

Good News Project, Inc. Board of Directors 2013 - 2014

Gary Alexander



I was born, grew up and graduated from high school in Westfield, WI. I later graduated from Ripon College with a major in mathematics, a minor in Spanish and a commission as a second lieutenant through the ROTC program.

I served a tour in South Korea as an operations officer in the Army Security Agency where we were intercepting and mapping North Korean radar sites. Returning home, I was employed by Wausau Insurance Companies in the computer area for 25+ years. I then was employed by the Wausau Medical Center (now the Marshfield Clinic-Wausau Center) as an associate

administrator for 11+ years where I had administrative responsibility for several patient care departments and the clinic marketing program. My wife, Marsha, and I have been married for 52 years. She taught for many years in the Wausau School System as a learning disabilities teacher. We have four children-Jay, Jordan, Paul and Julie. and three grandchildren. Jay and Jordan have been with us to St. Lucia. In retirement we have done a lot of volunteering and world traveling including 10 trips to St. Lucia with GNP. I have enjoyed my involvement with GNP including a term as president of the board and for many years chairperson of the personnel committee.

Peggy Cihlar



I grew up on a dairy farm in Owen, WI, graduated from Owen-Withee High School and then St. Joseph's School of Nursing in Marshfield in 1973. Allan and I were married in 1974 and we live in Mosinee, WI where we own and operate our dairy farm, Cihlar Farms Inc. We have four children and seven grandchildren. I worked as an RN for 27 years with the Marshfield Clinic-Mosinee Center as a Patient Educator. I retired from nursing in 2004 and now work as the bookkeeper for Cihlar Farms Inc. My daughter and I also have a home-based businesses: long arm quilting. Volunteering has always been a big part of my life and thankfully Allan fully encourages and supports

me in all my activities. I have served in leadership roles with Marathon County 4-H, Wisconsin Right to Life-Wausau Chapter, Wisconsin Farm Progress Days (1996), Mosinee Fine Arts, as well as other church and community organizations. Currently I serve as chair of the American Cancer Society Relay for Life of Mosinee. Allan and I have worked with the Good News Project in St. Lucia for seven years. It has become a big part of our lives and as the Lucians would say, "God willing", we hope to have many more years serving the people of St. Lucia with Good News.

Randy Gabriel (Treasurer)



I grew up in the little village of Anse La Raye in St. Lucia and came to Wausau when I was selected as a CASS student to study accounting at Northcentral Technical College for two years. After graduating from NTC, I returned to St. Lucia for two years. I then came back to Wausau and married Jennifer Blaskowski and worked as an accountant at PEPSI COLA WAUSAU. We have

two children and I am currently a CPA for Security Health Plan. I have been a GNP volunteer in St. Vincent and have been on the Board of Directors since 2005.

Jennifer Havel, DDS (Vice President)



I was born and grew up in Wausau, the daughter of Peter and Deborah Baumgardt. I graduated from Wausau West in 1995 and graduated from the University of Minnesota-Duluth campus with Bachelor of Science degrees in Biology and Chemistry. I went on to receive my Doctor of Dental Surgery degree in 2003 from Marquette University. I practiced in the Wausau area for ten years before opening my own private practice in June of 2012. I married Jon Havel, the son of Robert and JoAnn Havel in 2003. We have two children, Kassy and Prentice, in elementary school. They enjoy collecting bugs and frogs. We enjoy adventuring with them! I went on my first mission trip with Good news in 2011 and have returned to Saint Lucia every year since. Three years ago, the company I worked for donated a dental chair, light and autoclave from an office remodel. These were set up by Good News in the Marian home where I see patients when I am on the trips. There is another Dentist that also uses the site to see patients the week after I leave! We primarily remove badly infected teeth. I plan on returning to the island yearly to provide this service through Good News.

Sharon Long (President)



I joined the Eye Clinic of Wisconsin as a “co-op” student in 1973, before graduating from Wausau West High School. Over the years I became Business Manager and Clinic Administrator, managing as many as six office locations and over 130 employees. I led the development of computerized accounting and appointment systems and managed many building renovations and construction projects. I served on the Advisory board of the Wausau School District, and on many Boards, including US Bank, Wausau Chamber and Central Wisconsin Progress. I have two grown children and two grandchildren. Since retiring from the ECOW, my husband Russ and I run several businesses in the Wausau area and in North Dakota. I have been a GNP volunteer in Dominica and have been on the Board of Directors since 2010.

Charles MacCarthy, MD



I was born in St. Paul, but moved too frequently to be able to identify a home town. “Ruined for life” by the Jesuits (their description) at University of Detroit High School, Marquette University and Loyola Medical School, I have tried to conduct my professional and personal life with a spirit of mission and service. When I met Peggy Schommer in 1957 and married her in 1961, we became a team that has enjoyed many mutual projects – raising five children, enjoying 11 grandchildren, working together on numerous school and church related projects while I practiced medicine for 30 years. But, in recent years, Good News Project has been our most consistent challenge and a source of great satisfaction and enjoyment. We cherish the hundreds of friendships we have made in the West Indies and here at home, and look

forward to seeing GNP continue to thrive. The future of GNP is in good hands with Christine Daniels as Executive Director and our talented, enthusiastic Board of Directors.

Peggy MacCarthy



I was born in Oshkosh, Wisconsin and moved to De Pere when I was in eighth grade. I graduated from Marquette University's School of Journalism in 1960, with an "Advertising Sequence" and a minor in English. Chuck and I were married in July, 1961 and subsequently lived in Chicago, Florida, Maryland, and Rochester, MN. I worked at James Jeffords Advertising Agency in Milwaukee and Bish Creative Display in Chicago before our children were born. After that I worked from home as the Executive Director of the Student American Medical Association and had various free lance writing jobs. We moved to Wausau in 1971 and have five children and 11 grandchildren and a HUGE Good News family. I have mainly been a VOLUNTEER ever since ... currently with Good News Project! The first Good News group of five musicians went to St. Lucia in August, 1983, and as the program grew, Chuck and I made over 48 trips to the West Indies to coordinate teams, make planning trips or a combination of the two. We are thrilled with the progress of Good News Project – with our great Executive Director, Staff and Board of Directors.

Mehrdad Nazari



I moved to the Wausau area in 2004 from London and live here with my wife, Angie Witt, and our two young children. I provide corporate social responsibility and environmental advisory services (Prizma LLC), mostly abroad. I grew up in Iran and Germany, and pursued my academic training in Germany, USA and the UK. I was fortunate to be a Fulbright grantee and a Fellow of Rockefeller Foundation's Leadership for Environment & Development (LEAD) program. My 20 years of professional experience includes ten serving at the European Bank, a sister organization of the World Bank. My non-profit experience includes helping Angie, a DVM (Metro Animal Hospital), to set up International Veterinary Assistance Inc. to mobilize veterinary services to the West Indies. I also served on the boards of LEAD Canada and the Fulbright Academy of Science & Technology. I joined the Board of Directors of Good News in March 2012.

Betty Porrey (Secretary)



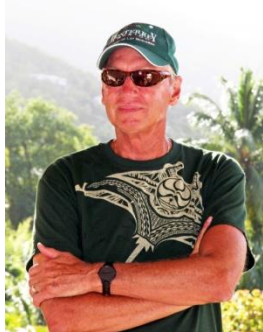
I received a bachelors degree in professional art from Carroll College and a masters degree in management from Cardinal Stritch College. I currently work as a marketing specialist for the Aspirus health system in Wausau. I became involved in Good News Project 25 years ago through music and the fundraising dinner held in Wausau each year. I believe that it's important for people to do whatever small things they can wherever they are to make a difference in someone's life.

Sam Scaffidi



I am a 1973 graduate of Pacelli High School in Stevens Point WI. I was employed at Scaffidi Motors since then - becoming co owner in 1989. I was married to Linda in 1981. We have three adult children. I was a scout leader for close to 20 years. Our first Good News trip was five years ago and we have served four times. My hobbies include horse packing in the Rockies & hobby farming at home. We grow hay & trees. Linda & I are members of Highland Community Church in Wausau. I believe in serving the least of our brothers both abroad as well as here at home.

Mike Sellman



I am a nuclear engineer and physicist by education, with degrees from University of Minnesota and Catholic University. My career began in the U.S. Navy on nuclear submarines and I went on to commercial nuclear power plants. Eventually, I became a nuclear plant manager, and then President and CEO of Nuclear Management Company, which operated nuclear plants in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Michigan. I retired from that 24/7 job in late 2007 and started my own consulting company. My most interesting project is something called Laser Inertial Fusion at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory which I've discussed with some of you. The love of my life is my wife Renee. Her kind and gentle spirit has been an inspiration to me. They say opposites attract and that's definitely the case with us. She's got a servant's heart and she's the one who talked me into going to St. Lucia several years ago. It's been a great experience and that's why we keep coming back.

Ruth Sessler



I was born, raised and currently reside in Kaukauna, Wisconsin and am a member of St. Paul Parish in Combined Locks. I grew up in the Catholic faith, attending Holy Cross Elementary School and St. Mary's Middle School in Kaukauna and St. Frances Xavier High School in Appleton. I graduated from St. Norbert College in 2004 with a Bachelor of Business Administration and shortly after began my career with our family business, Van Zeeland Manufacturing, Inc. in Little Chute, Wisconsin. I've worked in Inside Sales and am currently the Purchasing Manager. I love what I do and especially enjoy working with my dad and brother. I married my wonderful husband Aaron in August of 2010. We enjoy hunting, archery, target shooting, spending time "up north", and curling up with good books (and our cat, Wyatt!). We recently became an aunt and uncle and looking forward to spending time with and spoiling our niece, Veronica. In January of 2004, during my senior year at St. Norbert, I applied for and received a scholarship through the Peace and Justice Center to travel with the Good News Project, Inc. to St. Lucia. That experience truly changed me and I have been involved with GNP ever since. I have traveled to St. Lucia and St. Vincent as a volunteer, a coordinator, have helped with electronics recycling events in Wausau and the Fox Valley, and have

been involved with the annual Caribbean fundraising dinner. I am blessed to be a part of the Good News "family" and look forward to what the future holds for the Good News Project!

Robin Van Zeeland



I was born in Kaukauna, Wisconsin and never left. I was raised Catholic and attended Holy Cross Grade School and St. John's High School. After high school I enrolled in the Wisconsin Apprenticeship Program and received journeyman machinist status in 1977. In 1977 I married my high school sweet heart Terry and we have three happily married children Ruth, Rachel and Ryan. We had our first grandchild in March. Our family started Van Zeeland Manufacturing Inc. in 1980 and I have been president since 1996. I have been a member of Holy Cross Parish Kaukauna for 57 years and served on our Parish Council for 6 years. I am currently the Treasurer Trustee for Holy Cross Parish a position I have held for the last 8 years and also a member of the Finance Council and Building and Grounds committees. I served on the committee to consolidate the three Catholic Schools in Kaukauna to a system called KCSS and served on the school board for KCSS for six years. I am currently on the Board of Directors for the KCSS Board of Trustees serving the role as Treasurer. I enjoy hunting, fishing, gardening and spending time with my family. My daughter Ruth traveled to St. Lucia when she was a senior at St. Norbert College. Since then my entire family has fallen in love with the Good News Project. For the last seven years I have traveled to the beautiful island of St. Lucia.