

New Orleans Updates

from Sr. Maureen and her elves
Thursday, February 21, 2008– Part 1



Wednesday, February 20, 2008

The day started with an 8:30 am Children's Mass at St. Peter Claver. Ed Kalenda and Doris grilled halibut and salmon that he caught in Alaska. They went to a lot of trouble to transport the fish and make sure that we got it hot off the grill.

Thursday, February 21, 2008

We are experiencing a tropical downpour. There will be no work today outside of the Center. Several team members are working inside this old monastery fixing pews, etc. Tonight, we go to St. Peter Claver for a pot luck.

The Home Team

Our Cruise Director, Sister Maureen, has assembled a fine team. She coordinates our arrivals and departures, assigns our rooms, and makes sure we are on-time for our appointments. We get three meals a day, our laundry is done for us, and we aren't bothered with the sounds of television sets. Our bodies and minds and spirituality are well cared for. She and her Home Team members meet our every need.

Charlene Belprez, Cecilia Roper, Bob Carney, Ellen Cherin (who also drives a mean hammer), Doris Kalenda, and Lucy Viramontes do everything from food preparation and laundry for 29 people, to preparing happy hour and delivering coffee and donuts on-site. They dabble in gardening and make sure the felines are fed. Janice Treat handles the allocated money and accounts for every penny donated by STM to the project.



We could not do our jobs without the support of these people. Jerry and Nancy Gayvert did a great job of coordinating and planning food and tools. They are missed.

Dick Belprez coordinates the work sites, overseeing what is needed, how to get it, and what can be scheduled next. His is a never-ending job. He is constantly planning and reviewing the best use of STM's resources. In addition to the responsibility of maintaining tool security, he drives from site to site, makes an assessment, goes to Home Depot or Lowe's and wields a hammer. If Sister Maureen is our Cruise Director, he is the Captain.

Several people have had bad colds and flu symptoms: The whole Treat family at various times, Ed Kalenda, Bob Carney, and Bob Carter.

