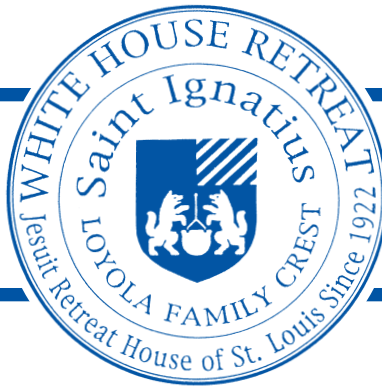


# ECHOES

Volume 24  
Saint Louis, Missouri

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*Through the years, calling,  
inviting all to come to know  
the Lord and accept  
His Gift of Peace.*

## LENTEN PRAYER DAYS

For several years White House has offered two Lenten Days of Prayer. This year Lent is very early! The first prayer day is on **Ash Wednesday February 6th** beginning at 9:15 am and ending by 2:30 pm. Registration begins at 8:30. It will be repeated on **March 18th, Tuesday of Holy Week**. These Days of Prayer will be presented by **Fr. Edward O'Brien, S.J.**, who will



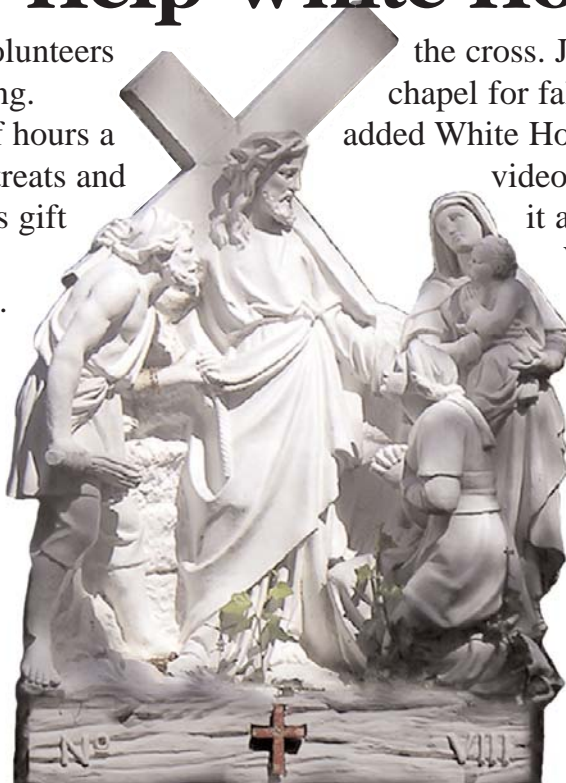
lead three prayer conferences. In addition several priests will

be available to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation. A pleasant lunch and coffee breaks are provided. Each day ends with the Eucharist. These Prayer Days are open to all men and women and provide a good opportunity to introduce new men and women to White House. The suggested offering is \$20 per person. **Space is limited.** To register call: 314-533-8903.

## Volunteers Help White House Retreat

White House depends on volunteers to keep this Jesuit ministry going. Captains "donate" thousands of hours a year inviting others to make retreats and spreading the word about God's gift of peace that White House provides to many men and women. They are the key to the retreat house's ongoing success.

Others volunteer services in many ways. Recently, Jerry Maloney of Maloney's Lawn Service rebuilt the old retaining wall near the Cross and beautifully landscaped the area. Allen Naeger did an excellent job of refinishing the various shrines and stations of



the cross. Jeannie Kohnen decorated our chapel for fall and Christmas. Steve Laug added White House Retreat's award winning video to **YouTube**. (You can access it at **YouTube.com** by entering White House Retreat.) Past and Present Board members and their spouses did a thousand jobs in preparing for the 100th Anniversary of retreats in the St. Louis area and Father Buhler's 50th Anniversary as a Jesuit.

White House Retreat is very grateful to those men and women who help in so many ways to make this a spiritual home.

# Jesuits Elect a New General

On January 7, 2008, delegates from all of the Jesuit Provinces in the world gathered in Rome to elect a new General.

Father Peter Hans Kolvenbach has held the post since 1983.

While the General is elected for life,

because of age and health concerns, Fr. Kol-

venbach received permission

from Pope Benedict XVI to

resign. This meeting of Jesuits

from throughout the world is

called a General Congregation and

is the 34th in the Order's 468 year

history. During the last two years

all of the Jesuit Provinces held

Province Congregations to elect

the delegates who are now assem-

bled in Rome. The Provincial of

each province attends. Our



Provincial is Fr. Tim McMahon, S.J., and he is accompanied by Fr.

Doug Marcouiller, S.J., who was elected to represent

the Missouri Province.

In addition to the election they will be

meeting for several months to discuss

important topics that have been submitted

from various Jesuit

provinces: Jesuit Identity, Jesuit

Mission, Apostolic Obedience,

Concern for the Environment,

Community Life, Promotion of

Vocations, Collaboration with the

Laity and Others, and Jesuit Govern-

ance. If you would like to keep

up-to-date on what the Jesuit Con-

gregation is discussing, check this

web site for regular updates:

[www.sjweb.info/35/index.cfm](http://www.sjweb.info/35/index.cfm).

## R.I.P.

### Virginia Lebbing



White House Retreat has been blessed through its history by the loyalty and loving service of devoted employees. On November 17, 2007, Mrs. Virginia Lebbing was called to the Lord. For thirty years Virginia administered the retreat house's kitchen and dining room. While technically its supervisor, Virginia did every job imaginable. She cooked and cleaned and taught several generations of young women a "work and service ethic" that has helped give White House Retreat the home away from home atmosphere that thousands of retreatants continue to cherish. She was a loving mother and grandmother and a devoted, faithful friend. Generations of retreatants experienced her personal care and welcoming presence. Virginia's loving and generous spirit lives on in her family and in White House's present kitchen staff which is proud to follow in her footsteps.

## JESUIT RESTRUCTURING:

There is additional Jesuit news that all retreatants should know about and keep in their prayers. For many years there have been ten Jesuit Provinces in the USA. For several years American Jesuits have been discussing the redrawing of province boundaries to better reflect the current reality in our country and to more effectively meet the apostolic needs of the Church with the manpower that is available. While the new Jesuit General will need to give his formal approval, the American Jesuit provinces have been discussing a possible merger of the Missouri and New Orleans provinces. This will create a province that spans from Florida to Colorado. (Georgia and South Carolina which had been part of the New Orleans Province will become part of the Maryland Province). Presently the Missouri Province has three retreat houses but the merged province will have seven.



**Save The Date:**

**ANNUAL MASS AND BREAKFAST**

**Sunday, April 20, 2008**

9:30 a.m.

## Belize Retreat #2



Side view of the chapel at Trinidad Farm in Belize

In February of 2006 twenty White House men made a retreat at Trinidad Farm, the Jesuit Retreat House in the country of Belize in Central America. While it was a retreat experience there were other dimensions to the trip. It raised money to help maintain and improve Trinidad Farm. It was also a cultural experience and vacation. In addition to the daily prayer times the retreatants also had an excursion to a Maya ruin and another to one of Belize's beautiful offshore islands for swimming and snorkeling. Many thought that the highlight of the retreat trip was attending Mass at St. Martin's parish in Belize City for the monthly Eucharistic celebration by one of Belize's ethnic groups, the Garifuna people. Processions, drumming and singing in the

Garifuna tradition accompanied the Mass.



The choir leads the worship at St. Martin's

If there is enough interest, White House is considering sponsoring a **Second Retreat in the Tropics in February of 2009**. Because of Trinidad Farm's facilities the retreat will be offered to men only. The approximate price will be \$2,200, half of which would be a contribution to the Belize retreat house. All of the transportation, food and excursion expenses are included. The group will leave on a Wednesday morning and return to St. Louis on Sunday night. If you are interested in making this retreat please send an e-mail to [reservations@whretreat.org](mailto:reservations@whretreat.org) and more detailed information will be provided.

## Our New White House Board Members

Since 1922 White House Retreat has had a lay board of directors. It is the oldest continuously serving board of any Jesuit retreat house in the world. As of January 1, 2008, it has five new members: Frank Connor, Greg Godfrey, Susan Gorman, Robert Kaiser and Wendell Shuh. They replace Peter Benoist, who was the Board Chairman, Patrick Buehrle, Kay Kaiser, George Kerry and Carroll Shuh, all of whom served with distinction and zeal. White House has been very fortunate for these past eighty-five years to have men and women who have dedicated a lot of time and energy to making the retreat house a place of prayer and peace for so many. Michael Lawlor is the Board's new Chairman.

### ***MEN!***

There is ample space available in these upcoming retreats:

#### **WEEKENDS**

**February 7 – 10**

**March 13 – 16**

**March 19 – 22 (Holy Week –  
Wed. thru Sat.)**

**April 3 – 6**

**April 10 – 13**

**May 1 – 4**

**May 15 – 18**

**May 29 – June 1**

#### **WEEKDAY**

**April 21 – 24**

**June 16 – 19**

**Registration may be done online at [www.whretreat.org](http://www.whretreat.org).**

**NOTE: Annual Captains' Cookout will be Wed., May 28, 2008 – Details later**

## WOMEN!

On January 19 letters and registration forms were mailed to current retreatants and those who have asked to be included on the mailing list. (Due to changes in technology the forms are now paper rather than cardstock.) Please be aware that a **non-refundable \$50.00 deposit must accompany your registration.** Make check payable to White House Retreat. **IMPORTANT:** If you choose to register on-line at [www.whretreat.org](http://www.whretreat.org), complete the registration form. **You must indicate** whether you will be mailing a check **or** phoning with Visa or MasterCard information to make your deposit.

Registration for **January through July 2008 women's retreats are being accepted now.**

### WEEKDAY

March 10 – 13

April 14 – 17

May 5 – 8

May 19 – 22

July 21 – 24

### WEEKEND

May 22 – 25 Memorial Day

June 12 – 15 Fathers' Day for men and women in recovery

July 24 – 27

**A non-refundable \$50.00 deposit must accompany your registration.**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Registration for **September through November retreats cannot be accepted until June 1, 2008.** Please mark your calendar as a reminder to register at that time.

### WEEKDAY

September 8 – 11

October 6 – 9

October 20 – 23

November 10 – 13

### WEEKEND

November 13 – 16

**A non-refundable \$50.00 deposit must accompany your registration.**

## White House Retreat

7400 Christopher Dr.

St. Louis, MO 63129-5799

314-533-8903 1-800-643-1003

[www.whretreat.org](http://www.whretreat.org)

[whretreat@whretreat.org](mailto:whretreat@whretreat.org)

[reservations@whretreat.org](mailto:reservations@whretreat.org)

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## In Memoriam

*Remember in your prayers these retreatants who have died. All are remembered in the daily Masses and prayers of thanksgiving at White House.*

### Date unknown

Rev. Leo J. Hayes  
Ferdy B. Walls

### August 1993

Francis W. Roth

### September 2002

Paul M. Hogan

### April 2006

Ruth E. Flanagan

### October 2006

Anna P. (Pauline) Ling

### April 2007

Adelia C. Ewers

### Spring 2007

Richard F. Brooks

### June 2007

Gerald E. Melchioris

### August 2007

Jerry F. Bubela  
Mark G. Flick

### September 2007

Norman (Thomas) Mueller

### October 2007

Albert Broderick  
Antoinette X. Caruana  
Leo D. Crause, Jr.  
Paul K. Dorenkamp  
Donald F. Foley  
Arlene M. Hejnal  
Catherine Kempka  
Paul L. Kirchoff  
Donald E. Kuehl  
Charles L. Kuhn  
George A. Nester  
Robert G. Parsons  
Robert E. Reich  
Leo B. Waninger

### November 2007

Vincent M. Andrasko  
Peter C. Baerveldt  
Honorable Joseph J. Barr  
William L. Barry  
Robert J. Callahan  
Ruth Corrigan  
Alan D. Davis  
Joseph A. Delia  
Catherine A. Duff  
Regina F. Eggering  
John M. Folkl  
Philip J. Gerdes  
Thomas E. Gross  
Edwin J. Hunzeker  
Joan C. Junker  
Sue Kaufman  
Virginia Lebbing  
Kenneth G. Mathews  
Richard Quinn  
Glennon O'Hanlon  
Louis A. Rothfischer  
Angelo Ruggeri  
David J. Sang  
Harry A. (Arnie) Sauerwein  
Fred R. Schuster  
Garnita M. Smith  
William A. Sypniewski

### December 2007

Eleanor E. Adams, RSCJ  
Clifford B. Albers  
Dominic J. Barczewski, Sr.  
Deacon George A. Blase  
Frank S. Bunten  
Harriet M. Conlon  
David O. Coughlin  
Margaret D. Dileo  
Celina N. Dinsmore  
Glenn J. Frank  
David L. Gosnell  
John Gutierrez

Bernard A. Jobst  
Edwin J. Kadlec, Sr.  
Eugene J. Limke  
Lawrence F. OfNeill  
Eugene V. (Pete) Peterman  
Thomas R. Pitlyk  
Martin M. Pomphrey  
Jean A. Primeau  
Patricia E. Sheahan  
John J. Sheehan  
J.W. Toeniskoetter  
Miles J. Tom, Jr.  
Robert L. Trotter  
Caesar J. Valli  
Robert S. Walden  
Theodore L. Wirtz  
**January 2008**  
Warren J. Barrios  
Jacqueline Beckerle  
Margaret K. Fox  
Bernard Goeke  
Cletus L. Heisserer  
Thomas R. Yallaly

## In Gratitude

*The following friends have asked for memorial gifts to White House Retreat in the wake/funeral notice of a loved one. For helping us in this special way, we extend our most grateful appreciation and thanks to:*

### The Family

On the death Dec. 15, 2007, of  
**Patricia E. Sheahan**

### The Family

On the death Dec. 21, 2007, of  
**David L. Gosnell**