



# SHIFTING SANDS



## A Spiritual Message A Reflection

This issue of Shifting Sands will contain tributes to Carmen DiPlacido, whose untimely death in February saddened us all. As a member of Porto Caravan #104, as the first president of Porto Charities, Inc., as a cherished friend – he will be missed. And he will be remembered. We knew him as a man dedicated to the cause of the disadvantaged, whether immigrants seeking a better way of life or the disabled looking for a chance to be themselves and prove their real abilities. We knew his calm and reassuring way of approaching issues, his energetic but always kindly demeanor.

The passing of a friend into the fullness of God’s Kingdom always gives us pause for reflection. We go through our days pushing thoughts of our own mortality to the sidelines of consciousness, but faced with the death of someone we knew makes such thoughts unavoidable. When will I die? I don’t know. How? I have no idea. What will my family and friends remember of me most fondly? What good will I have left behind? One of the reasons we don’t like to dwell on death is because we simply don’t have answers for the questions. What will the afterlife be like? We’re pretty sure it won’t be the fluffy clouds, white robes, and dreamy music of childhood pictures. And it won’t be an amalgam of all those jokes we’ve heard about the questions that are asked at the

pearly gates. Because we don’t know, we are afraid. And if not afraid of death itself, perhaps afraid of the suffering leading to it, or of leaving behind our loved ones, or some unfinished business, or some things on our “bucket list” that have not been checked off.

And after the mourning and the reflection comes the pressing reality of the “now.” We realize that wondering about the past or worrying about the future is all useless daydreaming. What God gives us – always – is the moment. We can even speak of it as the “sacrament of the present moment,” because each instant of our lives is a new encounter with God, a new interface with eternity. The past is a gift that has been used up, drained of its existence; the future is in God’s loving hands. We honor the dead by capturing whatever beauty and good we have seen in their lives and living it...now. We honor the living by directing this moment’s attention to them – in forgiveness, compassion, generosity... now.

*Fr. Edwin Dill, ST*

### IN THIS ISSUE

A Spiritual Message	1
Grand Commander's Message	1-2
Hammeke Family Send-Off	2
Ignatian Volunteer Corps Job Announcement	2
2013 Calendar	3
Cameron's Coffee and Chocolates	3
Member Spotlight: Carmen DiPlacido	4
Memories of Carmen	5-6
Founder's Day Awards and Grants List	7
Founder's Day Photo Gallery	8-9
Organizations Porto Supports: The Arc	10
Porto Derby Event	11
ArtStream Plays	12
About Porto and PCI	13

## Grand Commander’s Message

*“God Took the Very Best”*

This is the only way to describe Carmen’s passing on February 1st. Carmen was loved and respected by everyone who ever met him. He will continue to look over us from heaven. He has already spoken to Vivian in her dreams and told her: “Tell your Dad, my best friend, not to worry. Everything is fine and I will protect everyone from here. I’m having fun.”

Following are words I read at the Funeral Mass to the more than 200 family and friends whose lives he had touched in some special way.

*“Ann, Christie, families and friends:*

The past two weeks have been very emotional for all of us in the Alonso family. We have become very close friends with Carmen, Ann and Christie over the past eight years. We’ve spent time together at our lake house, watched football games

*(continued on p. 2)*

*(continued from p. 1)*

at each other's homes, and just recently gathered to root for our Redskins during a playoff game.

We met when Christie was enrolled in the Learning Into Future Environments (LIFE) program for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities at George Mason University. Christie joined our GMU Special Olympics team, but she had never played sports before. Carmen was a wreck since he was afraid she would get hurt. She did end up breaking her arm playing soccer in 2011, but she survived. You could always count on Christie's smile and rubbing her hands together as if something good was going to happen. And something great did happen: she ran up and down soccer fields and basketball courts, and ran 100-meter dashes in track. She loves her teammates and they love her back dearly.

Carmen became a member of Porto 104 of the International Order of Alhambra, a Catholic men's fraternal organization founded in 1904. Many of us here today belong to this organization which raises funds to enhance the quality of life for persons with intellectual disabilities. Our current emphasis is to provide for future jobs and housing needs, especially now that they've graduated from GMU and the Davis Center. They want to lead an independent life on their own just like everyone else.

Our families traveled to a very, very hot San Antonio in July 2008 to convince Alhambra members with declining membership to see the need to open the Order to women and other

denominations. We were not successful in this endeavor. However, with Bishop Loverde's blessing, we came home and in December 2008 created Porto Charities, Inc., a 501 ( c ) ( 3 ) organization. Carmen was our first President. Our membership, which we have now increased by 40% with 30 new families, is open to all individuals with our same focus and mission. We are ready for the future and in 2011 embarked on a housing initiative.

In our monthly meetings, Carmen led quietly, listening to everyone's ideas, concerns and legal issues. He moved us forward in peace and harmony. The three C's of leadership are consideration, caring and courtesy; Carmen embodied these qualities and practiced them every day of his life.

Most of all, he practiced LOVE. He loved Ann. He loved Christie and she carries that love for all of us every day. She tells everyone: I love you; you are my favorite! Unlike many of us, Carmen was not afraid to tell us he loved us. On many occasions, he would tell me: Leo, I love you. If you weren't married to Betty, I'd marry you.

We will miss Carmen so very much, but like I told Christie, he is up in heaven looking out for us. God took the very best. As his fellow members at the American Immigration Lawyers Association said in their note: Carmen DiPlacido - brilliant, kind and generous! May He Rest In Peace.

*GC Leo Alonso*

## Hammeke Family Send-Off

The Hammekes will be moving this spring to Charlotte, North Carolina. We need to have the largest crowd ever at the Porto Derby for a Porto/PCI send-off!

Coach Pat and Ellen have been at the forefront as champions of individuals with disabilities in our community for over 30 years. Pat was Grand Commander of Porto 104, recruited me to join, and then brought in the PVI Options fathers. Pat has belonged to every board imaginable: The Arc, NDSS, Best Buddies, Special Olympics, ArtStream, etc. If I ever needed anything, he has been my encyclopedia on who, what, and where in the northern Virginia area I could turn to for help. He has been Director of Best Buddies and Special Olympics Area 26.

Sultana Ellen has always provided her support and split duties at Special Olympics tournaments when held at different venues. Many times over the past four years, I would open my mailbox and find a touching personal thank you note, written with love, from Casey. Brendan (Don Juan), with his big grin, would always remind me I was the best coach he ever had.

Porto Derby was Pat's invention and I convinced him he could not move prior to this year's event on May 4th (see p. 11). We need everyone there and will also need an understudy at this last event so he/she can take over from here on out. The Hammekes will be greatly missed!

*GC Leo Alonso*

## Job Announcement

The Ignatian Volunteer Corps (IVC), a national non-profit serving the needs of the poor through volunteer work of retired persons, seeks a Director for its Northern Virginia Region to plan for and manage anticipated growth in the region. The successful candidate will have broad experience in recruitment and support of volunteers and partner non-profit agencies; organizational, program, fundraising and network development; administrative management, including computer pro-

gramming, budgeting and financial planning; a commitment to and working with the poor; and adult faith formation and Ignatian spirituality.

If interested, please submit a letter of application and resume, with names and contact information for two references, via email to Tom Ulrich, Director of Programs, at [tulrich@ivcusa.org](mailto:tulrich@ivcusa.org) no later than March 29, 2013. Job description available upon request. ■

# 2013 Calendar

## PORTO 104 / PORTO CHARITIES

Divan and PCI Board Meetings are all held at OLGC DeSales Hall in Church Lower Lobby

Social functions appear in red shadow and will be held in the Counsel Room (school cafeteria)

Thursday, March 7	Housing Meeting, 7 PM (Lobby)
Thursday, March 14	Divan & PCI Board Meeting
Thursday, April 4	Housing Meeting, 7 PM (Lobby)
Thursday, May 2	Housing Meeting, 7 PM (Lobby)
Saturday, May 4	Porto Derby, 6-10 PM
Thursday, May 9	Divan & PCI Board Meeting
Thursday, June 6	Housing Meeting, 7 PM (Lobby)
Thursday, July 11	Housing Meeting, 7 PM (Lobby) Divan & PCI Board Meeting
Thursday, August 1	Housing Meeting, 7 PM (Lobby)
Thursday, September 5	Housing Meeting, 7 PM (Lobby)
Thursday, September 12	Divan & PCI Board Meeting
Sunday, September 15	Bishop Loverde's Annual Disabilities Awareness Mass & Reception St. Thomas More Cathedral
Thursday, October 3	Housing Meeting, 7 PM (Lobby)
Friday, October 4	PCI Golf Outing Fundraiser
Saturday, October 26	Oktoberfest / Mass, 6-10 PM
Thursday, November 7	Housing Meeting, 7 PM (Lobby)
Thursday, November 14	Divan & PCI Board Meeting
Thursday, December 5	Tentative Housing Meeting, 7 PM (Lobby)
Saturday, December 14	Holiday Party / Mass, 6-10 PM

### **Cameron's Coffee and Chocolates**

Porto Charities members, the Grahams, are opening a chocolate shop in Fairfax. *Cameron's Coffee and Chocolates* will be a full service coffee and bakery shop with a specialty of making delicious chocolates....all on the premises. Cakes, muffins, yogurt, milk chocolates and dark chocolates, too! The doors will open in early June and it will employ three graduates of the Davis Career Center.

If you would like to join their email distribution simply go to <http://www.CameronsChocolate.com> and add yourself to the list. By doing so you will receive the grand opening announcement and notifications of specials.



**MEMBER PROFILE**  
**CARMEN DIPLACIDO**  
**PCI President**

Carmen DiPlacido was born Oct. 7, 1945, in Conneaut, Ohio, and graduated in 1963 from Conneaut High School where he was Senior Class President. He then went on to graduate from Bowling Green State University and finally received a JD from University of Akron School of Law. Carmen passed away on February 1, 2013.

Carmen had a distinguished 27-year career in the U.S. Department of State, where he served in numerous positions, including Director, Office of Citizens Consular Services and Director, Office of Policy Review and Interagency Liaison, Overseas Citizens Services; as well as



Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Passport Services and Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Overseas Citizens Services. He had extensive experience in consular law, citizenship, treasury issues, child abduction, aviation security and terrorism.

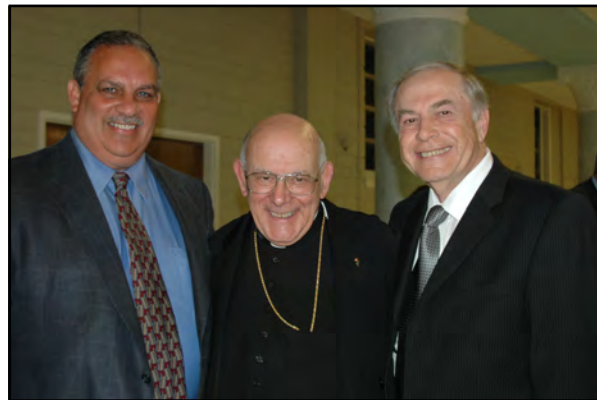
After retiring in 1997 from the U.S. Department of State, Carmen went into private practice specializing in consular law. He was one of the country's leading experts in the fields of immigration, citizenship and naturalization.



Carmen was a long-time supporter of the American Immigration Council and a selfless mentor. He also served on the American Immigration Lawyers Association on various committees and working groups, including the Department of State Liaison Committee, Border/Security Issues Committee and Border Watch Task Force, and the AILA/DHS International Enforcement Liaison Committee. His most recent appointment was as a member of the Field Operations Liaison Committee.

Wherever Carmen worked, he was known as much for his kind and gentle spirit as for his singular expertise in citizenship, naturalization and consular practice. Carmen had superb intellect, enormous practical knowledge; huge institutional memory, and bountiful generosity in sharing it all. A singular contribution of his was the landmark Child Citizenship Act of 2000, which Carmen authored with his trademark fairness and compassion.

Carmen's compassion and dedication was always the most evident in the work he carried out for Porto 104 and as president of Porto Charities, Inc. His love and dedication for his daughter Christie was embedded in everything he did to assist individuals with intellectual disabilities, to make them part of their community and environment. Carmen tirelessly dedicated himself to PCI's mission, raising funds, chairing committees, leading quietly. Each and every member of the organization benefits today and will in the future from his unselfish dedication and love. ■



Sources:  
<http://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/carmen-di-placido-%E2%80%93-champion-and-friend>;  
<http://starbeacon.com/legacy/x1633479507/Carmen-A-Di-Placido;and>  
<http://www.aila.org/content/default.aspx?docid=43123>



## Memories of Carmen

A few years ago Carmen told me of a conference to which he was attending in Toronto, mentioning the speakers/special guests. One of them was someone I admire and told Carmen how envious I was of him. Upon his return, he gave me a gift of an autographed book. I was so surprised and touched that he remembered our conversation and how incredibly thoughtful he was to buy a book and go through the trouble to have it signed for me. This book has now become a great treasure that will always remind me of the wonderful person Carmen was.

–Mary Jane Gutkowski

I only met Carmen a few times but he made quite an impression on me. He had such a calm and quiet demeanor but you could always tell that he was a man of conviction. When I was young there was a priest at our parish who often said that God gives each one of us the opportunity each and every day to make a positive difference in the lives of others. Carmen was a person that lived this philosophy. From the very first time I met him it was clear that he cared deeply for our children and tried to help make changes that would impact all of our lives. He set quite an example and all will miss him.

–Ellen Graham

Carmen was a very effective and caring President of Porto Charities Inc. (PCI). He hosted a number of initial meetings where we discussed the goals and objectives of the organization that evolved into PCI. He volunteered to write our by-laws and he willingly accepted responsibility to ensure that we completed all of the necessary steps to begin the organization and receive the status of a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Carmen was a very effective and organized individual who always welcomed new ideas on how we could serve children and adults with intellectual disabilities. He was particularly effective at suggesting solutions to complex issues. Carmen always focused on increasing the effectiveness of PCI and the board will miss his vision and strong leadership skills.

–Bill Mundy

My family and I have many experiences with Carmen, but we remember Carmen for the little things he did on a daily basis that showed how much he cared and valued people. The “thank you’s”, the expressions of sincere appreciation for a thought or an action, the hugs... all of those things showed what a warm, caring person he was. Combine those characteristics with his knowledge and technical skills made him one of those “one in a million” people. My family and I are very fortunate to have known him and our only regret is that our time with him was cut short.

–Mike Eisenberg

I met Carmen less than a year ago. In the first two conversations I had with him, he learned about the hopes and dreams I had for my daughter, Jenny. He shared his pride in Christie and expressed his hopes for her future with passion and efficiency. Carmen could steer a conversation to the core issues at hand like no one else; he directly asked the important questions. And, he was such a great listener! That is what Porto Charities is to me, thanks to Carmen's leadership, an organization that cuts to the core issues with passion and efficiency. He was a really good guy – I wish I knew him longer.

–Suzanne McIntosh

Carmen's dedication, hard work, patience and leadership have made a huge difference in Porto Charities and in the housing committee. He was always positive, supportive, and cheerfully moved us forward in the right direction. Carmen will be greatly missed.

–Stephanie Lee

## Memories of Carmen

I say this of Brother Carmen: "The greatest power of this organization is the men and women whom you meet along the way; the men and women with whom every member shares important milestones in the path of life ... No other organization so completely defines brother and sisterhood as does Porto 104." Paraphrased from a talk by Past President Mary Pat Marcello, NJFWC. Brother Carmen DiPlacido is the exemplar of this statement.

—*Brother Jack Devaney*

Carmen was such a kind man. He was humble and soft spoken but always took the time to talk to everyone. He was here to serve and not to be served. I have a beautiful picture of my daughter Elizabeth at the Porto Christmas party with Carmen. She was feeling teenage awkwardness and shy when Santa was giving out the gifts. She wanted to go up but felt, "Am I too old for this?" Standing by, Carmen with his intuition and sensitivity saw her struggle and put his arm around Elizabeth and ushered her up to Santa. She was happy! What kind of grown man is so observant and aware to know and see one of "our kids" struggles? How many of us take the time to really talk to and be with our young adults at our functions? Carmen did. What a role model he was, is. A true "servant" of Christ.

—*Maria Eisenberg*

I met Carmen a number of years ago but really got to know him when he asked me to join the Porto Charities board and we started working on the website together. Carmen was extremely kind and thoughtful and I truly enjoyed working with him. He had a passion for helping others through Porto Charities and I will always remember him as someone who made this world a better place. His devotion, attitude, and charity will be an example and an inspiration for many of us to try to live up to in the future.

—*Patrick Cross*

In 2008, Carmen nominated Leo for an American Immigrant Legal Foundation award "to recognize his myriad accomplishments as a businessman, the abundance of his generosity to the community, and especially for his 24 plus years of avid support and intense involvement in the Special Olympics Program". This cemented a bond between these two fine men who shared a unique love for each other. As President of PCI, Carmen worked hard to teach Leo the finer points of diplomacy—or let's just say, how not to be a bully in a china closet. Each time Leo would send something to Carmen for his review, it would come back with an addition of a "thank you" at the end of the article, and some positive words of praise for those working on behalf of PCI. Even though they were about five years apart in age, I think Carmen's maturity and wisdom made him a kind of father figure for Leo. Leo could always bounce ideas off of Carmen and readily accepted his comments and recommendations. That doesn't happen very often with Leo.

His generosity and love of people was so often on display. If you invited Carmen to Vivian's birthday party at the lake, he would appear with great big pans full of sausages: regular, mild and hot. If he came over to watch a Redskins game, there was another plate full of pulled pork since he knew that was one of Leo's favorite dishes. When there were leftovers, he was hurt that we had not eaten enough.

A great part of Carmen's life was lived for the other, be it Ann, Christie, family or friends. Carmen provided a wonderful example for Leo to emulate. He would never be able to instruct him in the finer points of diplomacy, but little by little, he made headway. He really touched Leo in a very special way, and I know he will sorely miss him, as will I.

—*Betty Alonso*

## Founder’s Day Awards

On February 9th at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, Porto 104 of the International Order of Alhambra and Porto Charities, Inc., held their annual Founder’s Day celebration at which annual charity grants were awarded. Bishop Loverde authorizes an annual Special Kids/Special Needs second collection or tithing. This year, 39 parishes participated on a volunteer basis and raised \$87,750. Parishioners donated with open hearts and demonstrated their love and acceptance of individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities.

Porto Charities, Inc. distributed \$91,800 in donations to 17 worthy organizations working to improve educational, social,

employment and housing needs in our Arlington Catholic Diocese (see list below). Christie DiPlacido, daughter of PCI past President Carmen DiPlacido (who enjoyed this annual evening most of all) served as the grant presenter in memory of her Dad.

This collection has been in existence since 1961. The goal of Porto Charities is to have 100% participation from all of our parishes in future years. We ask our parishioners to request their Pastor’s support in this effort. ■

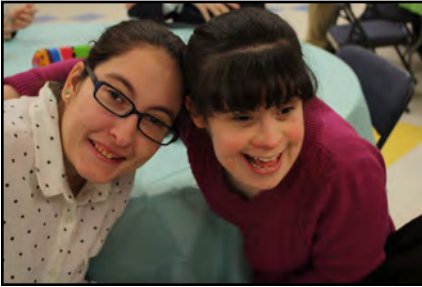
*(See photos of the event on pp. 8-9.)*



<b>2012 Grant Awards</b>	<b>Amount</b>
George Mason University Life Program	15,000
Paul VI Catholic HS Options Program	10,300
Pope John Paul The Great Catholic HS Options Program	10,000
St. Mark Catholic School Evangelist Program	10,000
Arlington Diocese “KeyBoards for Kids” Program	10,000
Best Buddies Virginia	7,500
Special Olympics Northern Virginia (Area 26)	6,000
ArtStream	5,000
The Arc of Northern Virginia	3,500
Gabriel Homes	3,500
S. John Davis Career Center	2,000
Autism Society of Northern VA	2,000
Central Fairfax Services	1,500
Villa Maria Work / Study Centre	1,500
Joey Pizzano Memorial Fund	1,500
Down Syndrome Association of Northern VA	1,500
Still Meadows Enrichment Center and Camp	1,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$91,800</b>

# Founder's Day Photo Gallery

Porto/PCI members as well as guests enjoyed a fun evening on February 9th, 2013. We enjoyed great Mexican-style food and music. Our award recipients talked about their mission, efforts and expressed their gratitude to Porto. Here is a selection of photos taken by our dedicated photographer, Maria Eisenberg, throughout the evening's event. Christie DiPlacido and Vivian Alonso presented the PCI awards.



Porto members Caitlin Donovan and Emily Dalgetty



PCI members Jenny McIntosh and her dad, Steve



Porto member Ruth Hingston and grandson



Dinner time! by Wildflour Catering



Award recipient Katie Chittum, Still Meadows Camp and Enrichment Center



Mariachi music warmed up the evening.



SE Rick Vranesh, Fr. Edwin Dill, and PSV Bill Fuchs



Award recipient Robert T. Pizzano, Joey Pizzano Memorial Fund, with Tommy Pizzano



Award recipient Tom Grodek, Central Fairfax Services

Award recipient Heather Trammell, Down Syndrome Association of Northern Virginia



Award recipient Tony Zipfel, S. John Davis Career Center, with current center students and alumni



Award recipients Bob Johnson and James Engle, Villa Maria Work/Study Center



Award recipient Mr. Ray Nelson, The Autism Society



Award recipient Rebecca Hartner, Gabriel Homes, and two of their residents





Award recipient Rikki Epstein and Lynn Ruiz, The Arc of Northern Virginia. Tom Gavin helped present the award.

Award recipient Jenny Lutz and Ramee Gentry, ArtStream with performers Dan Hartle, Chelsea Murray and Alex Mitrouchtchenkov.



Award recipient Sam Civitate, Best Buddies Virginia. Erin Thompson (R) assisted with the presentation.



Award recipient Bill Duquette and Ryan Pallone, Special Olympics Northern VA, Area 26



Award recipient Roberta Etzel, St. Mark Evangelist Program, with teachers Betty Franchi and Mary Ellen Garcia, and St. Mark's students. Porto member Bill Dalgetty (L) helped present the award.



Award recipient Megan Battle, JPG Options Program

Award recipient Christina Desmarais, Paul VI Options Program, with several of PVI's Options Program graduates and Porto/PCI members (Vivian Alonso, Will Hingston, Chelsea Murray, Greg Hoppe, Evan Patchett, Jenny Holden, Erin Thompson, Ryan Gutkowski, Emily Dalgetty, Caitlin Donovan; and current student Elizabeth Eisenberg, front row).



Award recipient Dr. Heidi Graff, LIFE Program, George Mason University



Porto/PCI members Evan Patchett, Greg Hoppe and guest Alex Mitrouchtchenkov



Porto member Will Hingston



## ORGANIZATIONS PORTO SUPPORTS

### THE ARC OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

The Arc of Northern Virginia is known as the leader in providing effective advocacy and indispensable direct services for families, children, and adults living with intellectual and developmental disabilities to enable full, welcoming community participation.

The Arc of Northern Virginia was founded in 1962. It is affiliated with The Arc, a national organization founded in 1947 by a group of parents to advocate for school services for children with intellectual and other severe disabilities. Today, The Arc of Northern Virginia is an organization that is building community opportunities for citizens with intellectual and developmental disabilities (ID/DD) so that they can live meaningful independent lives.

#### Services and Activities

The Arc of Northern Virginia serves people with cognitive, intellectual, and developmental disabilities and their families in Northern Virginia by providing services to individuals and families with supports for independent living such as: Personal Support Trusts; Developmental Disability Medicaid Waiver support coordination; Developmental Disability Medicaid Waiver Service facilitation; and a Guardianship program.

Some of the specific activities that The Arc carries out include:

- Individual Advocacy Assistance: ranging from phone referrals to other professional advocates who possess specialized expertise in certain areas; to short-term phone consultations; to more intensive fee-based consultations and case advocacy (e.g., The Arc

will advocate for individuals getting the right Medicaid amount).

- Systems Advocacy: on-going relationship building between The Arc, our members, our legislators, service providers and the community, to highlight critical issues, and influence outcomes.
- Attendance at and implementing advocacy events in the Northern Virginia area-and state level, various local proclamations, hearings, and legislative sessions.
- Developing collaborations and alliances with disability providers, and other disability organizations.

#### Education and Outreach

The Arc also educates, trains, and enlightens the greater community by providing information and referrals, and reaching out to groups and individuals in the community. It is here where the funding The Arc receives from Porto Charities, along with others', has an impact. Porto Charities funding supports The Arc with

- Information referral: through case managers in the county, social workers in public schools, and parents. The Arc staff spends a lot of time on the phone with individuals or families. They try very hard to provide the person calling with the right number to call to find out the information they are seeking.
- Lunch Bunch: The Arc invites parents to go to The Arc's office and sit with Arc employees to ask questions, any questions they have. The Arc also developed a packet of information

they can take away that answers questions regarding services and navigating the system.

- Transition POINTS Program: Transition POINTS is a new program The Arc has developed that will provide parents, siblings, and other caregivers with the information and support they need to make decisions at key points across the lifespan of their loved one with ID/DD. The Transition POINTS originated from the transition workshops held by The Arc in order to reach out to more families and individuals who need information on different issues. The Transition POINTS will provide:
  - ✓ A hotline for information and referral requests
  - ✓ Online toolkits, transition guides, brochures, fact sheets, etc.
  - ✓ Interactive webinars for parents and siblings
  - ✓ Workshops on specific topics such as financial planning and securing appropriate educational opportunities
  - ✓ Downloadable podcasts
  - ✓ Streaming video for conferences and workshops

For more information on The Arc and all its work for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, please contact them at 703.532.3214 or via email at [Info@TheArcofnoVA.org](mailto:Info@TheArcofnoVA.org); visit [www.TheArcofNoVA.org](http://www.TheArcofNoVA.org) or at 98 North Washington Street, Falls Church, VA 22046. ■



PORTO 104/PORTO CHARITIES, INC.  
**2013 PORTO DERBY  
 HONORING FATHERS**

*SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2013*

Our Lady of Good Counsel Counsel Room  
 (in the school at the farthest end from the church)  
 8601 Wolftrap Road, Vienna, Virginia

6:00 pm Mass in the LGC Chapel

7:00 pm Oasis (Happy Hour/Open Bar, included in price)

7:30 pm Dinner

**The World Famous Porto Derby!**

- 8:30 pm Race 1: How well do our female young adults know their DADS?
- Race 2: The Movie and Broadway Musical challenge!  
 (last chance to beat Casey!)
- Race 3: How well do our male young adults know their DADS?
- Race 4: The Grand Commander trivia challenge!



**MENU**

by Wildflour Catering:  
 BBQ Ribs, Pulled chicken, Pulled pork  
 Beans and Corn on the cob  
 Cake

ADULTS \$20 ~~~ YOUNG ADULTS \$15

RSVP **by April 26** to Betty or Leo Alonso  
 at [bettyleo@aol.com](mailto:bettyleo@aol.com) or (703) 626-2051



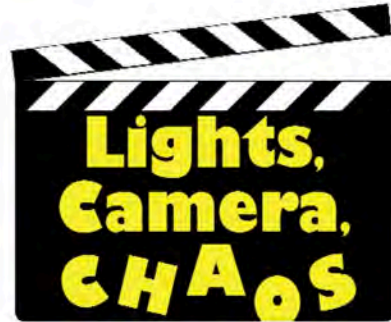
# ArtStream OnStage

in partnership with The Educational Theatre Company  
presents **The Arlington Inclusive Theatre Companies in:**



*Singing! Dancing! Drama! Jealousy!  
Tune-in tonight.*

Directed by John Newman  
Music and Lyrics by Sarah Horick



**A wacky, behind-the-scenes  
look at making movies!**

Directed by Patricia Woolsey  
and Stenise Reaves  
Music and Lyrics by Daniel Villar

## A double-bill of backstage, showbiz comedy!

**Gunston Theatre One**  
2700 South Lang Street  
Arlington, VA 22206

April 4-6 and April 11-13  
Thursdays and Fridays at 8:00 pm, Saturdays at 3:00 pm

**Tickets:**  
\$12.50 for pre-sale  
\$15.00 at the door  
\$5.00 for ArtStream Students Only

Tickets and info at [www.art-stream.org](http://www.art-stream.org)  
Pre-sale tickets must be purchased within 24 hours of the performance

Online transactions via PayPal  
Cash, check or credit card (Visa/MC/Disc) at the door

(301) 565-4567 | [www.art-stream.org](http://www.art-stream.org)





## GRAND DIVAN 2012-2013

### Porto Caravan no. 104

**REV. EDWIN DILL, S.T.**  
Chaplain

**LEO ALONSO**  
Grand Commander

**BILL MUNDY**  
Vice Grand Commander

**CHRIS WNUK**  
Grand Scribe

**PAT CROSS**  
Scribe of the Exchequer

**RICK VRANESH**  
Grand Chamberlain and  
Past Grand Commander

**BILL HINGSTON**  
Master of the Oasis

**TOM BRITTON**  
Master of the Wardrobe

**TOM RYAN**  
Captain of the Bodyguard

**WILLIAM HINGSTON III**  
Sentinel of the Tower

**PAUL TIERNEY**  
Sentinel of the Desert

**RONALD GUTKOWSKI**  
Grand Advocate

### Porto Charities, Inc.

**VACANT**  
President

**BILL MUNDY**  
Vice President

**CHARLIE SULLIVAN**  
Treasurer

**PAT HAMMEKE**  
Secretary

**LEO ALONSO**  
(Grand Commander)

**PAT CROSS**  
**MICHAEL EISENBERG**  
Directors

**SARA ADKINS-BLANCH**  
*Shifting Sands* Editor

## The International Order of Alhambra and Porto Caravan 104

The International Order of Alhambra is a fraternal organization of Catholic men dedicated to assisting persons with intellectual disabilities. The Order's mission is to:

- ❖ Provide assistance, education and residences for persons developmentally disabled;
- ❖ Identify, mark, preserve, and commemorate Catholic historical places, events and persons of international or regional importance;
- ❖ Promote fraternalism and sociability among its members and their families.

Porto Caravan No. 104 was chartered in 1956 and is an active Caravan in the International Order of Alhambra with a membership of about 100. Porto Caravan No. 104 is located in the Commonwealth of Virginia environs of the Nation's Capital. Any male practicing Catholic who is 18 years of age or older is eligible to apply for membership.

### Contact Information:

Porto Caravan #104 | Order of Alhambra

Post Office Box 7266 | Arlington, VA 22207

Telephone: 703.626.2051 | Email: bettyleo@aol.com

### Porto Charities Inc.

Porto Charities, Inc. is an I.R.C. 501(c) (3) charitable organization dedicated to actively assisting people with developmental or intellectual disabilities; their community and their environment. Our mission is to:

- ❖ Raise and provide funds, resources, assistance, education, residences and overall improved quality of life for people with developmental or intellectual disabilities; and
- ❖ Promote education, awareness, friendship and social forums among members, their families and the community.

Our vision is to:

- ❖ Focus our efforts on providing assistance and resources to people with developmental or intellectual disabilities and their environment through our charitable programs and projects while also emphasizing friendship, mutual support and social events for its members.

Organizations awarded charitable donations for this year include: ARC of Northern Virginia, ArtStream, Inc., Arlington Diocese "Keyboard for Kids" program, Autism Society of No. VA, Best Buddies Virginia, Central Fairfax Services, Inc., Down Syndrome Association of No. VA, Gabriel Homes, Inc., GMU Life Program, Joey Pizzano Memorial Fund, Paul VI HS Options Program, Pope John Paul the Great HS Options Program, S. John Davis Career Center, Special Olympics of No. VA Area 26, St. Louis Parish Special Education Program, St. Mark Catholic School Evangelist Program, Still Meadows Enrichment Center and Camp, Villa Maria Work Study Center, and Wild-flour Catering.

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**If you would like to submit a story, article, or news piece to *Shifting Sands*, please email [sadkinsblanch@portocharities.org](mailto:sadkinsblanch@portocharities.org).**