

# **Teachers Saving Children® Inc.**

# A Voice for LIFE in Education...

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May 2013



# THOUGHTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Connie Bancroft

"The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and He delights in His way."

-Psalm 37:23 (NKJV)

How often do we begin to formalize plans only to find that the Lord has a different timetable in mind? As I reflect over the events of the past four years, it has been amazing how the Lord has directed our paths within the Teachers Saving Children® Board of Trustees. I stand in awe before our awesome God as I witness these events unfolding and He makes known His perfect plan for us.

Let me explain. Back in the Fall of 2009, the Board of Trustees began preliminary discussion regarding the reorganization of Teachers Saving Children® and its prior goal of establishing state affiliates. Through prayer and difficult discussions, the question of whether the Lord was redirecting us was initially unanswered. The Board of Trustees studied Acts 16:6-10, where the Lord redirected the Apostle Paul's plans, but clearly felt that God was not moving us toward change at that time.

In the Fall of 2011, our CPA recommended that the Board of Trustees consider reorganizing Teachers Saving Children® for several reasons, one of which was due to recently-enacted changes implemented by the IRS and accounting regulatory agencies. It was his opinion that the organization would save monies by reducing the multiple financial statements, tax returns, and other costs incurred by each state affiliate. Teachers Saving Children® would be able to use this savings more expeditiously in being a voice for preborn children – our future students; also, in reaching out to our colleagues and increasing our networking with other pro-life groups.

The Board of Trustees continued to pray and discuss. Finally, the question was asked: "Is establishing state/regional affiliate chapters accomplishing the stated purpose of the organization? Is this goal realistic?" After some discussion, it was the consensus of the Board of Trustees that this goal is not realistic, nor is it essential at this point in time and, therefore, should no longer be a goal of Teachers Saving Children® Inc. – National.

The Board members met twice in lengthy work sessions to rewrite portions of our <u>Constitution & Bylaws</u> in order to move forward. Both our CPA and attorney reviewed and approved the proposed changes. The Board of Trustees officially approved the changes, which will take effect September 1, 2013.

In order to make a smooth transition, the Board of Trustees also approved a transition phase. All state affiliate chapters will phase out through a legal dissolution process by August 31, 2013. Current State Affiliate Chapters would continue to exist and handle their own finances through August 31, 2013. This will allow these State Affiliate Chapters to work through the dissolution process in the proper legal manner with the IRS and their State Governing Agencies.

Beginning September 1, 2013, the National Board of Trustees will expand to a maximum of 15 members, with a minimum of no less than 7. Current State Affiliate representatives have been asked to remain on the Board of Trustees. Other current State Affiliate Board of Trustees members who are not currently on the National Board of Trustees will be asked first to serve in the remaining openings before others are asked to serve. With the expanded National Board, it is our goal to locate members from across the nation who are interested in getting more involved in Teachers Saving Children<sup>®</sup>, and who could connect with us through SKYPE or other means in order to attend our meetings.

In addition, the Board of Trustees added to its <u>Constitution & Bylaws</u> the formation of State/Regional/Local/Area committees (different from and more "grassroots" than "affiliates") for the purpose of conducting activities aligned with the purpose statement of Teachers Saving Children<sup>®</sup>. Though some general language is included in the <u>Constitution & Bylaws</u>, specific policy and guidelines for these committees will be written and approved during our fall 2013 Board meeting.

I realize that this is a lot of information to comprehend. Yet, we made a decision early in this organization to always be above board with our members and friends. I trust that each one of us will see these changes as great possibilities and God's timing for what He wants to do, through us, with His perfect plan.

"Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness." -Lamentations 3:22-23

#### LONG TIME BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBER DAVID KAISER RESIGNS

**David Kaiser** has been a member of both the Ohio State Affiliate Chapter Board of Trustees and the National Board of Trustees since their inception. He has served as treasurer and faithfully kept the Executive Director in check regarding financial matters. His wisdom and expertise was a strong asset to the Executive Director, the Board, and the organization. Connie Bancroft states: "Often when I needed confirmation or counsel in-between board meetings, I would call Dave and seek his wisdom. He thought things through well and gave wise counsel when needed. He will be greatly missed as a Board member. Even as he leaves this season in his life, I know that his involvement in the cause for LIFE will continue."

David began his teaching career in 1972 at Fort Recovery Local Schools (Mercer County OH) where he taught middle school and high school math for 24 years. He finished his career as the elementary and middle school guidance counselor in the same district. David has also been a member of Ohio Right to Life since 1974. David currently serves as the Mercer County (Ohio) Treasurer.



David and his wife, Ethel (a registered nurse) have four children and nine grandchildren. David plans on spending more time with family and pro-life activities closer to home.

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# CREATIVE WAYS TO FINANCIAL SUPPORT TEACHERS SAVING CHILDREN®

The Scott and Nancy Freeman family held a garage sale during Community Garage Sale Days in their town of Coldwater Ohio, on May 9, 10, and 11. Among their many other "for-sale" items, they featured two tables of Bake Sale goodies and a host of other items, all for no stated price, but rather for a donation to Teachers Saving Children<sup>®</sup> Inc. Though neither Scott nor Nancy is in the teaching field, they support the protection of human life and the goals of the pro-life Teachers Saving Children<sup>®</sup>. Scott serves on an Emergency Squad in Mercer County and Nancy is a nurse. The Freeman family is pictured here handing a check for \$140 to Judy Bruns, currently Executive Director of the Ohio State Affiliate of Teachers Saving Children<sup>®</sup> Inc.



Is your family hosting a garage sale this summer? Why not consider following the example of the Scott and Nancy Freeman family by designating that a portion of your garage sale or bake sale profits go to a pro-life organization? We at Teachers Saving Children® would be honored to be among your considerations.

EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH: "THE WONDER OF LIFE"

Once again we have the opportunity to reach thousands of educators with the pro-life message. The NEA Expo 2013 will be held July 1-3 in Atlanta GA prior to the NEA RA. The purpose of the exhibit will be to promote and provide educational classroom materials especially for science and health teachers. Though your generosity, the Lord has already provided the funds needed for our trip to Atlanta. The Lord has also provided a means of minimal expense to transport our exhibit and materials to Atlanta as well as lodging and travel for the Executive Director to represent Teachers Saving Children® during the Expo. Thank you!

As we prepare to travel to Atlanta, we are already making plans and preparing for the Students for Life of America Conference to be held in January 2014. Though this conference is still 9 months away, there will be upfront expenses when Teachers Saving Children® makes application for exhibit space in the vendor area. The estimated cost for this application is \$1000. There will also be expenses to send at least 2 volunteer representatives to the conference.

Through you, the Lord has each year miraculously provided the finances for the effective pro-life education ministry opportunity we have had at various events, and for that provision we are grateful. Thank you for prayerfully considering being a part of these special endeavors in 2013-2014 by sending in your contribution today.

**Note:** Please make checks payable to "TSC Inc. – National". Carefully note how the amount given is to be designated (Educational Outreach) so that the contribution will be appropriately allocated. As a tax-exempt organization approved under Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code, contributions received are **NOT** tax deductible.

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**April 20, 2013** The Teachers Saving Children<sup>®</sup> National Board of Trustees met in Columbus Ohio, for their regularly scheduled Spring meeting. The following are highlights of some of the items that were discussed:

- Election of Officers for the 2013-2014 fiscal year was held. Connie Bancroft will serve as the Executive Director; John Saxe will serve as the Assistant Executive Director; John Gordon will serve as Secretary; Gary Winney will serve as Treasurer.
- The Board of Trustees approved changes to the <u>Constitution & Bylaws</u> which will eliminate State Affiliate Chapters and expand the National Board of Trustees to a maximum of 15 members, with a minimum of no less than 7 members. These changes will be effective September 1, 2013. (See related article on page 1)
- 3. With regret, the Board of Trustees accepted the resignation of Board member, David Kaiser, effective September 1, 2013. David has served on the Board of Trustees since its inception. (See related article on page 2.)
- The Board of Trustees approved a recommendation to make application for an exhibit at the Students for Life of America Conference to be held in January 2014
- 5. The Board of Trustees accepted the reports of the State Affiliate Chapters.
- The next Board of Trustees meeting will be Saturday, October 12, 2013, in Alliance, Ohio. Any member interested in attending this meeting should contact the National Office for meeting details.

#### REVISED PURPOSE STATEMENT

As a part of the reorganization discussion, the Board of Trustees also made a decision to clarify the purpose statement as follows:

Teachers Saving Children® Inc. - National, hereinafter called Corporation, is an organization of pro-life individuals who are associated with the education profession. The Corporation's primary purpose is advocacy for all innocent human life from conception to natural death. The principal focus of this advocacy shall be especially among professional educators.

# THE BRINGING AMERICA BACK TO LIFE SYMPOSIUM

Judy Bruns, Greg Roth, and Gary Winney managed the Teachers Saving Children® exhibit at the Cleveland Right to Life Conference in Independent OH, on March 8-9, 2013. Greg reports, "It appeared that perhaps over a thousand people attended on the day that I helped. Many organizations in the pro-life movement were present with their displays. The speakers were scheduled all day. Judy and I had the opportunity hear the breakfast and luncheon speakers." In addition, our representatives made great networking connections with individuals and other pro-life organizations. This is one of many opportunities Teachers Saving Children® has in reaching out with the message of being a Voice for Life in Education.

## THE LOSS OF A LEGEND, THE GAIN OF A LEGACY

On Sunday, April 14, 2013, the pro-life family lost one of its most effective and esteemed members, 90-year-old Barbara Willke. She died peacefully after suffering a severe head trauma due to a fall.

A fixture in the southwestern Ohio community of Cincinnati, Barbara was widely considered the matriarch of the pro-life movement. She headed the Department at the College of Nursing for five years before her full-time career as wife and mother. For over four decades, Barbara diligently worked alongside her husband, Dr. J.C. Willke, to protect innocent human life from conception to natural death. They were also a strong supporters of Teachers Saving Children<sup>®</sup>.

Barbara and her husband founded that National Right to Life Committee. She was instrumental in the founding of Cincinnati Right to Life. She was a passionate advocate for life using public speaking, slide shows, and newsletters to help educate the public to the violence of abortion and positive alternatives. The Wilkes co-authored 12 books on abortion and human sexuality. They travelled across the United States and to 64 countries throughout the world in lecturing and establishing pro-life groups.



The mother of six, grandmother of 22, and foster mother of several teenagers, Barbara would have been married to her husband Jack for 65 years this June. Teachers Saving Children® expresses their deepest condolences to the Willke family.

(Sources: "Breaking News," Life Issues Institute, April 15, 2013; "Washington Update," Family Research Council, April 17, 2013)

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#### **2013-2014 MEMBERSHIPS**

Teachers Saving Children® membership is open to all prolife/pro-family educators and concerned citizens. Please be advised that, according to the Teachers Saving Children® Constitution & Bylaws, the membership year is from September 1 — August 31, though we do begin renewing memberships in June. Annual dues are \$35.00, with a reduced rate of \$15.00 for students presently enrolled in a college or university undergraduate degree program and also for retired educators currently receiving retiree benefits. Husband and wife may join under the same membership. Contributions and memberships are **NOT** tax deductible.

In June, we will begin accepting new memberships for the 2013-2014 membership year. We will again be offering the \$15 coupon, which can be applied toward any first-time membership received during the 2013-2014 membership year. Any new memberships received after June 1<sup>st</sup> are good until August 31, 2014.

Renewal membership information will be sent to all current members in late June. Please help the Teachers Saving Children<sup>®</sup> office keep accurate records by verifying all membership information. Please make sure your membership forms are accurate, complete, signed, and dated.

Thank you for your continued support in being "A Voice for LIFE in Education."

## **NEA CONVENTION 2013**

The 2013 NEA Representative Assembly will be held in Atlanta GA from July 1-6. If you are an NEA member, it is vital that you contact your delegates to the RA, letting them know your philosophy on various issues. If you have a delegate(s) from your local attending the NEA RA, contact should be very easy. However, many locals do not, or cannot, send delegates to the NEA either because of the financial burden or their small membership size. Regardless, know that someone will be representing you! Check with your local president as to who will be representing you – either as a local delegate, an at-large state delegate(s), or possibly a clustered local delegate. By the first part of May, local presidents should know who your area delegate representative(s) will be. If they don't know, ask them to find out by contacting your State Affiliate NEA office. Get involved by contacting your NEA delegates! They are your representatives!

This newsletter is published by Teachers Saving Children® Inc.
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Miss Connie Bancroft, Executive Director

National Board of Trustees: Judy Bruns \* John Gordon \* Dennis Healy \* David Kaiser Juanita Sattler \* John Saxe \* Gary Winney

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