director of Stewardship for the diocese. As of August, the total of \$2,241,016 exceeded the target of \$2 million. Close to 22,800 parishoners participated with an average gift of \$98.35, an increase over the 1988 drive which reached \$2,204,128.21, with an average gift of \$91.

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In your prayers, please remember the father of Brother Gerald Nettesheim who died recently.

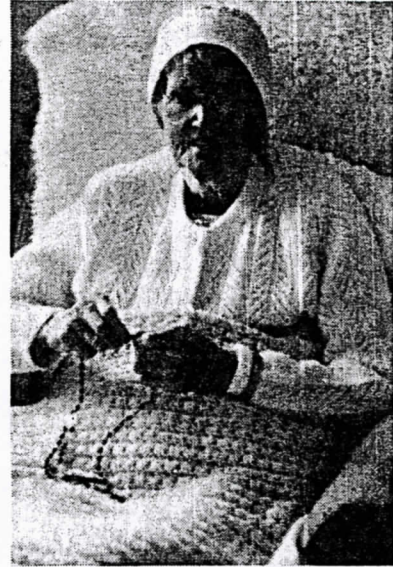
Brothers' & Sisters' Keepers'

In the July issue of Bits and Pieces we announced that the Midwest Province had received slightly less than \$63,000 from the Retirement Fund for Religious. This fund is the result of annual collections taken up in the dioceses of the United States and is intended to provide for retired nuns and brothers who are without sufficient funds to care for their members properly. The religious communities of nuns and brothers in the United States require \$3 billion to meet the needs of the retired and soon to be retired members. You might have seen an ad in a recent edition of Newsweek seeking gifts for the fund. However, the main funding must come from the various dioceses and parishes.

The province has been cooperating in the planning of the Retirement Fund for Religious for the past five years. At a recent meeting, Sister Mary Oliver Hudon, SSND, who organized the program, reminded the religious communities benefiting from the program of their need to show interest in it and to assist as they are able to do so. She stressed that many of the communities were in drastic need of funds for their retirement programs and indicated our responsibility to "walk in the shoes" and assist them.

There are various ways we can help. All of us can pray for the success of the program. In some dioceses, religious can assist by giving talks in the parishes and in other ways. We are asked to discover what is being done in the diocese in which our ministry is located and offer to assist as we are able.

Are We
Our Brothers'
Keepers?
And
Our Sisters'
Too?



WE MUST BE!

Retired nuns and
brothers in the U.S.
face unfunded
retirement liabilities
of \$3 BILLION.

**THEY NEED
YOUR HELP.**

Won't you send a check?

**RETIREMENT
FUND FOR
RELIGIOUS**

P.O. Box 73140
Baltimore, MD 21273

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Brother Leo Kowalski has accepted the Superiorship at Le Mans Academy. He succeeds Brother Shaun Gray. Brother Leo will take over as superior in mid-October. The province wishes to thank Brother Shaun for his years of service and to wish Brother Leo God's blessings as he takes over as superior.

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The fifth annual meeting of the three provincial councils met at Notre Dame on October 14 and 15. The discussion was in response to the presentations of the Educational Ministries and the Futures Committees. Under separate cover you will receive copies of the proceedings of the committee's work. The gathering was most enjoyable and profitable.



Front Row: Stephen LaMendola, Richard Gilman, Michael Winslow, Paul Kelly, George Schmitz, Thomas Moser, David Andrews, Charles Smith.

Second Row: Robert Lavelle, Joel Giallanza, Stephen Walsh, John Gleason, Peter Martin, Paul Rahaim, Keric Dever, Lawrence Skitzki, Ralph Kuder, Donald Blauvelt, Matthew Lyons.

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Brother James Van Dyke was returning from vacation when he was involved in an auto accident near Springfield, Illinois. He was a guest of the Memorial Medical Center for some days while his left knee had cartilage and bone chips removed. His ankle was pinned. James will be on crutches for a period of healing. We wish him well.