



Sharing Hope Ministry

N • E • W • S

2012

DON'T

LOOK BACK

JAN 2012

ISSUE NO. 62

—PHONE NUMBER—

Sharing Hope Ministry
806-358-7803

Patsy's Place
806-418-2480

—ADDRESS—

P.O. Box 19985
Amarillo, Texas 79114

—WEBSITE—

www.sharinghopeministry.org

—STAFF—

April Riggs, Executive Director
April@sharinghopeministry.org

Ersela Demerson,
Patsy's Place Program Director
Ersela@sharinghopeministry.org

Leigh Link, Volunteer Coordinator
Leigh@sharinghopeministry.org

Aletha White, Special Projects
Aletha@sharinghopeministry.org

Kim Braswell
Tami Carroll
Lorna Fike

Sharon McCarty
QuaSedra Watkins,
Patsy's Place Support Staff

—STATISTICS—

Total Life Recovery Bibles Distributed:
86,801

Total Bible Study Workbooks Distributed:
43,736

—VOLUNTEERS—

Fund Raising Volunteers: **120**

Jail Ministry Volunteers: **15**

Office Volunteers: **41**

Patsy's Place Volunteers: **8**

Pen Pal Volunteers: **3**

Prayer Group Volunteers: **4**

Stepping Stones Volunteers: **13**

—BOARD OF DIRECTORS —

Vonnie White, *President*

Art Baker

Brenda Burns

Kim Hutchens

Steve Land

Jim Shelburne

Dr. Dustin Turner

Rosalind Bates

Shirley Daniel

Dr. Carter Karr

Becky Logsdon

Yvonda Stokes

You've heard the old adage, "don't look back, just move forward". This encourages us to look ahead instead of dwelling on past actions. But for a nonprofit ministry, understanding where we have come from helps keep us on the right path. Can we say with confidence that we have done what the Lord has called us to do? Have we wisely used the resources that have been given to our care? Looking back is a positive tool to ensure accountability and to give confirmation to keep us moving in the right direction.

2011 can be best described as a blur of activity! January 2011 started with Patsy's Place Transitional Home construction being finished, and loving volunteers frantically furnishing the home so it could be opened by February 1st for women who were waiting to move in! Since opening, eight women have called it home! Patsy's Place was recently approved for the Texas Parole Alternative Housing List, and seventeen women have been approved for acceptance upon their release from incarceration. Two of these precious ladies are scheduled to complete their program in a few months, giving confirmation of the value of the Patsy's Place program.

Expanding our Borders! After a few years of limiting the amount of Bibles that could be given to new correctional and addiction rehabilitation facilities, 2011 again brought the blessing of freely giving Christ-centered materials to every qualified woman who writes us! Our goal is to never again have to turn down a woman's initial request for God's Word. Fundraisers and community support, along with new support from foundations and ministry groups in California, Georgia, Pennsylvania and Florida, has made this possible.

In 2011, over 12,000 Christ-centered services will have been provided by the passionate actions of Sharing Hope Ministry volunteers and because of the generous donations of our supporters. With anticipation, we look forward to what 2012 will bring. Thank you for being a part of the past, and you are invited to be a part of our future as we follow the path that God has laid for us.

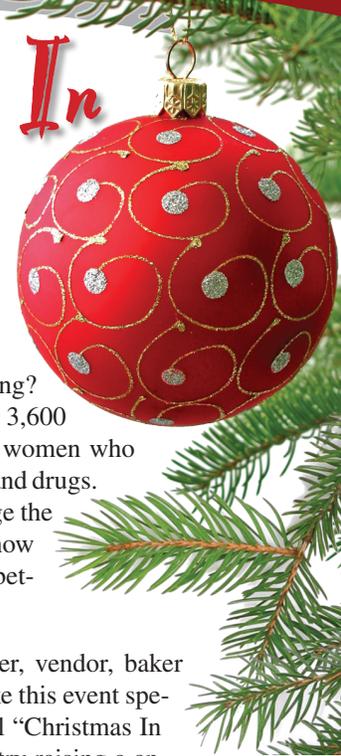
"I thank you for the Life Recovery Bible, your support and beautiful words of comfort and encouragement. You have no idea how much you mean to me. You have made a profound difference in my life, giving me Hope to hold on to." - Christine, Pueblo, Co.

YEAR IN REVIEW

- 14 new facilities were added to our area of service which now includes 218 state, federal and addiction rehabilitation facilities in 33 states
- 9,150 women received a Life Recovery Bible and/or Bible study materials
- Our jail ministry teams ministered to 1,760 local women at Potter and Randall County Jail
- Our Prayer Team lifted up and encouraged 445 women
- Stepping Stones volunteers provided 125 aftercare services to recently released women
- 8 women began the Patsy's Place program and received a multitude of Christ-centered life skills classes
- 140 volunteers representing 27 area churches, provided 6,950 hours of service, to provide a total of 12,000 services



Christmas In October



Best Year Ever!

Can a fundraising event be life-changing? Sure, when the proceeds can put over 3,600 Life Recovery Bibles in the hands of women who are seeking a new life free from crime and drugs. Could there be any better way to change the world than by showing one woman how to change her life through Christ? Or better yet, change 3,600 lives for Christ?

Thank you to every sponsor, volunteer, vendor, baker and attendee who took the time to make this event special. This year was the most beneficial "Christmas In October" event to date with the ministry raising an event total of **\$45,000!**

"Thank you so much for the Life Recovery Bible. I haven't put it down since I've had it. Praise God that He saved me and I'm blessed, I'm anointed and I can do anything or all things through Christ who strengthens me. I believe that without Christ there is no recovery. Your sister in Christ."

~ Terri, Oklahoma

GoodSearch & GoodShop



Searching and Shopping on the Internet Raised Over \$700 for Sharing Hope Ministry

GoodSearch is a Yahoo! internet search engine which donates half of their advertising revenue to charity. Each time you use GoodSearch and designate Sharing Hope Ministry, Inc. as your charity of choice, GoodSearch will donate a portion of the advertising revenue to our ministry. Many websites will donate up to 7.5% of your purchase to Sharing Hope Ministry. Go to www.goodsearch.com for more information or contact the Sharing Hope office for help setting this up.

And the WINNER IS...



**Susan Sharp
Congratulations!**

A Program of Sharing Hope Ministry, Inc.

As we near the end of our first year of operation at Patsy's Place, I'd like to pass on a story that reminds me of the work we are doing with the women God sends. Please enjoy this story entitled "Three Trees."

THREE TREES

There were three trees in the woods that were discussing their hopes and dreams. The first dreamed of being a treasure chest to be filled with gold and silver. The second dreamed of being a mighty ship to take kings across the waters. The third wished to be the tallest tree in the forest thinking of the closeness of the heavens and God.

After a few years, a group of woodsmen came upon the trees. The woodsman came to the first tree and said, "This looks like a strong tree, I should be able to sell the wood to a carpenter". At the second tree the woodsman said, "This looks like a strong tree. I should be able to sell it to the shipyard". A woodsman came upon the third tree, "I don't need anything special from my tree, I'll take this one," and he cut it down.

The first tree was delivered to the carpenter and made into a feed box for animals. He was then placed in a barn and filled with hay. This was not at all what he had prayed for. The second tree was cut and made into a small fishing boat. His dreams of being a mighty ship and carrying kings had come to an end. The third tree was cut into large pieces and left alone in the dark. The years went by, and the trees forgot about their dreams.

Then one day, a man and woman came to the barn. She gave birth, and they placed the baby in the hay in the feed box that was made from the first tree. The tree could feel the importance of this event and knew that it had held the greatest treasure of all time.

Years later, a group of men got in the fishing boat made from the second tree. A great storm arose. The fishermen woke the sleeping man, and He stood and said 'Peace' and the storm stopped. At this time, the tree knew that it had carried the King of Kings in its boat.

Finally, someone came and got the third tree. It was carried through the streets as the people mocked the man who was carrying it. When they came to a stop, the man was nailed to the tree and raised in the air to die. The tree came to realize that it was strong enough to stand and be as close to God as was possible, because Jesus had been crucified on it.

God has a plan for each of the women who come to Patsy's Place. I'm sure incarceration was not part of their original dream, but God can use their lives and give them great gifts. I am humbled, grateful and excited to be used in God's plan for working out His will in the lives of the women He sends to Patsy's Place. ~ **Ersela, Patsy's Place Program Director**



Hope 2012 Fest

What to Expect!

I'd rather people laugh because they relate to something I say than because I wrote a clever punchline. All my stuff is about my life – it's real and it connects people -- and that's a wonderful thing. ~ Anita

Sometimes change can be FUN, and we have plenty of fun coming your way for our Hope Fest 2012 which will be held on March 29, 2012 in the Heritage Room. Moving to a bigger room is just one of the changes! This year's event will offer food, fun and fellowship!

Anita has a unique brand of estrogen flavored musical comedy and blend of sass, edge and a slightly offbeat take on All Things Female. Audiences at her comedy concert tours, viewers of Good Morning America appearances and the YouTube masses who enjoyed her William Tell version of everything a Mom says would say that Anita just tells it like it is. Some would say she just says what everyone else is thinking, but won't say out loud.

We encourage you to start making plans with your Sunday school classes, Bible study groups, Life Groups, friends and family to come enjoy this great chance to laugh with Anita while supporting a great ministry! Put us on your calendar and look for our "Save the Date" card which will be coming in January.

Sponsors Needed!

Can you help underwrite this event?
Sponsor will receive:

- An invitation to a pre-event party with Anita Renfroe
- Preferred seating for 8 at the event
- Recognition on collateral materials
- An eighth of a page to a full page color ad in the Hope Fest Program (depending on level of giving)

Contact the Sharing Hope Ministry office at 806-358-7803 or april@sharinghopeministry.org to request a sponsor packet.



Hope 2012 Fest

SAVE THE DATE
03.29.12



Non Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Amarillo, Texas
Permit No. 247

Sharing Hope Supporters Sep.-Nov. 2011

Sharon Albracht-Parr
Ambassadors Bible Class
Denise & Blake Autry
Jo & Art Baker
Letha Banks
Debbie & Doug Barron
Karlana & Jerold Barry
Donna Bishop
Cheri & Ron Boyd
Lisa & Lew Bradshaw
Brady Dental Group
Gayle & Eddie Brasher
Joy & Rick Brenneman
Louise Brown
Brenda & Terry Burns
Linda & Ron Byers
Frances & Keith Clark
Shannon & Marc Connell
Dolores & Larry Cross
Beverly & E.A. Davey
Linda & Paul Edres
Faith City Inc.
Fishermen Class
Cecelia & Montie Frazier
Connie & Bob Garrett
Michael Graham
Elizabeth & Michael Hale
Shari & T.D. Hammons
Gloria & Scott Herrick
Hillside Christian Church
Stacey & Steve Hitchcock
Connie & Ron Hodges
Patty & Gary Humphrey
Dena & Dan Jenkins
Jo Rader & Co.
Janice & Ken Johnson
Brenda & Michael Johnson

Patricia Jones
Janet & David Kampschroeder
Jeannie Kuhlman
Candy & Kirk Kuykendall
Lamplighters Class
Dorothy Lee
Becky Logsdon
Elizabeth Maddox
Julie & Cory Mathis
Bill McKee
Margaret Moore
April & Dave Riggs
Nick Riggs
Laurie Riggs
Aida Carswell
Lydia Rodriguez
Samaritan Class
Joyce & Gerry Schultz
Jane & Bob Scott
Holly & Jim Shelburne
Helen & Jeff Smith
Charlotte & Fletcher Smith
Anne Smith
Bonnie & George Snell
Linda Stafford
Yvonda & Larry Stokes
Douglas Toulouse
Ruth & Don Trickey
Westcliff Bible Church
Aletha White
Sue White
Patricia Widup
Wilda & Marvin Willis
Judy & Mickey Wilson
Women of Grace
Donna & Don Woolsey
Xcel Energy Foundation

PATSY'S PLACE DONATIONS

Sharon Albracht-Parr
Darla & Mike Andrew
Betty Brown-Johnson
Susan Burke
Sue & Ray Cross
Faith City Inc.
Family Life Church
Dixie & Danny Fulton
Nancy & J Pat Hickman
Mona & David Higgins
Ruth Huber-Boyd
Becky Logsdon
Judy & Herman Nusz
Laura & Art Owen
Rachel Philip
April & Dave Riggs
Jessie Riggs
Anne Smith
Charlotte & Fletcher Smith
Vonnie & Kin White
Margaret Willis
Wow Group - More Church

PATSY'S PLACE - IN MEMORY OF:

Vannie McMurry Beauchamp
by Jane & David McCane
Barnett Lilley
by Peggie & Gary Culp

CHRISTMAS IN OCTOBER

Martha & Walter Allison
Jo & Art Baker
Bear's Hug
Betty & Frank Tow
Linda & Randy Brown
Button Baby
Frances & Keith Clark
Dolores & Larry Cross
Daphne Cox
Double S Brand Jewelry
Farm Girl Frosting
Frisbie Janitorial
General Office Supply
Lana & Jim McKee
Merrill Lynch
MTS Transportation
Maxine & Ed Nolan
PC Hotline, Inc.
April & Dave Riggs
Laurie Riggs
Mary & Harold Swindell
Laura & Dustin Turner
Elnore & Roy Wheeler
Vonnie & Kin White

IN MEMORY OF:

Joe Clayton
by Sharon & Paul Stradley
Duward Epps
by Shirley Daniel
Kim Bull Errington
by Cecelia & Monte Frazier
Barnett Lilley
by Cecelia & Monte Frazier
Mavis Maney
by Cecelia & Monte Frazier
Wayne Mosley
by Cecelia & Monte Frazier
George Walter, Jr.
by Cecelia & Monte Frazier

IN HONOR OF:

Bonnie Green
by Jennifer & James Dowell
Thomas Lynch
by Connie Windows
The Tols
by Linda Caldwell McCleary

IN-KIND

Lorna Fike
Toni Hale
Kim & Neil Lester
Leigh & Buddy Link
Logical Technologies
Royal Glass
Stout Gold & Silver

Thank you to
Faith City Mission
for including Patsy's Place
Transitional Home in the
"Empty Bowl Fundraiser."