



CHURCH of GOD

News

Southwest District

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Work nears completion in the Pine Orchard. Campers will be pleasantly surprised when they see the wonderful facilities that have been constructed!

Preparations for Feast of Tabernacles Move into High Gear

The summer work program on the college grounds in Big Sandy has at last reached a climax. Now that the summer is ending, just what has been accomplished in preparation for the coming Feast of Tabernacles?

Probably the biggest single effort has been in the pine orchard east of Booth City. Ultimately it is planned that these grounds will provide camp sites for more than nine thousand campers! For this coming year there are facilities for some four thousand campers already in operation. Finishing touches are yet being added to six fine, large restrooms, and before too long men will be pitching tents in

straight rows in the camping area. The roads servicing the new camping location will be paved to keep down the dust. By Feast time, these new improvements will make the most scenic, clean and useful camping areas we have ever had. During the past year over two miles of paved roads have been built to help take care of the traffic. The first one you will notice is the broad, four-lane "expressway" at the entrance to the big Tabernacle and college campus. In the past years there has been some difficulty during the Feast with congested driveways and bottleneck traffic problems before and after

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Mr. Ted Armstrong Visits South Texas Churches

The Sabbath of July 25th will long be remembered in the San Antonio and Corpus Christi churches as the occasion of the *VERY FIRST* visit here by Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong.

The San Antonio congregation was electrified by the sudden surprise appearance of Mr. Armstrong for the Sabbath morning service. It was with real pleasure that Mr. Hammer announced Mr. Armstrong as the main speaker. He began with a number of very important and timely news items about the work of God around the world.

Several hours and 150 hot miles to
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Big Sandy - Dallas Work Party

A work party was scheduled . . . the cry went out . . . the objective was clear . . . the plea was urgent . . . and the answer came! On Sunday, August 8, over 125 men from Dallas and Big Sandy volunteered their services. Men from all walks of life came with saws, pickaxes, rakes and pitchforks to clear a cluster of trees, bushes, vines and brush. In only a matter of a few hours an area had been cleared suitable for any Church picnic gathering, especially for the "eligibles" get-together during

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New Assistant for Mr. Antion

After 12,000 miles of travel, Mr. Ron McNeil, blurry-eyed and yet eager, stepped into the 101-degree Oklahoma heat at Will Rogers World Airport on Sunday, July 26. Mr. McNeil is originally from High Point, North Carolina. He attended college in Pasadena for two years, and then in 1962 was transferred to the campus at Bricket Wood. He graduated this past June.

Before coming to Oklahoma City, he toured the Holy Land, Egypt and Greece. After the three-week tour he spent a week with his parents and then flew to his new "home" in Oklahoma.

The Oklahoma City and Tulsa brethren welcome you, Mr. McNeil!



Mr. Ron McNeil, Oklahoma assistant.

Editorial

Prepare for the Feast -- NOW!

by Richard Rice

The most exhilarating time of the entire year for God's people is the Feast of Tabernacles. It should be! It portrays the *glorious future* when the invincible WORLD-RULING EMPIRE of God will reign on earth. It portrays the time when all men and nations everywhere will live together in *peace* at last, the time when dejected, miserable humans will EXCHANGE their deeply furrowed frowns for *happy, cheerful* smiles.

Yes, the Feast is the time of great rejoicing, the time of real Christian joy and fellowship.

But Brethren, a word of caution! You need to be aware of a **DANGEROUS PITFALL**. *You can enjoy the Feast too much!* You can allow the PHYSICAL AMUSEMENT of it all to *deaden* your senses to its true meaning and purpose.

In fact, you may be already concentrating on the physical more than the spiritual. As you make preparations to attend the Feast this fall, what is uppermost in your mind? Is it the *journey* here with sumptuous meals in fancy restaurants along the way? Or is it ultra-modern, air-conditioned motels with room service and TV? When you think of the Feast, do you think only of the *merriment* and *entertainment* of these eight days, of activities such as the Chorale Concert, Student Fun Show, group picnics, swimming and skating parties? Are these EARTHLY ATTRACTIONS the prime reason you want to come to the Festival? If so, your interests are entirely on the wrong things.

Don't misunderstand! God wants us to *ENJOY* ourselves at the Feast. These activities are good—but they are *lesser rewards* to make the Feast more enjoyable and memorable. God has commanded our presence for a much greater and more awesome purpose. God's true purpose in commanding us to keep the Feast is to *teach* us about His KINGDOM—His GOVERNMENT—and how it functions and operates. That is why God's ministers give us a refresher course in God's Government each year through the messages His servants preach and through the operation of His Government in all Feast activities.

By learning the techniques and principles of *JUST RULE* now, we are qualifying to be kings and priests in the World Tomorrow.

Brethren, at the Feast this fall, focus your eyes on the Kingdom and draw close to God so you can enjoy the spiritual and physical blessings in *balance*.

A final point to remember. Reinforce your *HEALTH now!* Avoid eating rich, starchy and greasy foods so that your body can combat the colds and fevers that are always *PREVALENT* at Big Sandy this time of year due to *sudden weather changes*. Then while at the Feast, watch how you protect your health. Be circumspect in the amount of *food* and *drink* you consume—don't dull your brain by over-eating. Make certain you get sufficient rest—don't come to services *HALF-DRUGGED* because of lack of sleep.

Pray for everyone's safety! Pray especially that God's ministers may be moved by the Holy Spirit to speak the things that will better *equip* us for the Kingdom of God!

Model Contest

Winners Announced!

The work was done. Hours of painstaking preparation with wood, plastic, paint and glue had paid off with some pretty handsome models in three categories—ships, planes and cars. Now it was up to the judges—the Spokesman Club officers—to render the verdict. Who would be the winners in the Club-sponsored model contest?

Then came the exciting announcements—seven first-place winners in the modeling and two winners in the sewing contest! There were some very happy faces as the top contestants received their attractive trophies!

In Amarillo the contest was held in the Women's Club in conjunction with an evening social on July 11. The winners there were: Joe Kirkpatrick and Jake Rankin for their detailed, operational auto engine; Lynn Ballew for his orange bi-plane and hangar; and—of all things, a girl!—Miss Linda Hill who, with the co-operation of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fulks, made the best ship, a HO gauge model of the Cutty Sark.

In Odessa the winners received the nod the following Sunday afternoon at



Odessa trophy winners from left to right: Shorty and Karen Fuessel, Donald Ray Mangus, Terry Dickeson and Frank Mangus.

a picnic social at Mr. Dave Hammond's home. Frank Mangus and his father walked off with the best auto award for their completely handmade, partly functional pulling unit (originally used in the oil fields of this area) mounted on a truck with independent suspension! Frank's little brother Donald Ray entered the best plane, and "Shorty" Fuessel made the top entry in the ship category—an operational yacht pulling a water skier around a man-made lake! In the sewing contest (which was held only in Odessa), Miss Terry Dickeson, on her first attempt at sewing, won first place with her very well-made, blue sleeveless sheath dress. Miss Karen



Amarillo winners from left to right: Joe Kirkpatrick, Jake Rankin, Linda Hill and Lynn Ballew display their entries and awards.

Fuessel was runner-up with an attractive two-piece outfit.

All in all, the contest proved to be a rewarding experience for all the contestants. For many, it was their first attempt at modeling or sewing, and thus they had much to learn—especially about patience and perseverance! Now everyone is looking forward to our next contest which is in the offing for this winter when the nights are longer and there aren't any "crops to be made." Judging from the quality of the work on the first attempts, the next contest ought to feature some really fine products of patient workmanship!

Combined Meeting Corpus Christi- San Antonio Clubs

The beautiful spacious lounge of the Corpus Christi Surf Club with its full-length picture-window view of the sparkling sea provided a distinctively nautical setting for the July 5 joint-meeting of the San Antonio-Corpus Christi Spokesman Clubs. Just as the shimmering rays of the mid-morning sun reflected from the calm sea, the eager club members and their wives began to arrive.

After many happy greetings and half an hour of visiting, the joint-meeting was called to order with the opening prayer by Mr. Tony Hammer. While all were enjoying a hearty meal, Mr. Adolph Romike, newly appointed

President of the Corpus Christi club Mr. Adolph Romike conducts business session.

president of the Corpus Christi Club, opened the business session.

The secretaries reviewed the progress since the last combined meeting. Mr. Leo Herrera, the topics master, sparked great interest with his timely topics.



The toastmaster, Mr. Charles Wire, ably introduced six eager speakers, all of whom were filled with dynamic and interesting messages. The six speakers were: Messrs. Bill Norrod, John Com-
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News Flashes from District Churches

Mr. Richard Prince visits Amarillo Church . . . Minden Church enjoys Annual Picnic . . . First Wedding in West Texas Churches

"Whose Chrysler 300 could that possibly be?" Mr. and Mrs. Albert wondered as they drove into the parking lot of the Amarillo Church. What a pleasant surprise to see Mr. Richard Prince and his family! They were on their way to Ambassador College. Mr. Prince brought up-to-the-minute news of the Houston, Dallas and Big Sandy areas.

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Sunday, July 19, dawned with a full day's work ahead of nine Memphis Spokesmen. Two cars fully loaded with lumber and passengers headed toward the Missouri State Line to repair Mrs. Maggie Clarke's front porch, screens and back doors. By 4:00 p.m., work nearing completion, a thunder storm terminated all work for the day. On August 16, a few men returned to install a pump and complete the repair work.

★ ★ ★

The first wedding in West Texas provided a happy occasion for the Amarillo brethren! Sabbath evening, August 8, was the big day for Miss Anita Stamps of Pampa and Mr. Doyle Herring of Dimmit! Both the lovely bride and somewhat nervous groom were beaming with happiness as Mr. Albert performed the first wedding ceremony of God's Churches in West Texas. Most of the Amarillo brethren stayed after services to see the joyous ceremony which began at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Dale Krebs served as best man, with Miss Stamps' cousin Linda Jamieson as bridesmaid. A brief reception followed in the Women's Club patio during which the brethren expressed their most heart-felt congratulations! We all know that this happy young couple will make an even greater contribution to this area as man and wife!

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The Memphis Church was again blessed to have Mrs. McNair's parents

and sister—Mr. and Mrs. Ochs and Shirley—as visitors on July 18. The Ochs had just returned from New York where Mr. Ochs' youth band, *The Milwaukee Continentals*, performed at the *World's Fair*. Mr. Ochs and Shirley returned to Wisconsin, while Mrs. Ochs stayed an extra week to help take care of their one and only grandson, Jonathan Wood.

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Under the blazing hot sun, ten men battled in a gruelling volleyball meet, with Tulsa beating Oklahoma City three games to two. This was the scene on Tulsa's private picnic grounds—located on the Durkee farm. While the men battled it out at volleyball, the children rode a swinging cable and roamed the forty-acre site. A big pot-luck lunch lured all sportsmen from the field at noon. Everyone enjoyed the super-abundance of good food and cold, refreshing drinks. After lunch, most of the men headed for the softball field for a hot game. It was down to the wire. Finally, Tulsa was victorious—4 to 3. At 4:30 all the happily exhausted picnickers turned homeward after a very successful get-together.

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On July 29 the Fort Worth Spokesman Club enjoyed a full evening of bowling. This was a club first! Mr. Cecil Battles, Mr. Don Robertson and Mr. E. B. Vance led the straight and narrow way to scores of nearly 200. Others would have had under par scores on any golf course. The Spokesmen couldn't take courage—it was not available. So instead, cold tap Falstaff was sipped between frames. What a ball!

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With the good fruits of the combined meeting of the Odessa-Fort Worth Spokesman Clubs in Abilene still well in mind, the Spokesmen in Amarillo are really looking forward to their next

meeting, Thursday, August 13. Mr. Foster and twelve of his Liberal Spokesmen will come down on that date to join the Amarillo men in what promises to be an important and profitable meeting. Mr. Foster, who raised up the Bible Study in Amarillo, should be pleased to see the growth of the men in this area—much of it due to the Spokesman Club.

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An outing for the Fort Worth and Dallas youths to the Braniff Airways portion of Love Field in Dallas was led by Mr. James Rhome and Mr. Wiley Brisco. A member of the Dallas Church, Mr. James Roberts, who is employed there acted as the tour guide. The group was led through a turbo jet plane which was in for an overhaul. Later they explored an Electra II. A visit to the tower at Love Field demonstrated the need for co-ordination and control of planes landing and taking off. The day ended with cake and home-made ice cream.

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Trumpeted shouts of "Hike!"—"Pass that ball!"—"Strike him out!"—"Don't step on the birdie!"—"Fore!"—"All together, team!" rang through the beautiful pine, oak, and cypress Louisiana forest of Lake Bistineau near Minden. Many of the "Mindenites" and welcome guests from Big Sandy enjoyed a well-rounded day's activity of godly fun and true Christian fellowship. Highlighting the day's activities in the 101-degree temperature was the refreshing noon meal—a pot-luck specialty—and the afternoon water skiing, swimming and boat riding. The water skiing event really presented a hearty challenge to the adventurous. Some succeeded in mastering the skis, but fewer didn't. All are eagerly anticipating the fellowship, brotherly love and timely instruction awaiting us at the next meeting.

Feast Preparations

(Continued from Page 1)

services. This wide roadway certainly should solve much of the problem with the clogged artery to and from services.

Further, at least seven thousand feet of water and gas lines and various plumbing facilities have been laid to provide adequate water for the more than five thousand total campers that will be on the grounds this fall. Additional parking space has been built for the cars of over eight thousand members expected to attend the Feast of Tabernacles here in Big Sandy.



Footpath being leveled by bulldozer. After a layer of coarse red earth is tamped over the path, asphalt paving will be laid providing a 10 foot wide path from the camp grounds to the tabernacle.



Fine Orchard sanitation buildings for Feast. Photo shows one of six such buildings in camp area under construction.



Sunday work party prepares spacious picnic grounds. Nearby Lake Loma makes site ideal.



These "before" and "after" scenes depict the extensiveness of labor involved in providing the new picnic area on Ambassador College grounds. This will be the site of the "Eligibles" get-together during the coming Feast.

Work Party

(Continued from Page 1)

the Feast of Tabernacles! But this is not just any picnic area. This is a beautiful lay of land, with stately trees that stretch their majestic beauty toward the heaven. It is set on a gently sloping terrain that folds into a deep-nature-cut, rocky ravine. The site is truly breathtaking. Think of such exotic beauty right on our own grounds!

At mid-day it was lunch time, and a sumptuous meal had been prepared by some Ambassador College co-eds. FM music in the background provided an atmosphere conducive to wholesome fellowship while enjoying lunch.

Many of the men were accompanied by their families; so while the men laboriously exercised their muscles, their families had the opportunity to enjoy visiting. Later in the day a refreshing swim in Lake Loma awaited those who wished to indulge.

Everyone who participated agreed that it truly was a wonderful day. All were grateful for having had another opportunity to serve in such a useful and purpose-filled work party.

The difference between lucky and unlucky pedestrians is that the lucky ones get the brakes.

Insomniacs don't sleep because they worry about it, and they worry about it because they don't sleep.

Corpus Christi Sunday

June 21 was more than just another Sunday for about 80 members of the Corpus Christi Church. A lot of planning had gone into making it a very enjoyable day.

The sleek "Gulf Clipper" with a capacity of about 250 passengers cast off at 10:30 a.m. The captain gave us profitable information over the public address system concerning the history of how the port of Corpus Christi came to be the seventh largest in the United States and how it was growing to be even larger. His knowledge and colorful language made it enjoyable as well as informative.



Ship Ahoy! Adventurous "salts" off to the high seas.

After the lesson in history we were allowed to feed the noisy sea gulls. Peanuts were available and the worthy birds would pick them right out of our fingers.

After making the run down the ship channel and returning, we went out into the bay and rode some of the heavy waves. Fortunately, no one became seasick.

Upon our return to the beautiful "T"-Head, we assembled at the band shell and ate our sack lunches.

About 1:00 p.m. everyone departed for the Naval Air Station where the Navy Relief Festival was in full swing. In spite of the hot weather we enjoyed some of the most fantastic sights we had ever seen. The famed "Blue Angels," the precision aerial acrobatic team of the Navy, performed magnificently before a crowd of several thousand. Some of their antics seemed sheer madness as they swept down only a few feet from the water at 600 miles an hour and spiraled straight up into the air with red and blue vapor trailing from their wing-tips. The "Crazy Professor" did some real crazy antics in

a Piper 4-cylinder plane. Such goings on as loops at water level, stalls at 200 feet, plus other acrobatics showed what the average pilot should not attempt.

Being somewhat dispersed, our group did not say many good-byes. But once again we have a memory of a rich blessing, and we are planning other outings soon.

Boys' Camp Outing

A blistering sand storm swept into the rugged shore of Lake Hawkins late on a Sunday evening in mid-July. Completely unexpected, the storm battered the area like a pile driver hammering away at its ultimate objective. Ominous clouds accompanied the storm which lasted for over an hour, but in its wake there was no water-soaked ground, no standing pools of rippling water—just a dry, wind-swept area. But almost as quickly as it began it dissipated, and serene silence settled over the area.

This was the welcome that 33 boys and several scoutmasters received as the annual boys' outing got under way at Lake Hawkins, located about 15 miles from Big Sandy.

A virtual caravan of cars, station wagons, trucks, and a bus, pulled into the previously selected camp site early on Sunday morning, July 19. Enthusiasm ran high as men and boys unloaded tents, camping equipment, canoes, boats, fishing gear and all the other paraphernalia required for such a monumental occasion as this boy's outing proved to be.

For three full days and nights these young "scouts" learned the art of canoeing, fishing, swimming and skiing. Keen knife instruction was also given to teach even the youngest that there is a right and proper use for knives. Dr. Parrish, who is the official director of the Boys' Club, reported that all the boys who could not swim before the outing were swimming like real champs before the three-day outing ended. Also all but one or two of the boys learned to water ski (well, let's say they had their ups and down).

After three jam-packed days had come to a climax each of the exhausted, but very happy boys uttered a true "Texas-size" thanks.

Mr. Armstrong

(Continued from Page 1)

the south, Mr. Armstrong and his family arrived in Corpus Christi to be greeted there for the very first time by the Corpus Christi congregation, who, having heard the news already, were anxiously awaiting their arrival. Mr. Hammer once again showed great pleasure in introducing Mr. Armstrong for the announcements and for the main message.

Mr. and Mrs. Buck Hammer and daughter, Toni, made the trip down from Big Sandy with Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong and were also welcome guests at both services.

There were a number in both congregations who had never before had the opportunity to see and hear Mr. Armstrong in person. For them as well as the rest of us, this was a very welcome blessing.

WELCOME BACK ANY TIME, Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong!!!

Combined Meeting

(Continued from Page 3)

pian, Jim Leal, Paul Upchurch, Bill Seelig and Leonard Kirkpatrick. Had there been six most-improved cups, they all could have been awarded that day! Mr. Bill Norrod was awarded the most effective speaker's cup for a suspense-filled speech entitled "Opportunities in Abundance."

In his over-all evaluation, Mr. Hammer stated that the entire program was excellent. He also pointed out that the Spokesman Clubs had drawn the men of the Church together as could be done in no other way.

The rest of the day was spent in other social activities.

Then everyone, racing against a tight schedule, reached the "T"-Head just in time to board the excursion boat, "Gulf Clipper," for a scenic trip south of Ocean Drive, the very wealthy area of Corpus Christi where the oil millionaires live.

Arriving breathless and hungry at Shep's Restaurant, all were seated in pleasant surroundings and enjoyed a delicious flounder dinner to climax a very enjoyable day.