

THE SOUP KITCHEN



A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
1-269-925-8204

2010 SUMMER EDITION

Soup Bowl 2010

The 11th annual Soup Bowl was held at Kelley's Bowl on Sunday, May 16. 26 teams from 15 organizations participated.



Anthony, Jack, Steve and Tony from Grande Mere Inn took home the first place trophy while Glen, Stephanie, Jane and Don from St Joe FOP 96 took the silver. Brad, Erin, Eric and Mike from Tosi's Restaurant took third place. Clementine's Too reclaimed the Team Spirit trophy for the fifth time in six years.



Cathy Fechner (FOP) won the Grand Prize, a Whirlpool washer and dryer set. Chris Kasperzak (The Ideal Place), Becky Gusse (The Ideal Place) and Joy Lausch (Grande Mere Inn) won the 50/50's.

The Soup Kitchen would like to thank our generous donors: Whirlpool Corporation, Timothy's, The Boulevard Hotel/Bistro at the Boulevard, Gillespie's Pharmacy, Martin's Super Market, KidZone, The Golf

Club at Harbor Shores, Pauly's, Grande Mere Inn, The Pump House, Clementine's Too, Beaux Cheveax Salon, Expressions Café, The Livery, Competitive Edge, Berrien County, The Ideal Place, Ok Distributors, Shell Gas, Roger's Foodland, and Bud Distributing.

Special thanks to our great volunteers; we couldn't do this without you! Kristi Clark, Judy Barchalk- Shirley, Kelli Reeves, Nancy Gillespie Smith, Jessi DuRocher, Cathy Fechner, Pam Smith and Jeff Von Koenig.

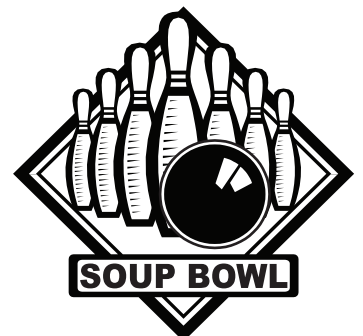


Clementine's Too reclaimed the Team Spirit trophy for the fifth time in six years.

Toni Hauch Retires

After 12 years of service as a Board member and past President, our Board Vice President Toni Hauch retired on May 13, 2010.

We appreciate her contributions to the success and sustainability of the Soup Kitchen and wish her well in her new endeavors and ministries. We are certain the clients and volunteers will miss her too and wish her all the best.





**NEW BOARD MEMBER
JILL BEACH**

I became a Board Member of the Soup Kitchen last fall. I only recently learned about the Soup Kitchen because I lived in Chicago for the past 35 years and only had a weekend home in New Buffalo, Michigan. Several years ago my husband Rocky and I moved permanently to Michigan. I'm a Financial Advisor and have subsequently moved my business locally and now have satellite offices in St. Joseph, South Bend and Valparaiso. It was through my client, Toni Hauch, that I got involved with the Soup Kitchen. She was the President at that time and asked me to join the Board to oversee the management of the Soup Kitchen investments.

When my husband and I decided to move permanently to Michigan, one of the important things I left behind was my involvement with Thresholds, a psychiatric rehabilitation center with locations throughout Chicago. I was a Board member and also Co-Chairman of their main fund raiser. We helped thousands of people, many that were homeless, deal with psychiatric problems. Thresholds provided housing facilities, helped them obtain the right medication, receive counseling, deal with substance abuse issues and ultimately find jobs. When I moved to Michigan, I resigned from the Board. The Soup Kitchen gave me the opportunity to again be involved in the community and give something back to men and women who are far less fortunate.

The Soup Kitchen serves over 5000 healthy, nutritious meals per month and there has been a steady raise in this number due to high unemployment in the area. For many of our clients, this is the only meal of the day; often they must choose to either pay rent or eat. One of the things I was amazed to learn was the scope of what the Soup Kitchen does beyond providing meals to people in need. The Soup Kitchen helps people locate apartments, find jobs, and, for some, to finish their GED through the outreach program at Lake Michigan College. Health is always a concern and much effort is given to get some clients into substance abuse programs or obtain medical care.

I attended my first fund raiser which was the Tabor Hill Benefit Dinner with a number of my New Buffalo friends. I'm thankful for their support and glad to involve new people in the Soup Kitchen. I look forward to more events like the upcoming Golf Outing to help generate additional support for the Soup Kitchen.

I'm honored to be on the Board and to be part of the effort to help so many people in need.



GRANTS:

The Soup Kitchen was awarded a grant from the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program; this grant helps us pay for food and for serving the food. This grant is supervised by our local United Way. Thank you!

We also received a grant from the Community Development Block Grant program through the city of Benton Harbor. We extend our thanks to Regina Sistrunk, Deputy Director of Community Development, for her invaluable assistance. We are especially gratified by this award because the grant evaluation was made by a panel of community members. We are thrilled by their enthusiastic support for the Soup Kitchen programs.

In addition, we received a \$1,000 food grant from American Electric Power/Cook Nuclear.

Why do we need your financial support?

While it is true that we receive hundreds of donated hours of labor and much donated food here at the Soup Kitchen, our average operating costs are about \$10,000 every month. We are careful with our budget and it is small compared to the services we provide, but have to generate that much to pay our monthly bills.

Contact the Soup Kitchen:

Phone: 925-8204

Fax: 925-5457

Email: soup-kitchen@att.net

Web Site: www.soup-kitchen.org



**Remembering Charlie Orr,
Friend of the Soup Kitchen**

Charlie Orr volunteered at the Soup Kitchen for many Christmas day meals until this past Christmas, when he didn't feel well enough to come. He had been fighting stage four sarcoma for two years, and this year Charlie's annual visit was too difficult.

Charlie, a larger than life character, was well known in the Chicago food scene as the owner of the Maple Tree Inn, one of the city's best and longest running Cajun/Creole restaurants. We learned of Charlie's passing in May when his attorney called to tell us that Charlie had remembered us in his will. Thanks again Charlie. It is caring volunteers like you who make our work at the Soup Kitchen possible.

Lincoln School "Empty Bowls" Project

The Soup Kitchen would like to thank Students of Lincoln School in St. Joseph for selecting us to benefit from your "Empty Bowls" project. We are appreciative that a group of young people are so tuned into a very real human issue in our own community. The money you raised will go toward stocking our pantry. This time of year, we serve approximately 5000 meals per month.

We admire the way you have chosen to donate to us in such a creative and thoughtful manner. It is wonderful that you are able to share your talents to help others. We applaud your teachers and parents for their guidance and assistance and urge all of you to continue with your volunteer efforts in our community.

There are many worthy causes to support in our corner of the world and we are honored that you chose us. On behalf of the Soup Kitchen board, our clients, volunteers and staff, thank you all very much.

A FUND-RAISER WITH AMBIENCE....

It isn't often you can attend a charitable fund-raiser and feel as though you experienced an elegant evening out...having been greeted at the entrance by a hostess and guided to the privacy of your own table...then served exquisite wines (or cocktails)...a choice of menu items...all with a beautiful view of a vineyard country scene.

This is what 80 people experienced at the Tabor Hill Winery and Restaurant on April 18, 2010. The event was to raise funds for The Soup Kitchen, which serves about 4,200 to 5,300 warm meals each month to the area's hungry. In addition, several invitees who couldn't attend sent a contribution.

The dinner event was hosted by Tabor Hill's Paul Landeck and his wonderful staff, with all the proceeds going to The Soup Kitchen.

Our many clients join with the Soup Kitchen Board of Directors and our many volunteers that provide food, cook it, serve it and help tidy-up after each meal, in extending our heart-felt gratitude to Paul, his staff and the Tabor Hill Winery and Restaurant.

We feel truly blest to be in this giving community !



Crop Walk

May 16th of this year marked the 30th annual Blossomland Crop Walk to help feed hungry families and children. All the money raised at the Crop Walk benefits organizations in our area, including the Soup Kitchen. As in past years, the Soup Kitchen served as a rest and water stop for the runners and walkers. We had a great time greeting the participants and recognized quite a few Soup Kitchen volunteers amongst the crop walkers.



The Soup Kitchen Golf Classic Friday, September 10, 2010

Rain Date September 17, 2010

Lake Michigan Hills Golf Club

4 Person – Scramble. Shotgun Start at Noon.

\$75.00 Donation per player includes golf, cart, lunch and fun. Food and awards after golf. HOLE-IN-ONE FOR A CAR!!!! Lots of prizes to be won.

Payment must be received by Friday, Sept. 3, 2010.

Send to: Ken Clark at LMC , 2755 E. Napier Ave., Benton Harbor, MI 49022

For more information, contact Ken at 269-927-8174

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT
OF THE SOUP KITCHEN**

NEW Web Site Address: www.soup-kitchen.org

The old address will work until this fall, but you may want to update your bookmark. The new address is shorter (always a plus!) and it reflects our non-profit status with its ".org" suffix.



Soup Kitchen Wish List

- Bicycle rack to which the bikes can be locked
- 1/4-inch electric drill and drill bits
- Professional knife sharpener - approximately \$179
- One hour of piano music during lunch (old standards, light classical) \$30
- Better office computer. Our current computer lets us do office work, but cannot handle any extra chores. The computer does not have to be brand new—a capable computer running Windows XP would be fine.
A better computer will allow us to provide free long-distance telephone phone service for the clients. (We currently provide them with free local phone service.)
- Freezer repairs - \$438
- Church Youth Group (or scouts, or 4-H or...) with some time to give? We can use a group of kids (approximately age 9 and up) to come in and wash our dining room chairs. 10-12 kids, a couple of hours, and it's done.

Can't find the Soup Kitchen?

Having trouble finding us in a non-profit directory? A few people have had trouble assigning their online donations to the Soup Kitchen. (There are a couple of online services that enable the gift recipient to assign a monetary gift to the non-profit corporation of their choice.) You may have trouble finding us because our legal name is not the Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen, it is Soup Kitchen Inc. Another way to find us in a non-profit directory is to search by our employer I.D. number, which is 38-2288520.

SOUP KITCHEN PRESENTATIONS

We would be honored to present the Soup Kitchen story to your organization. Please call today to schedule a time and date.

STATE OF MICHIGAN FOOD KITCHEN TAX CREDIT

Michigan residents who donate to the Soup Kitchen get a tax benefit at both the state and federal level. Consult your accountant or tax advisor for advice on how your donation may qualify.

GLEANERS FOOD BANK

Remember, churches are automatically eligible to purchase food at an average of 16 cents per pound, including food in #10 cans, from the Southwest Gleaners Food Bank, 622 Langley Avenue in St.. Joseph. Unlike other organizations, they are not required to be a 501 (c)(3). Please think about shopping there first.

For more information, contact SW Gleaners Manager, Rich Glista at 269-983-7260.

MATCHING GIFTS PROGRAM

Does your employer have a matching gifts program? If so, you may be able to magnify your charitable donations.

We currently receive donations from Whirlpool's Matching Gifts Program. The company matches employee donations on a one-to-one basis with funds from the Whirlpool Foundation. When a Whirlpool employee donates \$200 to the Soup Kitchen, the Foundation will add another \$200. Full-time, salaried and hourly U.S. Whirlpool employees and retirees are eligible.

BOARD MEMBERS:

Jill Beach
Ken Clark
KC Gast
Debbie Gillespie
Bill Sinclair
Louise Solak
Andy Takacs
Paula Vogie
Barbara Whitwam

Mission:

To provide a nutritious daily meal to the hungry of the area, as well as to provide a safe and sheltered place for social gathering.