

Manager Highlight

June Jones



The longest employed staff at Liberty Thrift is none other than the founder and first store manager. June Jones is her name and thrift is her game. She started in the summer of 1998 at the first store in Schwenksville. Her hard work and vision helped to make the stores what they are today and her dedication to the ministry has proven faithful for many years. She has seen many customers since she has helped open all of the store locations from the two in Schwenksville, two in Collegeville, Gilbertsville, Pottstown, Spring City, and even to the newest store in Quakertown.

"The last years have been an incredible adventure. There have been many trials and struggles along the way but through it all God has brought many triumphs. It has been a lot of hard work but definitely worth it all. I never dreamed I would be a part of something that has become so big; bigger than I could have imagined. God has placed so many amazing people around me that this could not have happened without all of them. God has been so faithful every step of the way."



June Jones at the first store grand opening in August 1998.

\$5.00 OFF a purchase of **\$25.00 or more.** At Any Location

LibertyThriftStores.com

 Certain restrictions apply. Cannot be combined with any other offer. See store associate for details. (Expires 8/31/12)

Items Worth A Second Chance!!

Spring Cleaning?

Do you have furniture taking up space that you don't use anymore? Do you have clothes in the back of your closet that you don't wear? Consider donating your gently used items to LibertyThrift. Not only will you give your house a little more space, but you'll also be recycling to help those around you. We have tax receipts available upon request.

Store Locations

Collegeville

3841 Ridge Pike, Collegeville, PA 19426
610.831.9856

Little Liberty Children's & Maternity Thrift
 3838 Ridge Pike, Collegeville, PA 19426
610.831.2170

Pottstown - North End Shopping Center
 1300 N. Charlotte St., Pottstown, PA 19464
610.970.6306

Quakertown - Country Square Shopping Center
 240-5 S. West End Blvd., Quakertown, PA 18951
215.529.1400

Spring City - Spring City Shopping Center
 65 East Bridge Street, Spring City, PA 19475
610.792.1460



Your donations could go From This, To This?



Contact any of our stores or visit our website to schedule a **FREE Furniture Pickup.** This truck could be visiting your home soon!!
 LibertyThriftStores.com

www.LibertyThriftStores.com

Arlan Kratz

Husband, father of four (3 biological), grandfather of twelve, member of Franconia Mennonite Church all of his life, truck driver since 1956, MDS volunteer most of adult life, Liberty Ministries Board Member since 1982, mentor to countless younger men – all of these roles and more could have inspirational stories written about Liberty Ministries Board Member, Arlan Kratz. "This is the one I esteem: he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my word." (Isaiah 66:2) – such a man, is Arlan Kratz.

Arlan was first introduced to Liberty Ministries, soon after it was organized, when he was asked to bring an MDS work crew to Philadelphia to work on the first house used for the program. After becoming a board member shortly thereafter, he continued to provide invaluable services as a member of the Building and Maintenance Committee which he still serves on. His networking skills with various businesses have been a vital asset to the many projects he works on. Perhaps his most outstanding contribution has been taking on the renovation supervision of Liberty House.

Upon the purchase of the property, Arlan was asked by then president of the board, Jim Williams, to head this project. One of his first monumental tasks was to replace the deteriorated roof. Working with some construction businesses, MDS, and many other volunteers, the task was accomplished. He then went on to secure more volunteers – a recently retired carpenter, plumber and several other handy retirees, taking on the project manager role of renovating the entire building. Some plans were professionally done and some were done by Arlan

himself. The renovations took years to complete and there are still some ongoing projects in the "to do" stages. Arlan contributes many hours to building and property maintenance as well as maintaining a fleet of vehicles for the ministry and stores. During his volunteer hours at the ministry, he frequently works side by side with some of the men in the program, personally befriending and mentoring many of the men.



Arlan's first volunteer experiences were as a young man at Spruce Lake. He was mentored by older volunteering men. He has kept up the tradition. Why does Arlan agree to accept another term each time eligible? To quote Arlan, "There's always a few more projects left to do". Besides that, he feels personally rewarded by his involvement with the Liberty House men who keep him focused on the role of the ministry. There is no question that Arlan's work ethic and generous kind spirit provides an irreplaceable model for the men as they work with him. As Executive Director, Bob Thompson said, "Every man needs a Silas in his life." To Arlan, Liberty Ministries is one of his several families, another of his reasons to stay on the board. Thank you Arlan. We as a ministry are indebted to you and blessed to be part of your life and your extended family. "By their fruit, you will know them." Matt 7:20

Board Members

Phil Derstine	Richard Landes	Wayne Mumbauer
Dan Emr	Peg Moore	Ed Spencer
Arlan Kratz	Ruth Mumbauer	Richard Whitekettle

PO Box 87, Schwenksville, PA 19473

...for those in prison and recently released!



LIBERTY MINISTRIES
 Grace. Hope. Regeneration
 ...for those in prison and recently released!

Spring 2012

Christmas Stockings for Inmates

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Liberty Ministries exists to serve offenders in prison and ex-offenders in the community by showing God's love, providing practical assistance, and supporting biblical standards of justice.

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me...to proclaim liberty to the prisoners."

Luke 4:18

LIBERTY MINISTRIES

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 Schwenksville, PA 19473
www.libertyministries.us
info@libertyministries.us

Phone: 610-287-5481
Fax: 610-287-5286

LIBERTY THRIFT & HOME FURNISHINGS

Collegeville: 610-831-9856
Little Liberty: 610-831-2170
Pottstown: 610-970-6306
Quakertown: 215-529-1400
Spring City: 610-792-1460

Schedule a donation drop off or pick up, and find store hours and locations online at:
www.libertythriftstores.com

Christmas Stocking 2011 brought many challenges but huge blessings along the way as the Lord showed Himself mighty on our behalf! One of the blessings was in a letter received from a gentleman named Wayne. In his letter, Wayne states that he received a package last year (in 2010) and that:

"... as for me, I had been lost to the Lord for many years and due to your loving gift in 2010 I was convinced that I needed to come back to God through Jesus Christ."

We can almost hear the celebration in the Heavenly places for the repentance of the one sinner (Luke

15:7). Today, Wayne is serving the Lord in prison but he is free in Christ and our brother.

The volunteers who packed the 'stockings' this year were made up of the residents of Dock Woods Community, many home school families, and ministry volunteers as well. There is a blessing in serving and that was felt by all of those who worked diligently together to accomplish a huge undertaking, especially in overcoming the late arrival of food. This is a very large outreach and worth every penny if just one turns his life over to the Lord. Thank you to all of you who have prayed, volunteered your time or provided the funding to make this possible!



Stocking delivery and production members.



Liberty Ministries Benefit Concert

with Donna Godshall

Please join us for an evening of inspiration, praise and worship, with our local gospel singer, Donna Godshall. Ms. Godshall will join Chaplain Paul Long, Ann Angelichio, Liberty Ministry staff, residents and volunteers in this annual benefit concert. **The concert will be held at Franconia Mennonite Church on April 15th at 6:30 pm.** The church is located at 613 Harleysville Pike (Route 113) in Telford, Pennsylvania, 18969, 215.723.3220, www.franconiamennonite.org. No tickets needed. A love offering will be received for the benefit of Liberty Ministries.

For more information on Donna Godshall www.donnagodshall.com.

Please join us for an evening of inspiration, praise and worship.



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:



Liberty Ministries has grown in many ways since our spring newsletter of a year ago. Our staff and volunteers are going into more regional prisons with the message of grace, hope, and regeneration offered through the power of Jesus Christ. Volunteers have been added to the prison teaching rolls. However, there is still a great need for mature Christian men to mentor Liberty House residents and men and women to mentor prison inmates. Will you consider such a calling?

Our new thrift store in Quakertown is being positively received by the community. The additional employees and thrift sales at the new store have added to the local economy. The four established stores have continued to increase the number of customers served and total sales. God is greatly blessing Liberty Thrift and Home Furnishings.

Liberty Ministries is dedicated to serving those in prison and ex-offenders in the community. We covet your prayers and support.

Bob Thompson

2011 Banquet

Emphasizing the power of Jesus Christ in the life of the individual, two inspiring testimonies were at the center of last year's banquet held **October 22nd** at the Franconia Heritage Restaurant.

Ms. Barbara O'Neill and Mr. Peter Brenner shared their stories of God's faithfulness, forgiveness, and transforming power to change lives with over 300 guests in attendance. Ann Angelichio mentored Ms. O'Neill while at Montgomery County Correctional Facility. Mr. Brenner completed the Liberty Ministries Phase One program in 2010 and joined the staff as a Resident Assistant while still in Phase Two. A choir composed of Liberty Ministries residents and alumni sang two contemporary Christian songs. Teresa Vinson led the choir with piano accompaniment by Gordon Gregory. Several of the Liberty board members participated in the program.

The offering and table sponsorships yielded the ministry a net total of \$21,689.00. Your gifts were greatly appreciated.

Please mark your calendar for the 2012 banquet which is planned for October 27th.



Jerry has been involved with prison ministry for the past 30 years, starting with street ministry in Philadelphia to leading the men's Spanish Bible study on Monday nights in MCCF. He is also volunteering at SCI Graterford.

One ministry you might not know he is involved in is the Christmas Toys for Children of Incarcerated Men program. Churches in North Philadelphia and Bethlehem help with the collection and distribution of the gifts in MCCF, SCIG, and SCI Coal Township. 16 to 20 volunteers hand out over 1,000 toys to joyful children from inmates who miss being there for them on that special day.

We thank Jerry for his tireless energy in this awesome program and also his participation in feeding over 500 homeless persons in Philadelphia every week.

Jerry Cordona



Phase One Graduate
Phase One Graduate Eric Benschore.
The first graduate of 2012.



Liberty House 2nd and 3rd floor construction project completed.

Discovering Your Hidden Treasures

Professional Opinions on your Cherished Belonging: A Benefit for Liberty Ministries

Join us on Saturday April 21st at 9:00 am at the Franconia Heritage Banquet Center, Franconia to learn more about your favorite possessions. Professional opinions will be presented by Charlie Moyer & Margaret Zook of Sanford A. Alderfer Companies in Hatfield.

To register, contact MFB Wealth Management 215-256-8989 or MaryGrace@MFBWM.com. There is a \$20 evaluation fee per item. Items limited to less than 25 lbs. Only 75 items will be accepted to review. Proceeds to benefit Liberty Ministries in Schwenksville.



Where Are They Now?

Jonathan Lewis *Director of Residential Program*

It has come to my attention that many of our supporters and those wanting to know more about Liberty Ministries have asked: "Where are the graduates of Liberty Ministries?" Therefore, I thought it only appropriate to update our newsletter readers on where some of our graduates are, and perhaps more importantly, what they are doing. Below is a short list of names, residencies and current occupations for some of Liberty Ministries' graduates.



William "Bill" Collins '04 • Trappe, PA • Contract Limousine Driver • Worked with Liberty Thrift • Mentored Liberty residents and graduates • Relocated to Raleigh, NC. • Is pursuing formal training at Columbia University • Employed at Logic Limo • Has maintained his freedom for over 8 yrs.

Wayne Moore '06 • Hanover, PA • Ranch Handler • Facilitated Bible studies at Liberty House • Relocated to Lakemont, PA • Is active in full-time ministry with Freedom Village USA • Employed at Freedom Ranch • Has maintained his freedom for over 6 yrs.

Vern Brewer '07 • Jim Thorpe, PA • Landscaper/Laborer • Facilitated Bible studies at Liberty House • Relocated to Pottstown, PA • Is active in men's ministry at House of God Church • Employed at John 3:16 Lawn Care • Has maintained his freedom for over 5 yrs.

It was truly a blessing to serve these men at Liberty Ministries and to be part of their spiritual journey. I, and the rest of the Liberty Ministries staff, look forward to serving other men and sharing more success stories with you. Remember to pick up our next edition to learn more about other Liberty Ministry graduates.

Greetings from Chaplain Paul

In my last letter I told you about W.L. who accepted Christ at Montgomery County Correctional Facility. We have been meeting on a regular basis and he has been showing amazing spiritual growth. When I met with him one day, he informed me that he was convicted of sin that he needed to repent of. He realized that this sin would keep him from growing spiritually. This insight from a new Christian is a time for rejoicing!

When I was leaving M.C.C.F. one day, I met a young man I had been mentoring and had been released the day before. He introduced me to his mother and asked me if I could share a devotional with them. The devotional that day was entitled "God is for You." His mother put my number in her cell phone so he could keep in touch. I prayed with them as well. A week and a half later he got in touch with me and he is now at Liberty Ministries.

The story of W.L. continues to grow. He informed me that his girlfriend came to visit him and that he had spoken to his 10 year old son on the phone. His son told him in the phone conversation, "Dad, I really want to come to see you." His two sons came with their mother and they had a great time visiting him. W.L. had told me about a man on his block who made fun of the Bible, but W.L. offered him a Bible anyway. The man took the Bible, began reading it, and started attending church services and Bible studies. When I was packing Christmas gift bags at Dock Woods, I met a customer from the Pottstown Thrift Store who came to help with the packing. She told me she had a son at M.C.C.F. and asked if I would visit him. I visited with her son and mentioned it to W.L. He told me that this was the same man he had given the Bible to. I continue to have great visits with him and he hopes to go home to his mother shortly. We have such an amazing God who continues to use all of us to point others to Jesus Christ.

Liberty Thrift & Home Furnishings



Items
Worth a
Second Chance

A Different Way to Thrift

Liberty Thrift & Home Furnishings is a non-profit thrift store that supports Liberty Ministries located in Schwenksville, PA. There are currently five thrift stores; two located in Collegeville, one in Pottstown, one in Spring City, and the most recent one in Quakertown. Our Spring City, Collegeville, Pottstown, and Quakertown locations have a variety of items ranging from furniture, kitchenware, home décor, appliances, electronics, books, clothing, shoes, linen, antiques, and something for the entire family. Our other store in Collegeville, Little Liberty, is for Children and Maternity which includes clothing, toys, baby equip, and so much more.

Successful Grand Opening for Liberty Thrift in Quakertown

On November 5, 2011, Liberty Thrift & Home Furnishings was pleased to have the grand opening of their Quakertown store, offering a one-day sale of 50% off their entire used selection. One person away from 600 paying customers, Liberty Thrift had one of their biggest grand openings yet! 5,352 items were purchased, including 959 media items, 1,436 pieces of clothing, 1,013 seasonal items and 67 pieces of furniture. 530 names were entered into a raffle where one lucky winner won a \$100 Liberty gift card (smaller gift cards were also raffled). Our food table was a great success, too! We gave away over

400 hot dogs,
2 sheet cakes,
countless bags of popcorn, lots of cookies and Rice Krispie treats, and more!

Thank you to everyone who came out and supported Liberty Thrift on this great day.



Christmas Stocking Project made Possible by Our Customers

Liberty Thrift would like to thank our wonderful donors for being generous with our 2011 Christmas stocking project. We raised \$9,382.74 in donations solely from our customers! Because of your contributions, we were able to bless the lives of many inmates this past Christmas. Whether you donated once or every time you visited our stores, we are grateful to not only call you customers, but also supporters of the ministry. These are just two of our encouraging Christmas Stockings signed by donors.



Liberty Thrift has Gift Cards available at every store location.

'Like' us on Facebook for updates & sales!!

