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February 2014



July 4 Parade, 1974



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## OAR Tours

We want you to swing by the OAR office and see how far your support goes in assisting ex-offenders in finding jobs. To schedule a tour, please contact Adam Hand by calling 703-228-7031 or email at [ahand@oaronline.org](mailto:ahand@oaronline.org).

## Renew Your ACDF ID

The Arlington Jail will be offering a badge renewal on **Saturday, April 12** from 9:30am-1:30pm. To RSVP, contact Adam Hand by calling 703-228-7031 or email at [ahand@oaronline.org](mailto:ahand@oaronline.org).

## Support OAR

If you would like to make a monetary donation to OAR, please click the orange box below to donate through our Network4Good donation page.

[Donate Now](#)

Thank you!

## Connect With Us!

Help increase our visibility by liking us, following us, viewing our videos, connecting with us, and telling others about us through the links below:



[Click here to sign up for a one-hour OAR Tour and bring a friend](#)

## What were you doing 40 years ago?

Dear Elizabeth,

What were you doing 40 years ago? It just so happens that exactly 40 years ago, in 1974, I moved to Washington to begin my career. I had just finished graduate school at the University of Illinois-Urbana and, at 27 years old, was ready to make a difference in the world.

Little did I know that three church women in Arlington that same year were ready to make a difference in the world of Northern Virginia, and they did! They created OAR. Here we are 40 years later with the same mission: helping men and women put their lives back together when coming out of the criminal justice system. We teach life skills classes inside the Arlington County Detention Facility; help those coming home find housing, employment, and support as they transition back to our community; and oversee the Community Service program for the Arlington County and Falls Church courts.

Our clients have just received a wonderful 40th Anniversary gift: the Alexandria Economic Opportunities Commission has just released a report titled *Ex-Offender Reentry and Employment*, which recommends a number of important changes in policy and funding to ensure that those coming home from incarceration have a chance to succeed. You can read the report by [clicking here](#).

You are the reason OAR has continued over so many years. Thank you.

Check me out on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GNedoSu1lDo>. I hope you will share this link with your friends.

January was a busy month for us and our clients. Please enjoy the photos in this issue.

## Sail

Gail C. Arnall,  
OAR Executive Director

## HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

### Your Special Valentine Poem

So many places to go and things to see,  
I just know there is somewhere I should be.  
But wait, it's almost Valentine's Day,  
Time to send words of love, and say,  
We give thanks for you - and all we hold dear,  
During this, our special 40th Anniversary Year!

-From the OAR Staff

## Let's Party!!

### Upcoming Fundraiser at California Pizza Kitchen

Thursday, February 27, 2014 will be OAR day at the California Pizza Kitchen across from Pentagon City mall! OAR will get a check for **20% of all purchases** made at the Pentagon City restaurant that day! You do not even have to eat there; it includes takeout purchases, as well.

You must have a **PAPER** copy of the flyer to give to the server...no screenshots on cell phones are allowed. The flyer is available by [clicking here](#). Please mark your calendars to have lunch or dinner there on 2/27. CPK is not just a pizzeria; they have a great menu that includes salads, small plates, pasta, soups, tacos, and several vegetarian, vegan, and gluten free options. You can see their menu by clicking [here](#). The restaurant is located at 1201 S Hayes St, Suite F, Arlington, VA 22202 (right across Hayes street from Pentagon City mall, by Nordstrom Rack, and right by the Metro).

Please pass the flyer on to everyone you know. Contact Adam Hand at [ahand@oaronline.org](mailto:ahand@oaronline.org) or 703-228-7031 with any questions. We hope to see you there!

## 40th Anniversary Events and Opportunities

Be on the lookout for special events during our anniversary year, including:

- Stories from long-time supporters and former clients
- Updates on changes that need to take place in our criminal justice system
- Seminars on various topics surrounding prison and sentencing reform
- Films that inform and move us to action
- Trends in crime and prison population--locally and internationally.

Join **NEW** 1974 Society:

The 1974 Society is for those able to give at least \$2,500 this year to support the work of OAR. We already have four members, and we hope to have at least ten at the end of the year. Can you be one?

"Santa in August" Toy Campaign:

This coming August, we are going to hold a "Santa in August" toy campaign to collect gifts to be given out in December to children whose parents are incarcerated. We will be celebrating our 35th year of Project Christmas Angel, and we want to make sure we have enough toys for every child (last year, we were not able to get any gifts from Toys for Tots, so we are planning ahead). Please consider making this campaign a focus for your organization or congregation in August. Contact Adam Hand for details at [ahand@oaronline.org](mailto:ahand@oaronline.org).

## A Busy January!



OAR Client speaks in Richmond to a room full of people at Del. Rob Krupicka's press conference to promote legislation to "Ban the Box" on state government job applications.



14 OAR Clients met with Virginia Department of Corrections Director, Harold Clarke, in Richmond to hear what he is doing to make sure Corrections in Virginia prisons are restorative, not simply punitive.



Bernard Kerik, former NYC Police Commissioner spoke about needed reforms in criminal justice. Event sponsored by Miller & Long Concrete Construction, Miller & Long advocates for hiring former offenders. [Click here](#) to read the press release.



OAR Client spoke at MLK event at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Old Town Alexandria, highlighting the work of OAR in helping men and women coming home from incarceration.



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OAR: Strengthening Community Through Second Chances

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