

# "The Open Window"

Bergamo Center for Lifelong Learning  
Newsletter  
Winter 2016-17  
<http://www.bergamocenter.org/>



## Bergamo Jubilee

The Bergamo Center will be celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee in 2017. Plans are in place for a number of activities starting as soon as this next weekend. There is an emphasis on complimenting existing activities that already draw many friends, guests and

Marianists to the Center. We will take those occasions to acknowledge long time groups at the center.

We thank the generous sponsors of our Jubilee Celebration 2017: Miller Valentine & Houser Asphalt and Concrete, and The Enterprise Roofing & Sheet Metal Company

## Las Posadas

The Bergamo Center in collaboration with Mount Saint John and the University of Dayton Marian Library is hosting a Christmas Posada on Dec. 11, 2016 at Mount St. John, 4400 Shakertown Road, Beavercreek, Ohio from 2-4 p.m. Meet outside the Center's main entrance at 2 p.m. to begin the Posada. Join us for a single-day version of the centuries-old Mexican tradition of *Las Posadas*, a centuries-old Advent meditation and procession that re-creates the pilgrimage of Mary and Joseph on their way to Bethlehem for the birth of Christ. Pilgrimage will be from building to building at Mount St. John with exhibits of Nativity sets at each location.



Park in lot D adjacent to the Bergamo Retreat Center; participants should meet at 2 p.m. outside the center's main entrance to begin the Posada. The procession concludes by 4:00 back at the Bergamo Center for light traditional refreshments and a piñata.

## Spirit of Bergamo



The Bergamo Center announces in celebration of its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, in collaboration with Gallery Saint John, *The Spirit of Bergamo: A Juried Exhibit of Art* at Gallery St. John, Dayton Ohio from April 19 - April 30, 2017.

Over the past 50 years, the Bergamo Center has been a place of serenity and spiritual renewal, often inspired by the beauty of the surrounding land of Mount Saint John.

This is a special invitation to High School Youth (Gr. 9-12) and Adult artists from organizations and schools who have retreats and conferences here at the Bergamo Center to express the beauty one experiences in encountering the spiritual in a place like Bergamo Center and Mount Saint John. In partnership with Gallery Saint John an exhibit that evokes this spirit is planned for the Spring of 2017 to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> jubilee of Bergamo. For more details and entry forms **go to the Bergamo Jubilee web page.**

## Gene Ketter - R.I.P.



It is with great sadness that we mourn the death of Gene Ketter, Custodial and Housekeeping Supervisor at Bergamo Center who passed away while at work at the Bergamo Center over Thanksgiving weekend. Gene was the "gentle giant" at Bergamo who had a hand behind the scenes in just about every facet of

preparing for and maintaining the facility for our guest groups, from supervising the custodial and housekeeping staff to setting up for events to changing light bulbs and delivering water to the conference rooms. Thank you for sharing your life and work here at Bergamo Gene ...you will be missed.

KETTER, Gene Age 73, of Oakwood, passed away Nov. 26, 2016. He was preceded in death by his parents, Ann and Lawrence. Born in Beloit, Kansas, Gene attended Kansas State University. He was a member of Knights of Columbus (Beloit, KS) and a member of Holy Angels Parish. Survived by his wife of 47 years, Kathy; son, Jonathan (Heather) Ketter; daughter, Carolyn (Alex) Irwin; grandchildren Collins and Sloane Irwin and Evan Ketter; brother, Dennis (Catherine) Ketter of Statham, GA; sisters Mary Lou (Frank) Heit of Miamisburg and Shirley (Dick) Burr of San Clemente, CA and several nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to: SICSA at [www.sicsa.org/give](http://www.sicsa.org/give).

## Life Saving Equipment

The Bergamo Center sadly informs the community of the unfortunate passing of one of our regular guests Ron Reichers who died earlier this fall of a heart attack while playing noon basketball at the Sieben Hall Gym. Through the generosity of his family, friends and members of the NBA (Noon-time Basketball Association, pictured at left) a new Automated External Defibrillators or AED has been purchased and installed for the Sieben Hall Gymnasium.



## New Faces at Bergamo

Bergamo welcomes three new staff members to our ranks of our staff ready to serve guests. New staff since this fall include: **Janet Ingram**, Cook; **Maureen McFadden**, Housekeeper; and **Rob Noss**, Server, pictured left to right in order below. Please join us in welcoming these new members of the "Bergamo Team."



Over please...

## Communication with Group Coordinators

Group coordinators of our youth and adult retreats and conference programs at Bergamo Center can expect a communication soon from the Bergamo Center outlining rates beginning July 2017. In that communication will be links to Jubilee events, in particular the Spirit of Bergamo Art Exhibit. Bergamo values regular communication with its guests.

## Thank You for Donations

We thank the following donors who have generously blessed the Bergamo Center this fall.

**Daughters of the Immaculate Conception** - \$375 for Bibles  
**Jeff & Sherri Chips** - \$50  
**NBA (Noon-time Basketball Association)** in honor of Ron Riechers for AED - \$450  
**Sean Downing Family** \$200

## Marianist Feast Days - Winter 2017



Jan. 10 Adele de Batz de Trenquelleon  
Jan. 22 Blessed William Joseph Chaminade  
Feb. 2 Feast of the Presentation  
Feb. 11 Our Lady of Lourdes  
March 19 Feast of Saint Joseph  
March 25 Annunciation

## Winter Staff Birthdays

Diane Borchers - Jan. 26  
Amy Lehmann - Jan. 29  
Sam El-hajj-moussa - February 5  
Ginny Snead - February 21  
Gina Gregory - February 27

## Quote

“Like the Magi, let us not return from the crib by the same route. That is, let us lead an entirely new life, a changed life, one transformed in God.”

– Adèle de Batz de Trenquelléon,



## Winter Retreats/Events (Approx. # of Participants)

Alter HS Kairos Retreat (60) – Dec. 1-2  
Lalanne Program Teachers Retreat (21) – Dec. 2-4  
Hartley HS Retreat (50) – Dec. 4-5  
Villa Madonna HS Retreat (50) - Dec. 5-6  
Lehman HS Kairos (79) - Dec. 6-9  
Spiritual Direction (18) – Dec. 6  
Daughters of Immaculate Conception (20) – Dec. 8  
St. Albert the Great Confirmation (70) - Dec. 10  
ISP Women Follow-up (20) – Dec. 10  
Retired Religious Educators Reunion (8) – Dec. 10-11  
Christmas Posadas (100) – Dec.11  
Mount St. John Charism Luncheon (100) - Dec. 15  
Bergamo Center Closed for Christmas - Dec. 18-31

UD Mission Director (18) – Jan. 5-6  
Creative Memories (30) –Jan. 6-8  
MLFI (11) – Jan. 6-9  
Watterson HS (50) – Jan. 8-9  
Spiritual Direction (18) – Jan. 10  
Bergamo Board (15) – Jan. 12  
St. Francis Men's Retreat (65) – Jan. 13-15  
Shearcroppers Scrapbook Retreat (15) – Jan. 13-16  
Immaculate Conception, Celina (30) – Jan. 15-16  
Mt. Notre Dame HS (60) – Jan. 16-17  
Spiritual Direction (18) – Jan. 17  
Alter HS Kairos (70) – Jan. 17-20  
Westminster Presbyterian (50) – Jan. 20-21  
Marianist Founders Reception (150) – Jan. 21  
Alter HS (50) – Jan. 22-23  
CJ HS Kairos (70) – Jan. 24-27  
Moeller HS Retreat (50) – Jan. 23-24  
Northminster Presbyterian (15) – Jan. 23-25  
Spiritual Direction (18) – Jan. 24  
Miami Valley Sewing Guild (24) – Jan. 27-29  
ISP Women's Retreat (20) – Jan. 28-29  
Pre Cana (80) – Jan. 28  
Watterson HS (50) – Jan. 29-30  
Moeller HS Retreat (45) – Jan. 30-31  
Spiritual Direction (18) – Jan. 31

McAuley HS (45) – Feb. 2-3  
Scrapbookers Retreats (45) – Feb. 3-5  
Ohio Star Quilters (18) – Feb. 6-8  
Watterson HS (50) – Feb. 6-7  
Hartley HS Kairos (75) – Feb. 7-10  
Spiritual Direction (18) – Feb. 7  
Christian Life Center Board (12) – Feb. 10-11  
UD Metanoia Group (60) – Feb. 10-12  
Alter HS (50) – Feb. 12-13  
Mother of Mercy HS (45) – Feb. 13-14  
Spiritual Direction (18) – Feb. 14  
Moeller Kairos (70) – Feb. 16-17  
Quilt Dreamers (80) - Feb. 18-20  
Miami Valley Youth – Feb. 20  
Spiritual Direction (18) – Feb. 21  
St. Albert the Great Leaders (30) – Feb. 22  
Seton HS (45) – Feb. 23-24  
St. Francis Women (100) – Feb. 24-26  
ISP Coed Retreat (20) – Feb. 25  
Watterson HS (50) – Feb. 26-27  
Springfield Catholic (43) – Feb.27-28  
Spiritual Direction (18) – Feb. 28