

PRINTERS ROW LIT FEST 2011

We started witnessing at this event in 1999. This year was the 13th year. Brethren from previous years volunteered and signed up at the first sign of the fair schedule. This has made it easy on my part. I only had a limited area of service in opening or setting up the table. The “veterans” just came, knew the routine and everything fit perfectly into place. I appreciate the effort of the brethren in developing such an interest in this witness effort. The following comments reflect their experiences. The brethren who served, provided supplies, voted for this effort and prayed about it all played a united role and it was appreciated.

Bro. Mark Kandel

It is a wonderful feeling and joy to be able to place Truth Literature in the hands of the public. We had a productive time. We sold four sets of separate volumes, one seven in one, six DVD's, one Polish First Volume and one paperback First Volume. We also passed out free literature.

I enjoyed working with both Bro. Bob Giovannoni and Bro. Mark Kandel again this year. I appreciate their zeal and enthusiasm for the Truth.

Bro. Erwin Kalinski

Bro. Erwin and I went to the Printer's Row Lit Fest this year, as we have done for the past several years. The weather was cooperative this time out and we were able to talk to a few people. Bro. Erwin placed several volume sets with people that were curious as to who we are and found the books very affordable. I also met a few “regulars” who I remember talking to in previous years. I had a conversation with several Pentecostals regarding the teaching of the Trinity doctrine. One couple I talked to bought a volume set from Bro. Erwin, the other said he'd pray for me. That was nice of him.

The fair became very crowded by the time sisters Lynn and Claudia came to relieve us. I have a fondness for the Book Fair; it was here that in June of 2001 Bro. Mark Kandel gave me a copy of The Divine Plan of the Ages and I became acquainted with the Bible Students. I'll always be thankful for God's guidance.

Bro. Bob Giovannoni

Bro. Mark and the Chicago class - thank you once again for providing this opportunity.

I love it every year!

People stop and we get to share the REALLY good news with them. Unfortunately for some it sounds too good to be true because of all the terrible judgment scenes they have in mind.

We sold a few books/DVD's and we gave away a couple of DVD's to people who seemed interested. It was a beautiful day especially because of sharing it with Sr. Lynn Reeland - we had a wonderful time, by the Lord's grace and faithfulness.

Let's do it again!!

Sr. Claudia Tosa

The Printer's Row Lit Fest was absolutely an amazing blessing! I was graciously invited by Sr. Claudia Tosa to come up to her place Saturday morning June 4th. Since Sr. Claudia and I were both witnessing together from 2-6pm, we thought we would go early and see the sights downtown. Once we did our share of walking, we made our way down to the booth. It was very easy to find. I believe it was in the general vicinity as previous years.

We met Br. Erwin and Br. Bob there to relieve them and get some last minute ideas and information. After their 4 hours you could still see a gleam in their eyes and smiles on their face, which was very encouraging! Bro. Bob was witnessing to someone there right up until the very end. The gentleman seemed to want to witness more to Br. Bob than to listen, but that is to be expected. So Sr. Claudia and I had a few discussions with a handful of people and received some very long glances. We sold a First Volume in Mandarin Chinese, a few 6 in ones, a few First Volumes in English, and a few CD's, "For This Cause" and "The Truth About Hell".

It was later in the afternoon, that a worker for Printer's Row came up to everyone without a tent and said to take cover in about 20 minutes due to the storm coming. (It wouldn't be The Printer's Row without some type of rain!) So we just put our last plastic tote box under the table when it started raining and blowing really hard. The Lord's overruling was in that. He also provided us shelter in a doorway to the Dentist's office that was directly behind our table. We sat and praised the Lord for all of his overruling and had wonderful fellowship. After it passed (45 minutes later), we decided to put out about half of the material, since we still had an hour to go. We no sooner had some books up when the people started coming back. It was great! The rain didn't dampen our spirits. It was a thrill and pleasure to do the Lord's work, and maybe touch the lives of some person that is in need of the true word of God and his marvelous plan of salvation for ALL mankind!!!!

Sr. Lynn Reeland

Jacob and I enjoyed working at Printer's Row on Sunday morning. The weather was perfect! People seemed to be enjoying themselves and we received many smiles from those walking by. While we were there, several ones stopped by and inquired about our group and took some free literature. We saw Jacob's school secretary from a distance and she waved at us. Last year, we saw her at Printer's Row also and she stopped by our booth, inquired about us, and we gave her some literature. It was nice to see her again this year. We did not have any lengthy conversations with those of the public but it was a joy to share the tracts that carry the wonderful message of the Kingdom of God and hope for ALL with others.

Sr. Cristina and Jacob Filicky

We are thankful for the witness opportunities we had at the Printer's Row Lit Fest. This year the weather was beautiful and brought out large crowds of people on a sunny, warm Sunday afternoon. We had a steady stream of people stopping and asking all sorts of little questions. There were no big debates with anyone, but a lot of small opportunities to share a Scripture and support others in their study of the Scriptures. One elderly couple came up and said, "this is a stupid question, but is Revelation in the Old or New Testament?" They smiled and thanked us for the answer and went on their way.

It's always interesting to hear people express their thoughts about the world's condition and what will happen after death; there are certainly no shortage of viewpoints! We had an interesting discussion along this line with Flavio, the owner of the Wine Store behind our table. We asked Flavio if he had a cart we could borrow to load our car at the end of the day. This question turned into a lengthy conversation in which Flavio, expressed his viewpoint of the Universe, current economic conditions and the hereafter. He has a New Age viewpoint and clearly has thought a lot about this Social Order and how the world could be a better place. We decided to give him a DVD to thank him for loaning us his cart. When Mark handed him the DVD, "Where Was God on 911" he was very excited and said that was perfect for him; we hope he is blessed by it.

With thankful hearts,
Bro. Mark and Sr. Roberta Tabac

LITERATURE PLACED

ITEM	#	UNIT COST*	SPECIAL FAIR PRICE
7-IN-1s	5	\$15	\$5
7 volume ind set (NB)	5	\$17.50	\$5
DPA (English)	7	\$1.50	\$1
DPA (Polish)	2	\$5.00	\$1
DPA (Chinese)	1	\$5.00	\$1
DVDs			
FTC (English)	3	\$1.25	\$1
How to Study (Spanish)	2	\$1.25	\$1
911	1	\$1.25	\$1
God's Kingdom	4	\$1.25	\$1
Truth About Hell	3	\$1.25	\$1
Can These Bones Live	3	\$1.25	\$1
Evolution	3	\$1.25	\$1
Pyramid	1	\$1.25	\$1
Israel (NB)	1	\$6.00	\$1

In addition to the above literature, there were a number of free magazines and newsletters from past issues and witness efforts. Free packets of literature were also passed out. No accounting of free literature is maintained as it is simply too tedious a burden to ask of the brethren.

COSTS

Fair Booth Space	\$300	CBS
Funds from literature (accepted as donations)	\$ 42	(applied towards new literature)
*Literature costs	\$219	subsidized or provided by private donations, ecclesias, or Bible Student Publications
Parking		covered by participants (average \$3/hr/vehicle)