



The Worldwide News

OF THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

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PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

NOVEMBER 17, 1992

Brethren enrich world's communities



BROADENED VIEW—On the first day of the 1992 Feast of Tabernacles, Oct. 12, Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach elaborated on the perspective of serving the community. His message was carried by satellite to members and families at 39 sites worldwide. [Photo by G.A. Belluche Jr.]

By Paul Monteith

All around the world the light of God's people is being turned on, Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach told members and their families on the first Holy Day of the Feast of Tabernacles in Pasadena, Oct. 12.

"You are the light of the world," he said. "Light is a symbol of salvation, and as Christians we are to show the world the way of salvation and to demonstrate what God can do in a transformed life."

That is the meaning of true discipleship, he continued, to share the teachings of Jesus Christ and his way of life with others.

"The greatest witnessing that is going to take place will take place in each one of us individually."

The Feast was kept by 145,868 people at 115 sites. Feastgoers at 39 sites watched Mr. Tkach's Feast message live by satellite transmission. This was the 13th consecutive time that Holy Day services have been transmitted to Festival sites all over the world. Other sites received his message later on videotape.

Turning on the light

Mr. Tkach's words, to share our lives with others, was demonstrated at several sites by members who found a way to help others or give something to the community.

In Pasadena, Croatian member Helen Dey of the West P.M. church organized a benefit to raise funds for Croatian orphans.

Originally, Miss Dey planned a family reunion for relatives in the area. But she also wanted friends at the gathering too, and as the reunion grew in size she decided to have a benefit to help children orphaned by the war in the former Yugoslavia.

Along with the meal Miss Dey arranged for entertainment, provided by minister Dennis Pelley, music coordinator for the Feast in Pasadena, his wife, Lorraine, their daughters, Lisa Pelley and Karen Arenburg, and son-in-law, Jason Arenburg.

"Everyone appreciated the entertainment," said Miss Dey. "Family and friends were especially impressed by the Pelleys' willingness to change their plans and perform for us during the Feast."

The benefit raised \$12,800 to help orphans in Zagreb.

Mr. Tkach told Mrs. Pelley: "This is just the kind of thing I am trying to get across to the brethren. We're to let our lights shine and help out in any small way we can."

Outpouring of love

Feastgoers and local members in Tucson, Arizona, made donations (See FEAST, page 2)

PERSONAL FROM

Joseph W. Tkach

Dear Brethren,

What a Feast this was! Here in Pasadena, the warmth and unity of the brethren was overwhelming.

We had moving, inspiring sermons and no end of positive, meaningful fellowship. I have received equally enthusiastic reports from numerous other sites.

How exciting it is to realize that God is leading us to more fully understand and focus on what our priorities, according to his Word, really are.

We must never cease praying for God to guide and encourage all his people to do what is right—to respond in faith to his Word. Let's keep up that wonderful spiritual momentum God gave us through the Feast!

Spiritual immaturity

When I first broached the subject of spiritual immaturity in my satellite Feast sermon, I used the word "dumb" to describe the past mindset of some who had criticized me for joining the local Chamber of Commerce years ago.

I quickly realized that the word "dumb" was too harsh, and then corrected myself and labeled these wrong attitudes "spiritual immaturity."

It has since come to my atten-

tion that some, probably a small minority, thought I was referring to Herbert Armstrong as the one who made me pull out of the Chamber, and that I was disrespectfully calling him "dumb."

Brethren, I assure you that such was simply not the case. While I wish I had never used the word "dumb," I was in any case not talking about Mr. Armstrong at all.

If it had occurred to me while speaking that some would take my remarks this way, I would

have clarified it immediately. But now that I hear some have misunderstood, I want to rectify the misunderstanding.

Actually, while Mr. Armstrong was still alive I once related this very same incident to him.

He personally could not understand why those under him would put me through that embarrassment when he himself was an honorary member of the Rotarians and was their keynote speaker on many occasions around the world.

He also spoke before numerous other worldly organizations, like the Lions Club, Kiwanis, Round Table and the Knights of Columbus.

Clearly, he did not judge me or (See PERSONAL, page 9)

New program expresses Mr. Tkach's mandate

Church pilot program to provide services for the needy

By Thomas C. Hanson

RESEDA, California—The Worldwide Church of God Public Service Program will fulfill in an organized manner Mr. Tkach's mandate for the Church to do good works, said evangelist Bernie Schnippert, director of Media Operations, in a sermon here Nov. 7.

The Reseda congregation was chosen to conduct a pilot program.

The purposes of the program are for members to show active love toward the community and the Church brethren by providing services for the needy.

Pastor James Friddle told the congregation: "This is your chance

to become involved with your neighbors and reflect the light of Christ, as Mr. Tkach admonished us in his Festival message.

"This is the heart and core of Jesus Christ's ministry that we be servants to others," Mr. Friddle added.

Christianity not a spectator sport

Mr. Tkach wrote in the program directors manual: "I am delighted to introduce to you what I believe is a truly exciting and inspiring Church Outreach opportunity, the Worldwide Church of God Public Service Program.

"True Christianity is not a spectator sport. Years ago I had the pleasure of being involved in the beginning of a

very successful Outreach program at Ambassador College. The time has come to expand this concept to include the whole Church."

Wayne Gregory, a deacon, will coordinate the program in Reseda under the direction of Mr. Friddle. The congregation has proposed several ideas that are being evaluated.

As the program expands to other congregations, members will be encouraged to propose projects that take advantage of strengths in the congregation and will serve the community effectively.

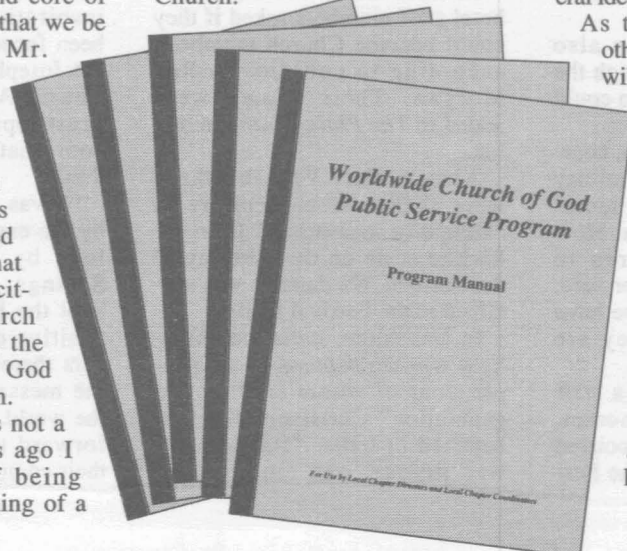
Conduit method

Mr. Schnippert spoke of two worlds, the world of the healthy and prosperous, and the world of the disadvantaged.

We need an organized approach to public service he said. "People working (See PROGRAM, page 8)



FRUIT BORNE—A little girl adds life to a colorful stage arrangement at the Lexington, Kentucky, Feast site. [Photo by Jerry Jeffers]



World wonders: Which way Washington?

The election of Gov. Bill Clinton of Arkansas as the 42nd President of the United States brought to a close the 12-year period ushered in by former President Ronald Reagan in his electoral triumph of 1980.

It also represents a sharp generational change. The last World War II-era American presidency has reached an end. Representatives of the post-war baby boom period—those who reached political awareness in the troubled '60s—are coming into top positions of power.

In its Nov. 7 lead editorial, *The Spectator* of Britain said: "The American people have cast aside an honorable ... man who has served his country with dedication, as a war veteran, an entrepreneur, a congressman, a diplomat, and finally a successful commander-in-chief."

Mr. Bush's public approval rating stood at a record-high 88 percent after rallying the world against Iraq's Saddam Hussein in the Gulf War.

Because of Mr. Bush's standing at the time, older politicians in the Democratic Party declined to challenge him in the 1992 White House race, convinced of certain defeat. This opened the way for lesser known, up-and-coming leaders.

Surviving the ordeal of his party's primary battles, Gov. Clinton was in the right place at the right time to benefit from public dissatisfaction with President Bush's handling of an economy that had turned sour.

He also was aided by revelations



WORLDWATCH

By Gene H. Hogberg

about prewar U.S.-Iraq policies.

Trade war starts same day

Gov. Clinton, however, inherits more than a sluggish domestic economy. With an ironic twist of timing, a serious trade dispute between the United States and Europe, erupted on the very day of Mr. Clinton's triumph at the polls.

In Chicago, talks broke down between American and European Community (EC) negotiators over the issue of subsidies to EC producers of soybeans and other oilseed plants. Washington announced it would impose punishing tariffs on selected EC exports to the United States, starting Dec. 5.

Unless the dispute is resolved soon, prospects are bleak for a successful conclusion to the long-stalled round of global trade negotiations known as GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade). Much is at stake, and Mr. Bush has vowed to make a new GATT treaty his remaining top priority.

Should the GATT arrangement collapse, it will mean the loss in additional trade of \$100 billion or more a year, enough to lift the world out of recession. Secondly, a breakdown would open a Pan-

dora's box of accumulated complaints of alleged unfair trading practices, potentially unraveling decades of accomplishment.

The President-elect appears to generally support free trade, but leading members of his party in Congress are decidedly protectionist. During his term in office, President Bush defused several protectionist trade proposals.

Mr. Clinton is expected to pay more attention to domestic economic issues. Among his many promises are those to restore America's manufacturing base, to make "health care a right, not a privilege," to eliminate adult illiteracy in five years and to guarantee all Americans either a college education or two years of vocational training after high school.

In addition, mayors of the nation's biggest cities are demanding a massive \$35 billion program to address the crises of urban America.

Supporters of third party candidate Ross Perot will be watching to see what effect these policies will have on the federal deficit.

The new President is expected to reverse social policies enforced during the past two administrations.

During the campaign, he

promised to overthrow bans on homosexuals in the military, women serving in combat roles in the military and nearly all federal restrictions on abortion. (In an unusual appeal, the Vatican newspaper *L'Osservatore Romano* urged the incoming U.S. administration not to open the doors wide to abortion and euthanasia.)

Allies watch for clues

America's key allies around the world are watching as the new order in Washington takes shape. They are apprehensive of an America turning inward, away from world responsibilities.

Five days after the U.S. election, for example, Prime Minister

Kiichi Miyazawa of Japan and President Roh Tae Woo of South Korea, unitedly called upon the United States to maintain an active military presence in Asia, which they consider indispensable to regional stability.

Like other Asian leaders they fear that budget constraints and a growing isolationism could lead to a U.S. pullout from the Far East. No other nation, least of all Japan, is neutral enough and mutually respected to step into America's big shoes.

Returning to trans-Atlantic relations, the editors of *The Spectator* worry that the incoming administration will be unable to resist "the temptation of economic nationalism.... For that is the way the wind is blowing. Free trade is dying by the day in Washington."

Letters to the Editor

The Worldwide News welcomes your comments. Letters for this section should be addressed to "Letters to the Editor." The editor reserves the right to use letters so addressed in whole or in part, and to include your name and edit the letter for clarity or space.

A time of change

I read with excitement about the new Outreach programs as described in the *WN*.

Thank you for your concern about the growth of God's Church and its role in this ever-changing society.

It is said that nothing is certain except change, and, yet, change seems to be one of the most difficult activities for humans to both accept and perform. May these new programs work well!

Roger and Kathy Wiles
Lakeland, Florida

☆☆☆

To go on from first principles

I have read and re-read the "Personal" in the Aug. 11 *WN* because I am greatly heartened by it.

I know that we are expected to go on from first principles (Hebrews 6:1), so I was delighted to read that the Church intends more emphatically to preach Christ.

I know other churches do (some to the exclusion of all else), but this seems to me to be a good reason why we should, not why we shouldn't.

It will do nothing but good for members and nonmembers alike.

Joyce Tremlett
Arthur, Ontario

☆☆☆

Glorifying God every day

Every day our whole life must be lived in glorifying God to others, just as Christ glorified the Father while on earth. We can do this only through Christ in us (John 14:6).

Perhaps if all of us would know the great and deep love and affection God has for his creation, especially his people, we would begin to appreciate more that everything we do should be Christ centered.

Les, Bernice and Tim Graham
Virden, Manitoba

☆☆☆

Good meat

Thank you for the excellent "European Diary" in the Sept. 22 issue of *The Worldwide News*.

I was happily amazed that so many Americans still believe God created the world, but was equally surprised at the number of Britons who believe the evolutionary theory.

Mr. Schroeder's article has to be the best I've ever read on the God vs. science debate. Not only was Mr. Schroeder inspiring in relating how science and a biblical understanding could enhance each other, but he gives me good meat for (sharing gently with) others who don't understand.

Polly Edington
Grand Rapids, Michigan

☆☆☆

Impatient for success

I think getting the members more involved in the work of spreading the gospel is great!

I have to admit that I am a little impatient for the new programs being tried out in America to be started worldwide, so I really pray they will be successful.

In Zimbabwe we are going through one of the worst droughts in our region's

history. Consequently, I feel the people here are in need of both physical help and the comfort of the knowledge of God's wonderful gospel.

I also wish you to know that all of you at headquarters are always in our thoughts and prayers, and that we appreciate all of the services you perform for us in the form of tapes and literature. It makes us feel we are an important part of the Body of Christ.

It all prepares us to be ready for the return of Christ, at whatever time God has ordained that to be. I really pray that it will be soon.

Ken Clark
Bulawayo, Zimbabwe

☆☆☆

Displaced homemaker program

Thank you so much for the articles on single parents in the June 30 and Aug. 25 issues.

One of those who told her story said that she had to apply for state aid and food stamps as her only course of action. As a lab assistant for displaced homemakers at our local community college, I thought it would help to let people in such situations know some of the help available.

The program here offers a six-credit class for displaced homemakers. A displaced homemaker is any person that is a single parent, separated, divorced, married to an unemployed spouse or disabled spouse, or a widow/widower.

We arrange for reduced-cost or free lunches. Our program provides travel and child care money to attend our class for five weeks. We deal with the problems faced by single parents, instruct in remedial education (assist in getting G.E.D. if needed), help in applying for financial aid to attend college, or assist in job search.

Our program is funded by the Ohio Board of Regents. Similar programs are nationwide. For more information, call 1-800-334-6619 Extension 19.

Sometimes we married couples can take our life's situation for granted.

I thank God that my children have a wonderful father to guide and teach them. I also am very inspired to hear of those enduring examples of faithful single parents. They will be in my prayers and actions more so in the future.

Sue Evans
Seaman, Ohio

☆☆☆

From reformation to transformation

The direction you [Mr. Tkach] are leading the Church can best be summed up by one word you use quite often: transformation.

You are leading us as individuals and as a Church to be transformed by having the mind of Jesus.

As we are being called, our personal living habits start being reformed. We begin tithing, attending Sabbath services, stop smoking, cursing and the like. We start a reformation. But transformation, or as Peter put it, becoming participants in the divine nature of Jesus, transcends far beyond reformation.

As you say, all the strict commandment keeping in the world will not automatically result in the righteous mind of Jesus.

Sir, you are indeed fulfilling the commission you received from Mr. Armstrong. You are getting the Church ready to meet Jesus at his coming.

Freeman Terry
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Feast

(Continued from page 1)

to a food bank there.

Charles Woods, executive director of the Tucson Community Food Bank wrote: "What a wonderful pouring out of love and caring at your recent Tucson Festival!"

"A short-term collection that provided 14,848 pounds of food and \$10,407.50 in cash is truly wonderful.... Only with understanding, compassion and giving of our entire community (religious, business, etc.) can we respond to the requests for food. Thank you for joining us in our desire that no child, woman or man go hungry because food is not available."

In Victoria, British Columbia, Feastgoers donated more than two tons of food and almost \$5,000 to the Mustard Seed Food Bank.

In Scarborough, England, brethren contributed more than \$900 to the lord mayor's charity.

Media stir interest in Feast

After reading about the Feast in area newspapers in Rättvik, Sweden, a *Plain Truth* subscriber and two friends turned up at the Festival registration desk there and asked if they could attend the Feast.

Several other citizens also heard about the Feast through the media and asked if they too could attend.

At Gold Coast, Australia, coordinator Rod King said a holiday apartment manager told members: "I'm jealous of you. How do you get your children to behave like that?" Another said: "Your teens are the best we have ever had stay here. They are beautiful."

In Ulladulla, Australia, a staff person at a leading restaurant, who said she had been associated with the Church through the Fes-



RAISING SPIRITS—Dennis Pelley and his family from Pasadena perform for Croatians Oct. 18. More than \$12,000 was collected for suffering orphan children in Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina. A Croatian girl (center) helped sing the last song along with the audience.

tival in Ulladulla for many years, told one member that she is always impressed by and appreciative of the children's behavior.

Members impress hotel staff

In Port Vila, Vanuatu, two hotel staff members asked if they could become Church members, according to coordinator Rex Morgan. Their names were added to *The Plain Truth* mailing list.

Also in Port Vila, brethren were shaken from sleep by an earthquake measuring 7.0 on the Richter scale on the first day of the Festival. No damage was sustained at the Festival facility.

In Bangalore, India, one highlight was the baptism of six people, four of whom are "second generation" Christians, the first baptized in India. "The occasion was joyous, and emotionally

moving for all," said coordinator Joseph D'Costa.

Excited about being a light

"I am encouraged by the many cards and letters I've received since the Feast expressing how inspirational this Festival has been for members," said evangelist Joseph Tkach Jr., director of Church Administration. "Many Feast reports from our Festival coordinators indicate the same thing.

"I was especially encouraged by the expression of warmth and love by the brethren in Hot Springs, Arkansas, where we kept the Feast. I received many positive comments from members there who are excited about the message of being a light to the world. They said they looked forward to getting involved in their communities."

1992

Feast of Tabernacles

U.S. Feast sites show God's way in action

More than 95,000 Feastgoers met at 27 Feast sites in the United States, according to evangelist Joseph Tkach Jr., director of Church Administration.

Brethren in Pasadena had their pictures taken with Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach at the *succah* (booth) that was seen in the opening film before the satellite transmission.

Mr. Tkach gave awards at a senior citizens luncheon to the



LOWELL Photo by Keith Speaks

oldest person, Lizzie Hookfin, 94; Robert Rice, longest in the Church, 44 years; and to the longest-married couple, Al and Elsie Stroud, 63 years.

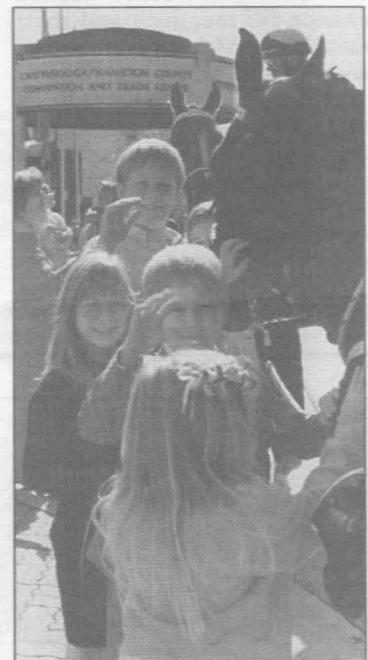
Several members told coordinator John Kennedy that they never realized how fantastic it would be to keep the Feast in Pasadena.

Big Sandy

Fewer than 2,000 Feastgoers met in Big Sandy—the smallest number in decades—because of inadequate conditions in the convention center, the building used until last year for the Feast.

Festival Administration in Pasadena decided to use the field house as the sole meeting place for the first time since the mid-1960s.

The field house was built in 1958 and held 5,500 for the Feast that fall. In 1959 the field house was expanded to hold 8,000 brethren. A big-top tent was erected in the mid-1960s, when as many as 12,000 met for the Feast.



CHATTANOOGA Photo by Kevin Pierce

The convention center was used for the first time in 1968, with about 16,000 in attendance for the Feast. Over the years, the field house has been used for overflow.

The convention center now houses the college's Shipping & Receiving Department.

Serving the deaf

At the Feast in Pensacola, Florida, John Miller of Big Sandy took detailed notes on his laptop computer each day and converted them into a written form for the deaf brethren and those unable to attend because of illness. Sermon notes were sent to brethren in prison.

Brethren in Pensacola donated more than \$30,000 worth of green register tapes from a grocery store to a school for use in purchasing computer equipment.

Ozarks reopens

The reopening of the Lake of the Ozarks site began with three guests, Mayor Hank Berger of Lake Ozark, Mayor Gary Martin of Osage Beach and Steve Beeney, president of the Chamber of Commerce, welcoming the Church back to the area after a seven-year absence.

'A complete break'

For the fourth year members visited the bluegrass region of Lexington, Kentucky.

David Fentress, a local church elder from Mount Sterling, Kentucky, was quoted in the *Lexington Herald*: "We enjoy a complete break from the daily worries of work and school."

In nearby Bardstons, brethren took a 34-mile trip through the countryside on "My Old Kentucky Dinner Train." On-



PASADENA

Photo by Charles Feldbush

board, they enjoyed a sumptuous meal in a restored dining car.

Unelectrifying start

The Feast in Kona, Hawaii,

got off to an unusual start when a thunderstorm hit the Big Island of Hawaii, knocking out electrical service and forcing the cancellation of opening night services. The hotel provided candles for brethren.

Source of inspiration

Niagara Falls, one of the great wonders of the world, was a setting for the 1992 Feast of Tabernacles.

Members took advantage of the natural splendor of the falls and surrounding beauty by enjoying morning walks around Goat Island. Restaurants provided

meals with spectacular views of the falls.

Niagara Falls itself is a tremendous source of inspiration. According to coordinator George Hart, visitors to Niagara could not help but think of Psalm 93:4, "The Lord on high is mightier than the

(See U.S. SITES, page 7)



PENSACOLA

Photo by Donald Daugherty

The Worldwide News

CIRCULATION 71,000

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Postcard beauty abounds in Germany

By Henry Sturcke and Winfried Fritz

BONN, Germany—German brethren in Goslar and Bonndorf were hosts for the 16th time to brethren keeping the Feast of Tabernacles in Germany.

Bonndorf

Brethren from 19 nations gathered in the Black Forest community of Bonndorf for the 1992 Feast of Tabernacles.

Henry Sturcke coordinated the Bonndorf Feast site, and Winfried Fritz was coordinator in Goslar.

The opening night service began with an eulogy of Peter Folkerts, mayor of Bonndorf for 20 years, who was killed with three others in a private plane crash last June. Michael Scharff, Mr. Folkerts' successor as mayor, then welcomed Feastgoers on behalf of the city.

Members and families took an excursion to Mainau, an island in Lake Constance that has a botanical garden. That trip included a nighttime trip to the Rheinfall, highest waterfall in Europe.

The city of Bonndorf organized a concert by the Deutsche Handel Collegium with works by Bach, Mozart and Vivaldi. On the weekly

Sabbath during the Feast snowfall transformed the landscape into picture-postcard winter beauty.

Feastgoers were asked to bring nonperishable food to the meeting hall on the last day to relieve war refugees in Croatia.

Goslar

Goslar, a 1,000-year-old imperial city, was host to 567 brethren. The city's center is called One Square



BONNDORF Photo by Wolfgang Christmann

where German emperors held court about 1,000 years ago.

Later Dr. Fahrenholz mentioned that Goslar residents remarked positively about the many friendly, nicely dressed families they encountered.

Family day at Vienburg Lake and a tour through the Harz Mountains by bus and narrow-gauge steam engine gave many a welcome opportunity to enjoy the beauty of the area during cold but clear, sunny weather.

Youths sped down the 550-meter summer toboggan run in the Harz Mountains.

Services took place in the Odeon Theater. The theater director said the calm, friendly atmosphere among members was an agreeable contrast to the often aggressive hectic world of the "theater pros."

He said they look forward to our visit every year. The theater's technical director said he had never before worked with such positive people.

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|----------|-----|
| Bonndorf | 891 |
| Goslar | 567 |

| | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Anchorage, Alaska | 536 |
| Big Sandy | 1,876 |
| Chattanooga, Tenn. | 3,946 |
| Corpus Christi, Tex. | 4,612 |
| Dayton, Ohio | 3,524 |
| Daytona Beach, Fla. | 6,265 |
| Eugene, Ore. | 2,300 |
| Hot Springs, Ark. | 4,250 |
| Jekyll Island, Ga. | 2,766 |
| Keystone, Colo. | 1,547 |
| Kona, Hawaii | 1,167 |
| Lake of the Ozarks, Mo. | 5,665 |
| Lexington, Ky. | 4,812 |
| Lowell, Mass. | 2,572 |
| Niagara Falls, N.Y. | 3,792 |
| Norfolk, Va. | 4,879 |
| Palm Springs, Calif. | 4,165 |
| Pasadena | 2,702 |
| Pensacola, Fla. | 6,740 |
| Rapid City, S.D. | 4,083 |
| Redding, Calif. | 2,165 |
| St. Petersburg, Fla. | 6,584 |
| Saratoga Springs, N.Y. | 1,804 |
| Spokane, Wash. | 2,547 |
| Tucson, Ariz. | 5,398 |
| Vail, Colo. | 2,085 |
| Wisconsin Dells, Wis. | 5,323 |

1992

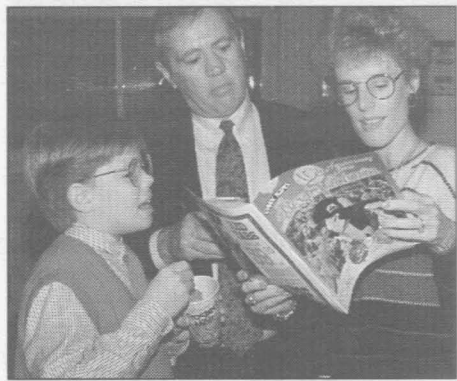
Feast of Tabernacles

Canada sites well-suited for Feast

VANCOUVER, British Columbia—The Canadian Office here administered five Festival sites this year.

Regina

Because of a late harvest, the average attendance here was 103 percent of projected attendance. Many farmers harvested until the Feast began, so they could not



VICTORIA Photo by Francois Bariault

transfer to other sites.

The most well-attended activity was a family dance, when professional mimes entertained children.

This year the Church shared the meeting facility with the *Phantom of the Opera* touring company. They performed nine times during the Feast, but there were no major conflicts, and both groups had a successful week.

Brethren experienced a couple of sobering events early in the

Feast. Marilyn Britz fell into her bath while preparing for the opening night service. She received second and third degree burns to her hands, arms and right side.

She is doing well now, although some skin-grafting is required.

Wayne and Colleen Becker from Yorkton, Saskatchewan, were injured in an automobile accident. They received internal injuries, and Mrs. Becker suffered a broken pelvis. They are speedily recovering.

Penticton

Feastgoers from Canada and the United States gathered here in a city of about 25,000 residents. This locale, nestled in the interior mountains of British Columbia between two sparkling lakes, offers many natural wonders and sight-seeing opportunities.

The Penticton Trade and Convention Centre is well-suited to the needs of most members.

One feature is that there are no stairs—not in the parking lot, not at the entrance, nor in the complex itself.

This is a dream for senior citizens and parents with small children. Additionally, many motels are in easy walking distance of the center.

Member William Tolmie Sr. said: "I've been attending the Feast for 20 years and this is the first time I was able to actually see the expressions on each of the speakers' faces, thanks to all those color monitors."

A popular activity was family day at a mountain guest ranch.

About 600 people enjoyed a ranch-style picnic with juicy hot dogs, pony rides, wagon rides, volleyball, soccer, softball and more.

The seniors luncheon included a slide show of Europe and the Middle East given by Robert Berendt, pastor of the Lethbridge, Alberta, and Maple Creek, Saskatchewan, churches.

One restaurant waitress said: "I've never seen a grump in the Worldwide Church of God."

Sherbrooke

The Appalachian Mountains gave brethren in Sherbrooke a festival of colors to enjoy.

Soirée Québécoise, a variety show performed by Church members, included several mother-daughter duets. Clowns provided fun and humor.

Members appreciated being able to relax with their families because the schedule was not overburdening. Several commented that this was their most relaxing Feast.

Teens performed extremely well in the parking area with a service-oriented approach, according to



REGINA

Photo by Richard Schempp

coordinator Rejean Vautour.

Halifax

A spirit of friendliness and cooperation was much in evidence in Halifax, according to coordinator Gary Moore.

The pace was busy, but conducting one service on the first Holy Day and on the weekly Sabbath provided a much-needed chance for members and their families to catch up on their rest and stay refreshed.

The ministerial team organizing the Feast tried a different format for family day this year. They published a brochure describing various attractions and encouraged brethren to construct their own family day.

Volunteers who worked at past family days enjoyed a free after-

noon with their families.

Victoria

The natural beauty of Victoria provided an inspiring millennial setting for members and families.

Members flocked to attractions such as Butchart Gardens, the Royal British Columbia Museum and the luxurious Empress Hotel known for its afternoon high teas.

Others went deep-sea fishing and reeled in prize salmon.

| | |
|------------------|-------|
| Halifax, N.S. | 995 |
| Penticton, B.C. | 2,466 |
| Regina, Sask. | 1,167 |
| Sherbrooke, Que. | 1,380 |
| Victoria, B.C. | 1,580 |

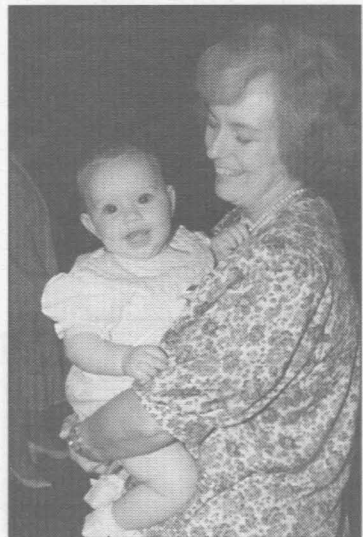
South Africa: meeting in harmony

By Bryan Mathie

CAPE TOWN, South Africa—Coordinators from the six sites administered by the regional office here made these reports.

Ceres, South Africa

The Feast was kept at Ceres this



GEORGE Photo by Geoff Fuller

year for the first time. Ceres, a town about 160 kilometers (100 miles) from Cape Town, is set in a beautiful and fertile valley among fruit and wheat farms and surrounded by a magnificent mountain range.

Ceres' motto, *Loci dulcedo nos attinet*, "We are enchanted by the beauty of the place," set the tone for activities focusing on family and fellowship.

The friendliness and cooperation of the conservative and religious community was evident. The town clerk and resort managers went out of their way to make our stay pleasant.

Some townspeople expressed amazement that people from dif-

ferent racial groups could enjoy functions together in harmony.

High points were the ox *braai* (barbecued ox on a spit) for family day and a senior citizens visit to a living museum farm, which employs farming methods from 150 years ago.

Durban, South Africa

Feastgoers met in the Durban City Hall to celebrate a time of world peace and harmony, in marked contrast to the violence and unrest that continues throughout much of Natal.

Festival activities included a lunch in a five-star hotel for senior citizens, 10-pin bowling for Church youths, a singles dinner dance and a gala family day complete with games and music by a military band.

On the Last Great Day, Andre van Belkum, regional director in Southern Africa, on behalf of the churches there, presented a gift to evangelist Gerald Waterhouse to wish him well in his retirement and to thank him for helping to establish churches in this region.

Feastgoers also appreciated meeting guest speaker Burk McNair and his wife, Susie.

George, South Africa

Nestled among scenic mountains, lakes and forests, the city of George was host to members and their families who enjoyed a combination of sun, rain, wind and clouds.

Activities included a YOU cruise along spectacular wilderness water-

ways, a young singles dinner dance, family day, senior citizens event and a Feast dance with a Parisian theme.

A theme of human relationships threaded its way through many Festival messages.

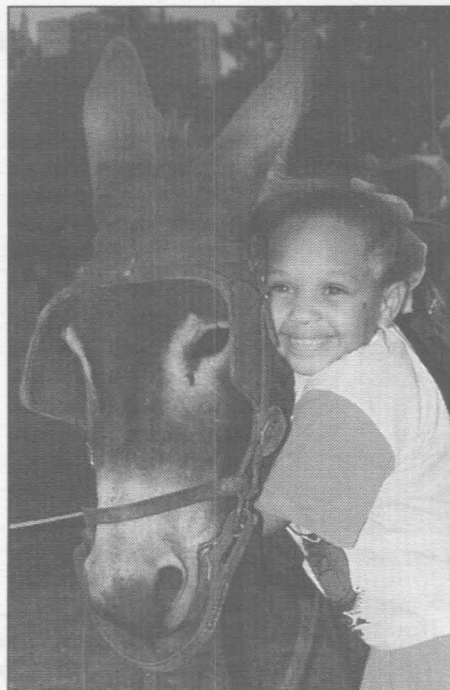
Uvongo, South Africa

Exceptionally fine weather graced members and their families keeping the Feast here.

Mr. and Mrs. McNair were hosts to senior citizens, ministers and wives at a luncheon in the Brackenmoor Hotel, a country estate of timeless colonial grace and charm.

Six out of the nine special music numbers were performed by YOU members and the children's choir.

Mr. Waterhouse attended the



DURBAN

Photo by Jack Johnson



VICTORIA FALLS

Photo by Rolf G. Varga

baptism of Angela Smith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rob Leask, who Mr. Waterhouse baptized at the first Feast in Johannesburg in 1963.

Mauritius

Family day activities on a sunny beach typified the warm, close-knit relationships enjoyed by God's people here.

Singles organized a social evening of music and singing.

Although Mauritians do not have the sophisticated things available to members in Western society, they improvise and enjoy activities together as families.

Visitors at the Feast were American, French, Swiss and Madagascan.

Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

After a 10-year absence, it was heartwarming to return to the majestic and awe-inspiring Victoria Falls—a natural wonder of indescribable beauty.

The falls, one of the world's seven natural wonders, are the largest known curtain of falling water.

The local name is "Mosi Oa Tunya," which means "The Smoke

That Thunders." Clouds of spray often reach heights of more than 500 meters.

Fewer than 80 Zimbabwean families kept the historic first Feast of Tabernacles in Zimbabwe in 1972.

Now, 20 years later, a few who attended that Feast, including this year's guest speaker John White and his wife, Gwen, were present, along with hundreds more brethren who rejoiced together.

Singles took a Sundowner cruise a few miles up the Zambezi River, and saw elephants, buffalo, crocodiles, giraffes and other animals on the riverbanks.

Some brethren went white-water rafting in the Zambezi gorge, which is said to have one of the widest white water runs in the world.

| | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Ceres, South Africa | 477 |
| Durban, South Africa | 1,493 |
| George, South Africa | 460 |
| Uvongo, South Africa | 551 |
| Flic-en-Flac, Mauritius | 143 |
| Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe | 426 |

1992

Feast of Tabernacles

Australian Office administers 21 sites in expanded region

By Aub Warren

BURLEIGH HEADS, Australia—At 21 sites in 11 countries, more than 8,000 people in Australia, Asia, New Zealand and the Pacific observed this year's Festival. Attendance in the region was up slightly over last year.

Members showed appreciation

daughters, Michelle and Kathleen, returned after leaving their assignment here in 1970. And Peter Whitting and his wife, Charlotte, also returned to the country they served between 1972 and 1988.

New and revisited sites

Several new sites were added to

with these giants of creation.

Profuse natural beauty

On Australia's west coast Perth's natural beauty enhanced a seasonal profusion of wildflowers. Adjacent to Perth's scenic Swan River is King's Park with natural bushland on the doorstep of the central business district.

In Honiara, Solomon Islands, members enjoy their only opportunity to get together as a group each year. Island Night featured local foods, singing and dancing.

In Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, members from a country of more than 800 languages and disparate cultures observed the Feast in the unity and peace that living the life of Christ brings, said coordinator Tim Grauel.

Benny Makeng, who had waited nearly two years to contact a minister, was one of three brethren baptized during the Feast. "I came here not knowing anyone, but now I feel that I've been a part of the family for ages!" he said.

In Nuku'alofa, Tonga, one of the smallest Festival gatherings, brethren enjoyed a cultural evening, several Tongan feasts of local foods baked in earth ovens, and swimming and diving on coral reefs surrounding the tropical South Pacific island kingdom.

Vanuatu brethren were hosts at a Melanesian meal for the 50 overseas visitors. Meeting for the meal at a member's home, in a garden setting, visitors also heard a string band perform a song composed for



HOBART

Photo by Les Neilson

for lengthening the opening night service and for the first Holy Day format.

Members in Australia welcomed back many old friends this year. Former regional director Dean Wilson and his wife, Marolyn, returned after leaving Australia 12 years ago and visited the Perth, Adelaide, Hobart and Gosford sites.

Leroy Cole, his wife, Jean, and daughter, Laurreta, also returned to Australia this year, on the 30th anniversary of their first Feast here. Mr. and Mrs. Cole served in Australia from 1962 to 1974.

Roy Page, his wife, Sheila, and

the region this year. Malaysian brethren kept the Festival on the resort island of Phuket, Thailand, where they stayed and met under one roof at the Patong Resort.

Members in Papua New Guinea were able to gather for all eight days this year. Australian members enjoyed the new or revisited locations of Cairns, Merimbula, Gosford and Adelaide.

Hobart, Australia's southern-most capital city on the island state of Tasmania, drew 236 people from around the globe. Feastgoers enjoyed a family dinner dance featuring a puppet show and ventriloquist act.

Some Feastgoers visited bird rookeries and watched seabirds feed their young. Others visited the former penal colony of Port Arthur, including the Isle of the Dead, where former convicts and settlers are buried.

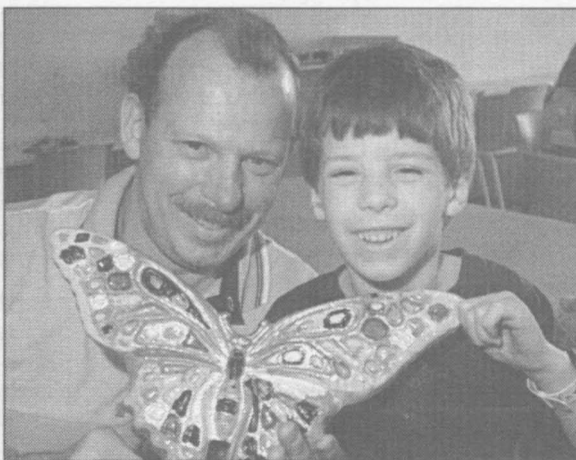
On the Australian mainland many Feastgoers in Ulladulla saw a humpback whale and calf swimming just offshore.

Ulladulla coordinator Bruce Dean said several members swam out to the whales and enjoyed an awe-inspiring experience



BERUWALA

Photo by Dinesh Wathwana



ULLADULLA

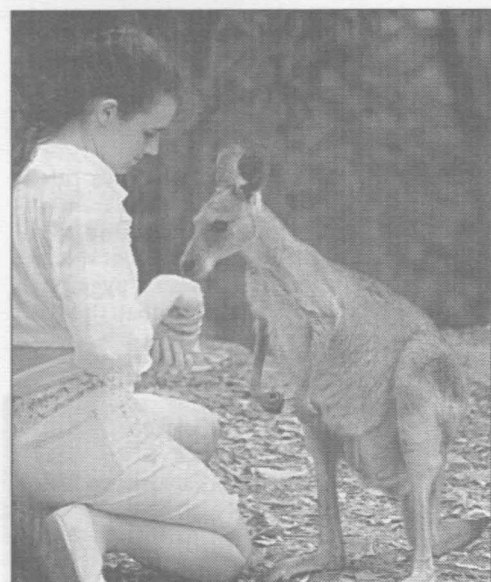
Photo by Graeme Henderson

the occasion by area brethren.

In Napier, New Zealand, members enjoyed a feeling of community. "Members often met each other on the picturesque streets and malls," said coordinator Dennis Richards.

Bad weather during the first few days did not hamper enthusiasm, despite the necessary reorganization of scheduled activities.

Church youths and adults rafted down 15 kilometers (nearly 10 miles) of the Mohaka River Gorge. Others



CAIRNS

Photo by Rex Lehmann



ADELAIDE

Photo by Rob Verity



TAURANGA

Photo by Cecil H. Riseborough



GOLD COAST

Photo by Roger N.Knight

enjoyed Napier's attractions, including dolphin displays at Marineland, vineyards and gannet colonies at Cape Kidnappers.

Sri Lanka and India

Brethren celebrated the Festival for the 20th time in India and for the third time in the city of Bangalore. Six people were baptized. "The occasion was joyous and emotionally moving for all," said coordinator Joseph D'Costa.

In Beruwala, Sri Lanka, the head hotel chef noted that our group didn't waste food at the buffet-style meals like many other groups apparently do.

Tragedies

The Festival was not without its more sobering moments, reminding us of our present mortality. In Nadi, Fiji, the 6-year-old niece of a man attending the Festival drowned in the hotel swimming pool.

"The members were saddened by this most tragic event, but they rallied around the girl's mother and donated F\$1,200 to help with the funeral costs," said coordinator Epeli Kanaimawi.

"Although the girl's tragic death brought sadness to what had been a most enjoyable and uplifting Feast," he said, "it nevertheless underscored the message of

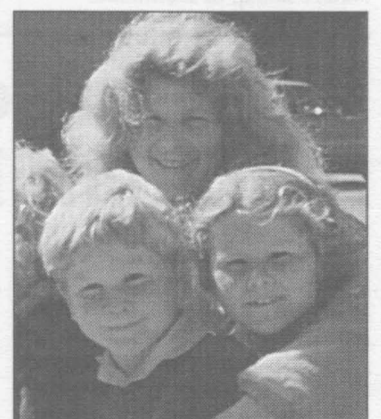
the Feast that although death still has its sting, God through Jesus Christ will wipe away all tears and remove the sting of death in the world tomorrow."

In Caloundra, longtime member Ted Eaton died shortly after the start of the Festival.

The last sermon he heard was by Roy Page, who spoke about Christ's return and painted a picture of the new world to come.

Once again this year, our brethren observed the Festival at two sites in Myanmar (Burma).

Because of difficulties in getting communications into and out of the country, we are unable to report specifically on those sites.



CHRIST CHURCH Photo by John Curry

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| Adelaide, Australia | 746 |
| Cairns, Australia | 443 |
| Caloundra, Australia | 946 |
| Gold Coast, Australia | 1,179 |
| Gosford, Australia | 870 |
| Hobart, Australia | 236 |
| Merimbula, Australia | 607 |
| Perth, Australia | 683 |
| Ulladulla, Australia | 492 |
| Christ Church, New Zealand | 366 |
| Napier, New Zealand | 726 |
| Nadi, Fiji | 228 |
| Nuku'alofa, Tonga | 66 |
| Port Vila, Vanuatu | 120 |
| Bangalore, India | 280 |
| Beruwala, Sri Lanka | 210 |
| Phuket, Thailand | 435 |
| Sa Khan Gyi, Myanmar | 33 |
| Kya In, Myanmar | 32* |
| Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea | 60 |
| Honiara, Solomon Islands | 58 |
| *estimate | |

1992

Feast of Tabernacles

Festival spirit hits Caribbean isles

By Rick Taylor

FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida—Ten Caribbean countries were hosts for this year's Feast. Two "mini-Feasts" (see Grenada and Guyana) were conducted for members in remote areas.

Bahamas

Members met on Paradise



PARADISE ISLAND

Photo by Wendy Gridley

Island, where the quincentennial of Christopher Columbus' landing was commemorated.

"A spirit of family togetherness was evident with visitors and Bahamians serving, fellowshiping and praising God together," said coordinator Kingsley Mather.

Barbados

"At home" was how many visitors described their feelings about the Feast in Christ Church.

Victor Simpson, coordinator, said visitors and Barbadians provided exceptional music, and family day featured local delicacies and steel band music.

Dominica

Roseau, the capital city, was the setting for the Feast on the Nature Island of Dominica.

Brethren from seven countries set "the finest example of Christian conduct, cooperation and family togetherness," said site coordinator Ed Straughan. "We were true witnesses for God to the hotel staff and other hotel guests."

During Getting-to-Know-You Night, area and international YOU and YES members put on an

island of St. Vincent to conduct a mini-Feast for about 20 brethren who were unable to attend the site in Grenada. Activities included a beach picnic and a bus tour.

Guyana

This year's Feast in Georgetown illustrated the contrast between peace and violence, as members gathered in the wake of riots erupting after the general elections just a few days before the Feast.

The situation was so unstable that as of Atonement the site was to be canceled. However, site coordinator Wesley Webster reported that calm spread over the country as the Feast began.

Activities included a singles tour of a bottled drink factory and a cultural presentation by area members. International transfers flew over Kaieteur Falls. After a brief stay, the planes flew to Orinduik Falls on the Brazilian border, where members swam.

More than 100 villagers of **Awarewaunau**, a remote Amerindian village in the interior of Guyana, were part of a one-day service during the Feast.

The plane carrying speakers John Orchard and Doug Peitz, their wives, Linda and Rosa, and Mr. Webster was the first plane to land at the village in more than 20 years.

impromptu show of song and dance, and Dominica Night offered local culture and foods.

Grenada

Brethren enjoyed warm Caribbean weather and island hospitality at Grand Anse Beach.

Feastgoers took part in two boat cruises along the coast and bus tours through the mountains to nutmeg processing plants, waterfalls and a lake in a dormant volcano.

Paul Krautmann, Grenada coordinator, said brethren appreciated the service and encouragement of the visiting ministers. Activities included Grenada Night, featuring a welcome address by Grenada's minister of tourism and a family dance with music provided by the Royal Grenada Police Force Band. Mr. Krautmann traveled to the

easier with their Italian neighbors.

Evangelist Carn Catherwood began the Feast in Italy, then traveled on to sites in Belgium and France.

The diversity of not only culture but also language was living proof that the type of society God will build in the future can and does already exist in his Church. Color-coded name tags were available so bilingual participants could be spotted easily and help out when needed.

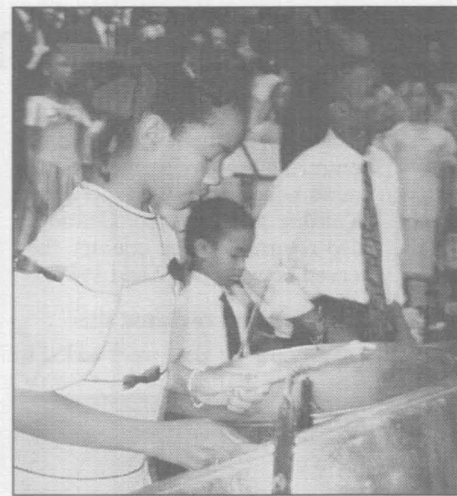
We had the whole town to ourselves, as the summer crowds had already left. A lovely esplanade on main street was lined with shops and cafes.

Four baptisms took place during the Feast. Luciano Cozzi, pastor of the Malta and Catania, Sicily, congregations, was ordained a preaching elder.

Mr. Cozzi, formerly the first student employee of the fledgling Italian Department in Pasadena, helped Mr. Catherwood prepare the first issue of *La Pura Verita* (Italian *Plain Truth*) in July 1982.

Riccione, Italy

721



PORT OF SPAIN

Photo by Tom Purnell

Because travel to this area is so difficult, the ministers conducted services, performed the blessing of little children, conducted a wedding, baptized eight people and distributed donated food and clothing.

Jamaica

"The Feast in Ocho Rios was a very positive and inspiring occasion for God's people," said Lateef Edalere, Jamaica coordinator.

Despite the overall economic problems in the country, a spirit of giving pervaded the Feast. Activities included a YOU fashion show and a Festival family show.

St. Lucia

On opening night in Castries the

government's director of tourism welcomed members.

"A family atmosphere prevailed as members of different nationalities and cultures took advantage of the chance to get to know one other better," said Cecil Pulley, coordinator.

Boat cruises along the western coast with swimming and snorkeling in a remote bay were a hit.

Trinidad

In the land of Calypso, the Trinidad Hilton was the site for services and

many activities.

International brethren visited Tobago to tour and snorkel at Buccoo Reef. At the Grand Festival Ball members danced to a steel pan ensemble.

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Paradise Island, Bahamas | 939 |
| Christ Church, Barbados | 658 |
| Roseau, Dominica | 134 |
| Grand Anse Beach, Grenada | 330 |
| Georgetown, Guyana | 275 |
| Awarewaunau, Guyana | 100 |
| Ocho Rios, Jamaica | 755 |
| Castries, St. Lucia | 339 |
| Port of Spain, Trinidad | 859 |
| Kingston, St. Vincent | 20 |

French transcend language barriers

BIG SANDY—The French Office was responsible for four Feast sites, according to evangelist Carn Catherwood, French and Italian regional director.

Two other sites, Haiti and Guadeloupe, formerly supervised by the Caribbean Office, are now under the jurisdiction of the French Office.

'Vive la difference'

In the Atlantic resort village of St. Jean de Monts, France, singles and couples took two dinner cruises. Ministers and members served senior citizens at a luncheon.

"Brethren appreciated the physical environment of St. Jean,

Services were in French with simultaneous translations available for the 60 overseas visitors.

Brethren reserved a warm welcome for Mr. Catherwood on his first visit to Belgium since being named French regional director.

Members were also glad to see Colin Wilkins, who founded several French churches in Europe in the mid-1960s. Mr. Wilkins now pastors churches in Quebec.

Mechoui in Martinique

In St. Luce, Martinique, Feastgoers enjoyed a choir concert, church orchestra and dinner dance.

Youths organized a *mechoui* (meat roasted in an outdoor pit) for Feastgoers on the beach, accompanied by the rhythm of tomtoms and a sing-along.

"Visitors from Europe and Canada went back to their destinations delighted by the hospitality and the typical Martinique atmosphere," said coordinator Erick Dubois.

Haiti's azure seas

Feastgoers gathered at Moulin-Sur-Mer, a restored colonial sugar mill, museum and hotel.

"In a country marred by internal strife, economic woes and political instabil-

ity, it was very refreshing and heartening for the brethren to break away from the national climate of confusion, fear and discouragement," said assistant coordinator Coty Myrtil.

Feastgoers enjoyed a family dance and basketball, soccer, volleyball, table tennis and badminton. They agreed that the messages, plentiful food and fellowship made this Feast a delight. They hope the political climate allows for transfers next year.

Guadeloupe: bilingual site

French- and English-speaking

members met in the resort area of St. Francois for a bilingual Feast in Guadeloupe.

Fellowship quickly transcended the language barrier as brethren met for services, activities and meals. English and French translations were provided.

Site coordinator Cyrille Richard said the yearlong efforts of the Guadeloupeans combined with the service and enthusiasm of the transfers made this Feast a tremendous success.

A cultural show featured traditional Guadeloupean dances, and family day was accented by roast lamb cooked in a pit on the beach and other local delicacies.

Cameroon: first full Feast

The Feast in Cameroon was conducted in Kribi, which is on the seaside 200 kilometers (about 124 miles) from Douala. Brethren represented Cameroon, Togo, Switzerland and the Caribbean.

Coordinator Bernard Andrist said Africans were happy to celebrate their first eight-day Festival.

Fourteen people were baptized during the Feast. Guest speaker was Gilbert Carbone, associate pastor of the Paris, France, church.

In spite of tension owing to the presidential election, members and ministers arrived safely at the site in spite of roadblocks that were set up.

Activities included a talent evening, with members from different tribes performing tribal dances in unity instead of discord, an excursion to visit a pygmy village, a soccer (football) playoff and a family dance.

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Hengelhof, Belgium | 636 |
| St. Jean, France | 951 |
| St. Francois, Guadeloupe | 325 |
| Moulin-Sur-Mer, Haiti | 69 |
| St. Luce, Martinique | 376 |
| Kribi, Cameroon | 248 |

Adriatic seaside host to Italian Feastgoers

By Cliff Veal

RICCIONE, Italy—For the second year this Adriatic seaside town was host to brethren from more than 15 nations.

Cliff Veal pastors the Milan and Vicenza, Italy, churches.

The Maltese congregation also attended. For some Maltese this was the first time to leave their island home.

Many Maltese speak Italian as a third language, making fellowship



RICCIONE

Photo by Sheila Graham

1992

Feast of Tabernacles

Lights burn at British, African sites

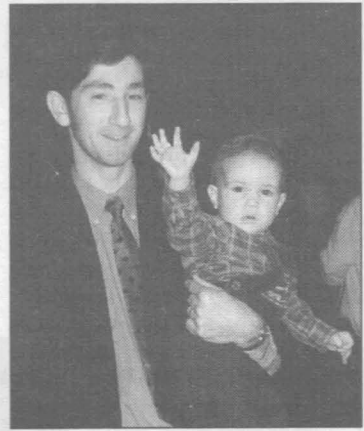
By Irene Wilson

BOREHAMWOOD, England—Reports from the 10 Festival sites in the United Kingdom, Scandinavia and East and West Africa indicate members enjoyed being together while learning more about God and how to honor him.

Media reports and people in various communities commented on how brethren were shining lights in their Festival locations.

Bournemouth

David Magowan, Festival elder here, set a theme here of LCD:



PAIGNTON Photo by David Williams

(Love toward God and fellowman, Care for our calling and future, and Devotion to the immediate Feast and members' examples.

Guest speakers were Lyle Welty and Roy Holladay.

Activities were organized for all ages to create greater camaraderie. Visitors took outings to Corfe Castle, Shaftesbury, Stonehenge, Salisbury and London.

Paignton

Almost 1,300 brethren gathered at this popular site on the Devonshire coast, with most brethren staying in a caravan site.

The city's parking wardens issued parking tickets on more than 60 members' cars, despite a

previous arrangement made with the authority to allow free parking.

But all ended well when the over-zealous wardens realized their mistake and allowed members to return their tickets.

Scarborough

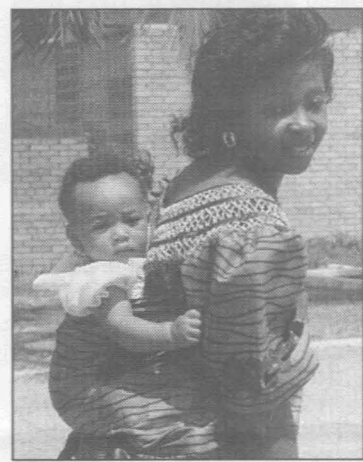
The lord mayor of this northern seaside resort gave a civic reception for everyone attending the Feast.

Guest speaker John Halford contributed to the atmosphere of harmony and caring for one other.

Activities were a day trip to Flamingo Land (a theme park and zoo), a beach party, 10-pin bowling, a YOU trip to an aqua center and a family social evening.

Aviemore, Scotland

Nestled in the majestic Cairngorm Mountains of the Scottish Highlands, Aviemore was host to 200 overseas members and fami-



ACCRA Photo by Theo Nii Okai

lies who joined area brethren.

During a Scottish country dance, band leaders commented on the joy and enthusiasm of the group.

Mr. Welty's and evangelist Les McCullough's messages raised many positive comments.

An unexpected snowfall added to the rugged charm of the mountains, as well as providing good

skiing for the more adventurous.

Rättvik, Sweden

Eight inches of snow made this year's Feast an adventure for brethren attending this first-time Scandinavian site.

Members folk danced and toured Viking burial places, handicraft centers and beauty spots. The more energetic went horseback riding, hiking and sledging.

A Swedish chef cooked lunch for those who were willing to hike through the snow to a hillside restaurant.

Spokesman Club members met for their annual dinner. A family farewell party took place on the last night, and video clips of the Feast were shown.

Africa

Before the Feast, Mr. McCullough, regional director in East and West Africa, informed British ministers that brethren in Africa were facing drought and food shortages.

Brethren in the United Kingdom made small contributions to make the Feast a little better for some brethren in those areas.

More than 4,000 pounds (about US\$8,000) was distributed to the



AVIEMORE Photo by Neil Dougal

and imagined what it was like to keep the early Festivals there.

Feastgoers at the first-time site in Lowell, Massachusetts, toured historical sites in Boston, Lexington and Concord.

They visited the historic city of Salem, celebrating its 300th anniversary this year, the Plymouth Plantation areas south of Boston and the mountains of southern New Hampshire.

The city of Lowell offered boat tours of its many canals and guided tours of restored mills and Industrial Revolution museums.

At the summit

Members in Vail, Colorado, ventured out to the surrounding mountains for hiking, horseback riding, jeep tours, white-water rafting and hot-air ballooning.

New this year was a family chuckwagon barbecue at the 4-Eagle Ranch. The ranch provided an authentic Western Colorado experience with hayrides, country music and lots of food.

Family day took members to the 11,500 summit of Vail Mountain by a gondola ride. Many rode mountain bikes back down the mountain.

On Saturday night Vail Feastgoers traveled 45 minutes to the Keystone, Colorado, site, for a dinner and dance attended by more than 1,000 people. It was warm enough at Keystone that the snow that fell during the night melted during the sunny days.



RÄTTVIK

Photo by Alen Beal

stricken areas with enough remaining for needs during the Spring Holy Days.

Accra, Ghana

For the third year, the Feast took place at Pavilion G of the International Trade Fair Centre here. Guest speaker was evangelist Stan Bass.

A number of guests from the United States, United Kingdom and Nigeria joined Ghanaian brethren.

A beach party with games, swimming, music and fellowship helped make the Feast more family-oriented.

After a family day buffet, brethren gathered at the Church-owned farm complex for games, music and meals.

Visitors and area brethren visited five tourist sites: slave castles, a hydroelectric dam, a waterfall, the estuary of the river Volta and a botanical garden. A children's party and final dance crowned activities here.

At African day many people dressed in colorful native clothing for services.

"I will very much like to come back to Ghana for the Feast," one visitor commented. "At least, that will give me the opportunity to wear my African clothes again."

Benin, Nigeria

Feastgoers here enjoyed meals together, a trip to a river resort for swimming, boating, tennis and volleyball, a talent and cultural show put on by members and a family and fun sports day.

A youth and family fun day was

so enjoyable that a repeat took place two days later.

Brethren took part in walking races, sprint races and soccer matches.

Games ended with a tug-of-war between husbands and wives—and the wives won.

Mombasa, Kenya

Sultry, tropical weather greeted Feastgoers here who dined on an abundance of beef, chicken, lamb, goat and duck.

Victor Kubik from Pasadena was guest speaker. Eight people were baptized in the Indian Ocean, an uplifting experience for everyone.

Tororo, Uganda

An inland site 4,000 feet above sea level, Uganda offered pleasantly cool temperatures. Among the activities was a site-wide barbecue. Five people were baptized.

Blantyre, Malawi

Brethren attending here met in the Church-owned building under mostly sunny days with rain only on the family day, when activities were moved indoors.

| | |
|----------------------|-------|
| Aviemore, Scotland | 852 |
| Bournemouth, England | 1,193 |
| Paignton, England | 1,264 |
| Scarborough, England | 1,488 |
| Rättvik, Sweden | 309 |
| Accra, Ghana | 491 |
| Benin, Nigeria | 818 |
| Mombasa, Kenya | 326 |
| Tororo, Uganda | 109 |
| Blantyre, Malawi | 190 |

U.S. sites

(Continued from page 3)

noise of many waters" (King James Version). The awesome power and beauty of the falls helped Feastgoers focus on the great power of our loving Father.

Peace-filled Feast

The rolling, tree-covered hills of the Ouachita Mountains was the setting for the Feast in Hot Springs, Arkansas. Brethren enjoyed the natural hot springs and crisp fall weather.

Indians referred to Hot Springs as the valley of peace and laid aside their weapons when they met here, and it truly was a peace-filled Feast for those who met there, said coordinator Ken Swisher.

Panning for gold

Brethren in Anchorage, Alaska, went on a family day outing to King's Lake Camp in Wasilla that featured a succulent barbecue, gold panning, horseshoes, carnival games for the children and rides aboard a wagon pulled by a team of black Percheron draft horses.

Historical Feasts

Brethren attending the Feast in Eugene, Oregon, nestled in the southern portion of the Willamette Valley, were fascinated by the area's rich Church history. Some brethren traveled up the McKenzie River Pass to Belknap Springs

Relishing royal treats in Thailand

By Fred Stevens

THAILAND—Brethren met for the sixth Thai Festival tour starting in the Montien Hotel in Bangkok, the capital, and finishing at the Empress Hotel in Chiang Mai.

Fred Stevens coordinated the Thailand Festival site.

Feastgoers visited Queen Sirit's SUPPORT Foundation on the palace grounds in Bangkok.

A secretary to the queen invited us to wander through the workshops and watch Thai craftsmen create works of art from silver, silk, clay and reeds.

We also toured the Throne Hall at the Grand Palace, where the king receives ambassadors and presides over state dinners.

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Chiang Mai, Thailand | 211 |
| Northern Thailand | 30 |

In Chiang Mai, we traveled to a hilltribe village, where the headman received us. Rains turned the mountain road to mud, causing some trucks to get stuck.

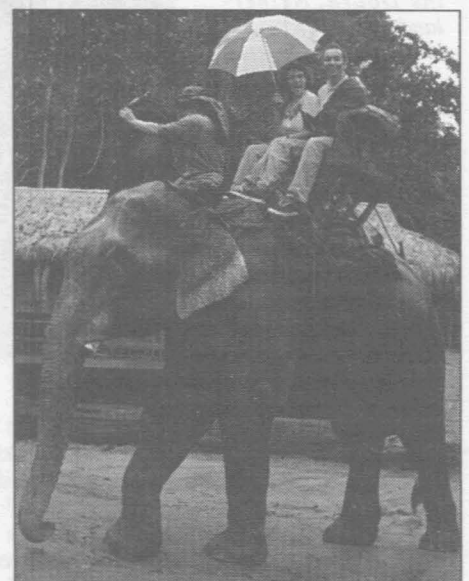
For the first time in six years, members in northern Thailand could not travel to Chiang Mai. Instead, they kept the Feast in their village.

Evangelist Leroy Neff and his wife, Maxine, led a delegation to the village to help make the Feast special.

Services were conducted in a schoolhouse at the edge of green rice paddies nearly ready for harvest.

Rain was welcomed as it provided the right amount of additional moisture to ensure a bountiful crop, according to Randal Dick, an assistant director of Church Administration.

The social highlight of the Feast was a meal at the village restaurant with musical entertainment provided by the brethren.



CHIANG MAI

Photo by Cleo J. Sprague

1992

Feast of Tabernacles

Spanish eyes focus on world tomorrow

Members and youths show genuine desire to serve at Feast

By Leon Walker

BIG SANDY—The 1992 Feast was observed at 15 sites in 12 Spanish-speaking countries. Coordinators commented on the warmth, enthusiasm and fellowship enjoyed by everyone.

Evangelist Leon Walker is regional director for Spanish-language areas.

Sermons were encouraging and uplifting. Topics included the hope we can have by seeing the world tomorrow while at the same time reflecting now on

being a light to the world, being alert to our times, how world peace will come, the need for continuing to grow, our commitment to God and humanity, and other themes linking the Millen-

nium with our lives now.

Brethren took part in family activities, dances, children's parties, senior citizens activities, talent shows and sports.

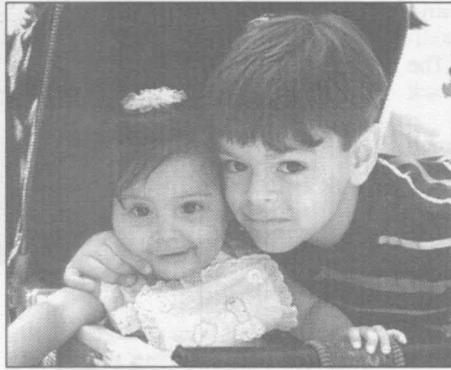
Used clothing donated

Transferring brethren brought used clothing to give to area brethren. Their thoughtfulness and generosity were much appreciated.

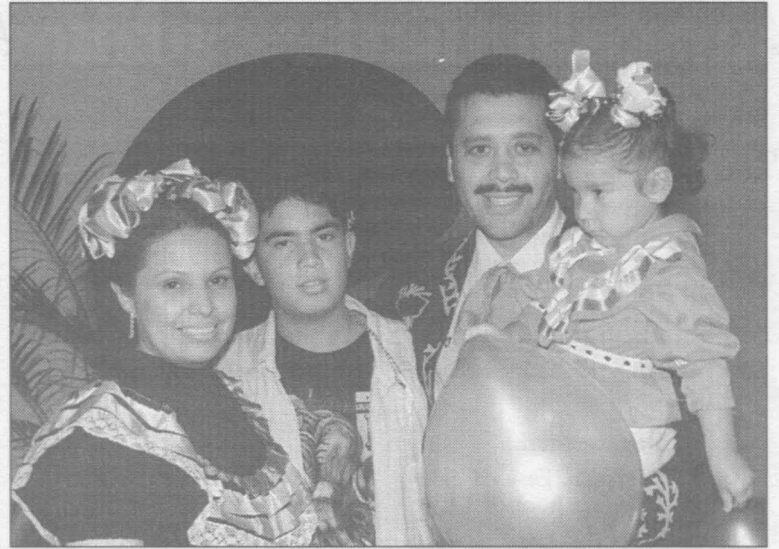
Poorer families were invited to lunch or dinner, contributing greatly to the family spirit and genuine desire to serve at the Feast this year.

Outstanding examples

Singles were also an



SAN SALVADOR Photo by Roberto A. Arquello



BARQUISIMETO

Photo by Oscar Velandia

outstanding example of service. For example, in Chile singles presented each international transfer with a bottle of Chilean wine and gifts to make them feel at home. They also prepared a backdrop of flags from countries represented at the Feast.

In Guatemala, the mayor of Quetzaltenango dropped in unexpectedly at family day. He brought the official city band to play for the group.

Saul Langarica, Festival coordinator, said the mayor was gladly surprised to know the purpose of the activity.

Mini-Feast in Peru

Sadly, we were not able to conduct the Feast in Peru this year, because of the extreme dangers posed by Shining Path terrorists. Travel in Peru is not recommended.

But we conducted a mini-Feast with services on the first and last

days of the Feast in Lima and on the weekly Sabbath in Trujillo, Peru.

The dangers prevent us from sending another minister to assist Wilfredo Saenz, the only resident minister in Peru. We sent him videotaped sermons from last year to show brethren.

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Monte Hermosa, Argentina | 230 |
| Sucre, Bolivia | 57 |
| Maitencillo, Chile | 430 |
| Melgar, Colombia | 382 |
| Liberia, Costa Rica | 155 |
| San Salvador, El Salvador | 297 |
| Quetzaltenango, Guatemala | 446 |
| Ensenada, Mexico | 365 |
| Guadalajara, Mexico | 685 |
| Veracruz, Mexico | 268 |
| Lima-Trujillo, Peru | 339 |
| Palmas del Mar, Puerto Rico | 328 |
| Talavera de la Reina, Spain | 215 |
| Punta del Este, Uruguay | 180 |
| Barquisimeto, Venezuela | 140 |

Brethren, volunteers share Jordan

By Joseph W. Locke and Daniel Vander Poel

AMMAN, Jordan—Brethren celebrated the Feast here with the 15 Ambassador students serving on Ambassador Foundation's Jordan project.

Joseph W. Locke, Amman Festival coordinator and vice president of Ambassador Foundation International, is assisted by Daniel Vander Poel.

Highlighting the Feast was a day trip to Petra to see the ruins of the Nabataeans and the Romans.

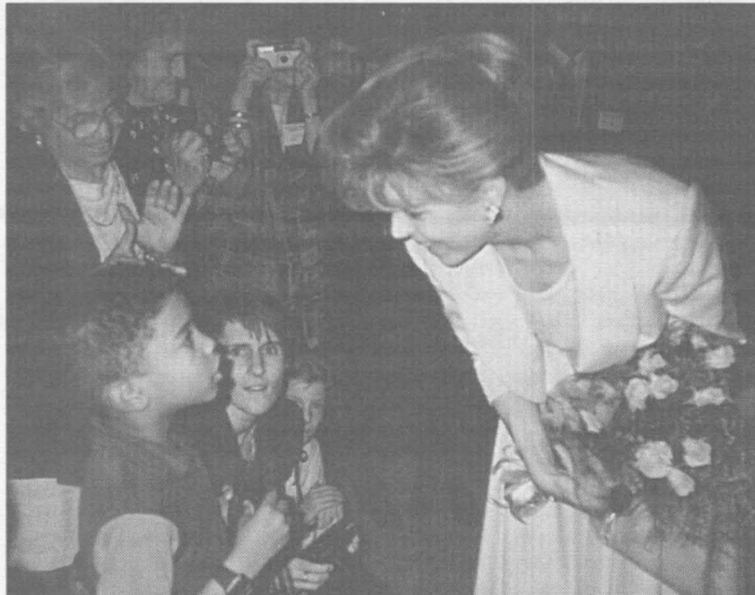
Brethren also toured Jerash, one of the Decapolis cities of the Roman period, about 30 miles north of Amman. We also saw Mt. Nebo, Madaba, Mt. Hisban, the Dead Sea and Pella.

After the Feast 50 brethren traveled to Egypt for an extension tour, while 230 others toured Israel. Fifty people on the Israel extension also went on to Egypt.

Queen Noor met the group Oct. 15 for more than an hour and expressed the royal family's

appreciation to the Church for Ambassador Foundation's 10th anniversary of involvement in serving the people of Jordan.

Amman, Jordan 392



LITTLE ADVICE—Queen Noor of Jordan meets members' children Oct. 15 in Amman. The queen praised Ambassador Foundation's efforts to serve needy people. [Photo by Daniel Vander Poel]

Celebrating Feast in floating 'booth'

By Gerrie Belo

HOOGEVEEN, Netherlands—Feastgoers usually stay in bungalows or hotels here, but this year one couple, Fred and Zita van Meekeren, brought their own accommodations: a boat.

Gerrie Belo is a member who attends the Doorn, Netherlands, church.

Mr. van Meekeren, 66, has had a passion for water ever since he was a boy.

"Both my parents are hydrophobic," he said. "My mother is Swiss; she doesn't know a thing about water!"

"The answer can probably be found in my ancestry," he continued.

"My forefathers were excellent sailors and discovered Australia with Albert Tasman."

His wife, Zita, 62, lived all her life in Wormerveer, Netherlands, where she owned a wool shop. In the late 1970s they met through a mutual friend and when Mr. van Meekeren told her about his ram-

blings over the ocean, she sold her haberdashery and joined him. For five years they sailed around the world in a catamaran.

During that time the van Meekeren were reading *The Plain Truth*. "We have always known there is a God; God is never so

"Our ambitions changed," Mr. van Meekeren remembers. "Sailing was not important anymore. We wanted to stay close to the brethren and go to services weekly."

But the sea beckoned, so the van Meekeren bought a new boat called *The Lady Zita Nella*, after Mrs. van Meekeren.

On board their cargo boat at Hoogeveen, two bikes provided them transportation to services and activities such as the formal dance, concerts and a dinner for the seniors.

This is the third and probably last time Mr. and Mrs. van Meekeren will attend the Feast by boat. The couple plan to sell the *Zita Nella* and settle on land.

"We'll never get used to a normal house after living without neighbors for so long," he said.

Hoogeveen, Netherlands 640



HOOGEVEEN

close as at night when the stars twinkle and the sky is clear. We just didn't know where to find him," Mr. van Meekeren explained. "*The Plain Truth* gave all the answers."

When they returned to Holland they began attending services.

Program: reaching out

(Continued from page 1) together can accomplish more than they can individually."

He went on to explain the "conduit method" of good works, in which the Church would serve as a conduit or pipe connecting those who have goods to donate with people who need them.

Mr. Schnippert asked, "Which of us hasn't felt inadequate when we read such scriptures as Galatians 6:10?"

"(Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.)"

Needed: resources, not money

This is essentially a zero budget program, Mr. Schnippert said. In fact, resources are often easier to find than money. Suppliers can be found when they realize that people are willing to help.

The evangelist referred to Acts 3:6, where the apostle Paul told a lame beggar, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you."

Volunteer effort

Program participants should have sufficient time in their schedules and consider the higher priorities of family and work, Mr. Schnippert pointed out.

Members' needs will not suffer. The needs of members should always come first, and they should benefit from these programs.

The program will not dupli-

cate work by charity organizations.

There is a lot of territory out there, and those organizations have not taken all the service opportunities, Mr. Schnippert said.

Called to do good works

Later in the manual Mr. Tkach wrote: "But though we may not perceive it, the Church has sometimes unwittingly created barriers to further growth.

"One of these barriers is our self-imposed semi-isolation from the world.

"Coming out of the world (Revelation 18:4) refers to shedding the selfish, arrogant, materialistic ways of this world—not avoiding contact with the very people Christ plans to save!"

Mr. Tkach wrote: "We are called to do good works (1 Timothy 6:18; Titus 2:7, 14; 3:8, 14)!"

"And the world should see our good works, not so we can glorify ourselves, but so that our Father in heaven can be glorified (Matthew 5:16).

"As children of God, as brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ, with him living in us, we cannot help but participate in his life—a life of love proven in service.

"With God's gift of salvation to us comes responsibility to live as Jesus lived. It is our obligation to God and to our fellow human beings.

"The Holy Spirit leads us toward caring and serving, guiding us to love one another as Christ also loves us."

1992

Feast of Tabernacles

Winds of unity prevail in Philippines

By Ruel Guerrero

MANILA, Philippines—"Exceptionally good weather, inspiring messages, successful activities and plenty of good fellowship characterized this year's Feast of Tabernacles in the Philippines," commented Paul Kieffer, regional director.

Ruel Guerrero, who works in the Philippine Office, was ordained a local elder during the Feast.

The eight Philippine sites were hosts to more than 5,600 brethren.

Iloilo was a new site this year with brethren meeting at the four-star Sarabia Manor Hotel.

Typhoon Ningning threatened just before the Feast, while Typhoon Osang developed on the southwestern side of Luzon and threatened to hit land during the middle of the Feast. But both veered away.

Mr. Kieffer presented a plaque and watch to former regional office employee Benjamin Ortiguero in recognition of his 25

years of service to the Church.

Near-perfect weather graced the Feast in Baguio City despite two typhoon threats. Just a week before the Feast the monsoon rains let up long enough for government road workers to repair all three access roads to the city.

Families enjoyed horseback riding, boating in Baguio's downtown Burnham Park lagoon, cycling and simply strolling through the invigorating piney landscape. Nine Church youths took part in the YOU talent showcase, in which three participants received gold level awards.

Power shortage resets schedule

Because of insufficient power in Metro Manila, irregular morning brownouts at the nearby Malolos site prompted services to be rescheduled to the afternoons.

The first and last day services were conducted as previously scheduled. The afternoon activities were shortened in length but took place as planned.

Ten YOU members participated in a YOU talent showcase with

five receiving gold level awards. Those in attendance appreciated youths' musical ability.

Three new members were baptized during the Feast in one of the hundreds of pools available in this hot-spring resort town.

Members also enjoyed a relaxed atmosphere on a college campus, where services were conducted, and ate meals at student prices.

Dio Island breezes

Feastgoers at the seaside Dio Island Beach Resort near Tacloban enjoyed warm breezes interspersed with clouds and rain.

A YOU talent showcase on youth day, a new feature at this site, attracted eight youths who sang popular tunes and played piano. Three received gold level awards.

Cebuano-speaking brethren

In Cagayan de Oro, about 100 Cebuano-speaking brethren listened to Festival messages through a simultaneous translation. The Cebuano language was spoken for an entire service, from

the opening to the closing prayers.

An island-wide power shortage and a warm meeting hall made things difficult, but an atmosphere of love, cooperation and unity still prevailed throughout the Feast.

Nearer site in Davao

Members in the southern part of Mindanao island were overjoyed

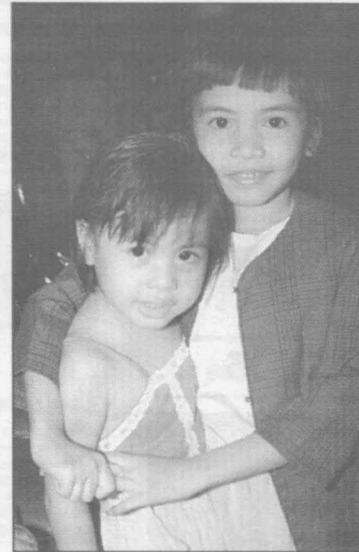
to have the Feast site closer to their area. For many, the shorter distance meant easier travel.

A member from the Tagum church, Rico Lolipay, his wife and four children, ages seven months to 6 years old, walked about 15 kilometers (nine miles) along a rough, dusty mountain road.

Under the blazing sun, Mr. Lolipay carried two heavy suitcases in one hand and a sack of food on his shoulder.

"I know that God will take care of us," he said. "It is his Feast after all."

Members enjoyed tours of the Davao Gulf and the Philippine Eagle and Nature Research Center. Area members showed their hospitality by bringing native fruits—durian being the favorite.



BAGUIO CITY Photo by Joseph F. Gallian

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| Baguio | 1,547 |
| Cagayan de Oro | 863 |
| Davao | 582 |
| Iloilo | 448 |
| Los Banos | 713 |
| Malolos | 646 |
| Puerto Princesa | 298 |
| Tacloban | 527 |

PERSONAL

(Continued from page 1)

criticize me for my actions. Since I knew I had discussed it with him, and knew his sentiments, it never occurred to me that my remarks would be misunderstood.

I might also add that my motives in joining the Chamber years ago were strictly to advance the good of the Church.

I wished both to let our light shine by showing we cared about the community in which we live, and also wanted the Church to participate in certain benefits of Chamber membership. (One of these would have been free use of a Chamber meeting room for our Spokesman Club.)

Please understand, too, that I don't bear any personal ill will to those who told me to withdraw from membership. In my sermon, I was merely making the point that the Church should not be isolationist.

In the act of using a personal example from my own past, I expressed myself with the strong emotion of the moment, which any sincere speaker would do when remembering events in his own life.

Certainly, we all remember with fondness that Mr. Armstrong often spoke with gusto himself!

A person who feels strongly about something is likely to sound like it, and sometimes even likely to pick a word or two he later wished he hadn't! If I have offended anyone, I apologize.

I have also heard that a few people today would still take the position that we shouldn't ever join associations like the Chamber of Commerce because they are worldly or because they might somehow negatively influence God's Church.

I trust that most of you understand it was this very misconception I was trying to explain. As I stated during the Feast, the

Church should let its light shine by doing good works and by showing itself as a good neighbor in the community.

We cannot be good neighbors to the community if we shun the community like the Pharisees of New Testament times.

I understand that some might have difficulty understanding this because it is a new and different concept for them. If you are one who doesn't fully understand, then take your time to think about it and mull it over.

But until you do more fully understand, please impute to me the good motives I actually possess on this matter, and have an open mind and trust that Christ is able to lead his Church to understand his words and apply them better as time progresses.

As I stated at the Feast, one way we show spiritual immaturity is in the way we sometimes wrongly shun our needy brothers in the world. But spiritual immaturity can display itself in many ways.

The way we treat other people

Another way is in how we treat one another, especially in how we treat those with whom we disagree over certain kinds of Bible-related matters.

It is easy to treat those who disagree with us on certain doctrinal points as enemies, and we have tended to do just that.

But if we are to be Christ-like, we need to keep in mind that there is quite a difference between people who are honestly confused or simply do not understand some point and those who are deliberately trying to confuse brethren in order to get a following for themselves.

People who decide to leave the Church because they have not come to understand changes in doctrine should not be treated as enemies.

They should be treated with compassion, patience and understanding, and if they decide they need to attend another church

we should part company with them as friends, not as enemies, and make sure they feel welcome to return should they change their minds.

Some brethren may find that their own relatives or close friends have been influenced to believe that God is not pleased with doctrinal and procedural changes the Church has made.

As Paul wrote, they should try to restore their loved ones gently (Galatians 6:1). That means in kindness and patience, being careful to set a right Christian example all the while.

Contrary to what some have tended to teach over the years, it is not wrong to fellowship with people whose doctrinal positions are not the same as yours—as long as such fellowship remains positive and does not degenerate into debate and contention.

Paul wrote in Romans 14:1, "Accept him whose faith is weak, without passing judgment on disputable matters." The New Revised Standard Version puts it this way, "Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions."

Mr. Armstrong always used that principle when the question of fellowship with one's disfellowshipped relatives was raised.

He explained that if the disfellowshipped relatives agreed not to gainsay the Church there was no reason not to continue a normal relationship with them.

Our experience was that most people found they could do that easily enough.

Of course, there are always going to be those few who cannot seem to refrain from contention, and those we do have to avoid (hoping and praying that they will repent).

Division and fellowship

We need to keep in mind the difference between causing division and meaningful fellowship.

Romans 16:17-18 tells us: "I urge you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them. For such people are not serving our Lord Christ, but their own appetites. By smooth talk and flattery they deceive the minds of naive people."

From this instruction, we see that we are to avoid those who cause division and promote teachings contrary to those of the Bible. Even in avoiding them, though, we are *not* told to be discourteous or rude to them.

Again, we need to keep in mind that there is a difference between those who purposely attempt to divide brethren from the Church and those who feel unsettled by change.

Growth is difficult for us all. Some people grasp new understanding sooner than others. A person may understand some changes easily, but other changes may not be as easy.

We need to be patient with one another. There is no reason for people in whom Jesus Christ lives to count one another as enemies simply because they explain doctrinal details differently.

There is a need, as Paul explained, to protect the Church from division. But differences in understanding peripheral details should not be allowed to stand in the way of unity in Christ.

Of course, the reason some decide to leave the Church is that they don't consider some things to be peripheral.

Even so, there is no reason for us to treat them with disrespect or avoid them as long as they are not allowing their different viewpoint to divide the Church.

If they choose to go someplace where they can be with people who believe as they do on their points of difference, that is up to them, and that does not make them our enemies. Conse-

quently, they should not be treated as enemies.

Mr. Armstrong set the example in that way decades ago when he continued to have a friendly relationship with the Church of God (Seventh Day).

There were instances when our members even attended congregations of that church when there was not one of our congregations available.

That practice died out in time, but it points up the principle: Differences of understanding on peripheral matters should not be a cause for animosity or destructive alienation. Often it has been, but that is not of Christ!

When our members in Oregon attended with Seventh Day brethren, they did not try to get them to leave that church and follow Mr. Armstrong.

And on the other side of the coin, nor did they adopt teachings of the Church of God (Seventh Day) that differed from ours.

They simply recognized that those people worshiped and served Jesus Christ as best they understood.

A Christ-like person can maintain his own doctrinal positions on peripheral matters without being enemies with people who don't see eye to eye on every issue!

When people leave the Church

People who decide to leave the Church do so for various reasons. Some people leave the Church because they are angry and bitter.

No matter where such people decide to attend, if anywhere, they will *still* have to deal with their anger and bitterness before they will be able to have a positive relationship with God (see Matthew 5:23-24).

Some people leave the Church because they are in bondage to a sin they don't want to confront. Again, even if they decide to attend someplace else, they will *still* have to confront

(See PERSONAL, page 11)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHS

BANIT, Walter and Janell (Gusner) of Santa Barbara, California, boy, Austin Christopher, July 17, 6:44 a.m., 8 pounds 9 ounces, first child.

BECKER, James and Madeline (Raymakers) of Crystal Lake, Illinois, boy, Josiah James, Sept. 4, 11:08 a.m., 6 pounds 7 ounces, first child.

BENT, Richard and Narelle (Wright) of Gold Coast, Australia, girl, Chelsea Leigh, Sept. 20, 9:26 a.m., 7 pounds 4 ounces, now 2 girls.

BUTLER, Paul and Jennifer (Tkach) of Pueblo, Colorado, girl, Jessica Lee, Sept. 8, 9:02 p.m., 8 pounds 3 ounces, now 2 boys, 2 girls.

CHRISTOPHER, Drew and Suzanne (Murrell) of Escondido, California, boy, Jonathon Michael, June 3, 7:24 a.m., 7 pounds 3 ounces, first child.

CONN, Mark and Tracy (Ravenscroft) of Uniontown, Pennsylvania, boy, Shane Linzy, Sept. 20, 4:58 a.m., 8 pounds 7 1/4 ounces, first child.

COUTO, Jose and Glynis (Mathieson) of Cape Town, South Africa, girl, Sonia Ruth, Sept. 18, 3:09 kilograms, now 2 girls.

DAUGHERTY, Shawn and Georgia (Lewis) of San Luis Obispo, California, boy, Quinn Edward Brys, May 19, 3:57 p.m., 8 pounds, first child.

DeROBERTIS, John and Marie (Larkin) of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, girl, Michelle Jin, July 29, 2:44 p.m., 7 pounds 5 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

DOUGLAS, Mark and Ann (Gordon) of Glasgow, Scotland, boy, Neil Gordon, Aug. 13, 12:36 p.m., 8 pounds 2 ounces, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

GEURTSSEN, David and Jeanette (Janzen) of Victoria, British Columbia, boy, Jared William Jacobus, May 22, 8 pounds 9 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

GUERRERO, Ruel and Marilou (Laureta) of Las Pinas, Philippines, girl, Janine Maree, Sept. 9, 10:55 a.m., 7 pounds 14 ounces, now 3 boys, 1 girl.

HARMON, George and Deborah (Cottrill) of Lexington, Kentucky, boy, Tyler Benton, Sept. 4, 1:17 a.m., 6 pounds 8 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

HERROLD, Richard and Kathy (Conklin) of Washington, Pennsylvania, girl, Jessica Leeann, Sept. 5, 9:45 a.m., 7 pounds 13 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

KAZIMIR, James and Audrey (Reeck) of Union, New Jersey, girl, Alexandra Elizabeth, Sept. 9, 9:48 a.m., 8 pounds 7 ounces, now 2 boys, 2 girls.

KILGORE, John and Carolyn (Parrish) of Fordland, Missouri, girl, Patrice Lynette, Aug. 18, 5:34 p.m., 6 pounds 12 ounces, first child.

LONG, Tim and Carolyn (Quelette) of Omaha, Nebraska, boy, Trevor Weston, Aug. 4, 9:02 a.m., 10 pounds 4 1/4 ounces, first child.

LOVELL, Sandy and Debbie (Tremblay) of London, Ontario, boy, Anthony William Joseph, June 23, 10:47 p.m., 8 pounds 15 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

MARSH, Geoffrey and Judith (Reynolds) of Grand Junction, Colorado, girl, Elizabeth Mae, July 18, 6:49 a.m., 8 pounds 14 ounces, now 2 girls.

MASON, Larry and Patricia (Weber) of Columbus, Ohio, girl, Lauren Elizabeth, Aug. 11, 5:15 p.m., 5 pounds 6 ounces, now 3 girls.

MOSS, Peter and Edna (Roche) of Wangan Hills, Australia, girl, Marilyn Norma, Sept. 10, 10:13 a.m., 7 pounds 15 ounces, now 1 boy, 2 girls.

NEWBACHER, Gary and Joyce (Smith) of Lakewood, Ohio, girl, Tessa Charis, Oct. 6, 3:25 a.m., 7 pounds 1 ounce, now 2 girls.

RICO, Benjamin and Marilyn (Tayros) of Iligan, Philippines, girl, Macleen Macadildig, April 2, 5 p.m., 6 pounds, first child.

SANDERSON, Charles and Morgan (Ore) of Vista, California, girl, Sarah Lynn, Sept. 20, 3:15 p.m., 10 pounds 10 ounces, first child.

SIVLEY, Chet and Karen (Berg) of Fort Wayne, Indiana, girl, Jana Eileen, June 23, 2:54 p.m., 9 pounds 1 ounce, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

SOLUM, Wayne and Lela (Tucker) of Austin, Texas, boy, Ryan James, Aug. 21, 5:49 a.m., 7 pounds 13 ounces, now 2 boys.

STEEL, Scott and Shari (Walker) of Mount Pleasant, Pennsylvania, girl, Hannah Lee, Aug. 6, 8:05 p.m., 8 pounds, now 3 girls.

SWEAT, James and Connie (Purkey) of Chattanooga, Tennessee, girl, Elizabeth Brooke, Oct. 4, 9:49 a.m., 5 pounds 8 ounces, now 2 girls.

TREADWELL, Chad and Patty (Raught) of Clovis, New Mexico, boy, Christopher Donovan, Sept. 15, 9:32 p.m., 7 pounds 2 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

VERNER, Michael and Gail (Shields) of Fort Worth, Texas, girl, Monica Janell, Sept. 19, 1:18 p.m., 7 pounds 8 ounces, first child.

WAGNER, Daniel II and Denise (Edwards) of Little Rock, Arkansas, boy, Daniel Frank III, Oct. 5, 9:06 a.m., 7 pounds 13 ounces, first child.

WALKER, DeForest and Beverly (McDowell) of Fort Collins, Colorado, boy, Chase Edward, Aug. 27, 7:03 p.m., 8 pounds 11 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

WALKER, Richard and Kim (Wymer) of Huntsville, Alabama, boy, Zachary Myles, Sept. 8, 8 pounds 6 ounces, now 1 boy, 1 girl.

WATT, Gregory and Corry (Verheijden) of Perth, Australia, boy, Scott Richard, May 29, 3:30 a.m., 10 pounds, now 2 boys, 1 girl.

WHITE, Perry and Robin (Stewart) of New Port Richey, Florida, boy, Michael Heldon, Aug. 21, 12:26 a.m., 7 pounds 7 1/2 ounces, now 2 boys.

ENGAGEMENTS

The parents of Maudi Maria Zorn and Gabriel Alexander Newman are pleased to announce the engagement of their children. A Dec. 20 wedding in Olympia, Washington, is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Keen of McAllen, Texas, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Sandra Lynn to Thomas Fineran of Old Bridge, New Jersey. A Jan. 7 wedding in Tyler, Texas, is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Butram of Cleveland, Ohio, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Jacquelin to Carlos Gomez of Cleveland. A February wedding is planned.

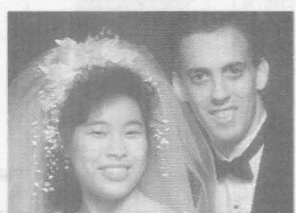
Wayne Dunlap of Eureka, California, and Vivian Dunlap of Cupertino, California, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Elizabeth to Timothy Quast, son of Dennis and Janelle Quast of Huntington, Oregon. A Dec. 20 wedding in Sacramento is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. R.C. Tinch of Alexandria, Indiana, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Rebecca to John W. May Jr., son of John May of Portland, Indiana. A Dec. 20 wedding in Muncie, Indiana, is planned.

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WEDDINGS



MR. & MRS. MICHAEL MORRIS

Susan Naomi Shigehara, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roger Shigehara of Raleigh, North Carolina, and Michael Scott Morris, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Morris of Chittanooga, New York, were united in marriage June 14. The ceremony was performed by Donald Mason, Raleigh and Rocky Mount, North Carolina, pastor. Karen Shigehara, sister of the bride, was maid of honor, and John Morris, brother of the groom, was best man. The couple live in Pasadena.



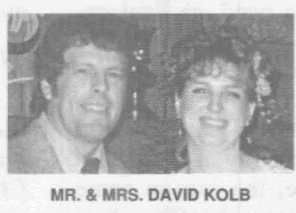
MR. & MRS. DARRYL SPENCE

Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Wood of Winnipeg, Manitoba, are delighted to announce the marriage of their daughter Karen Marilyn to Darryl Joseph Spence, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Spence of Winnipeg. The ceremony was performed Aug. 23 by Maurice Yurk, Winnipeg pastor. Joanne Gonzalez was matron of honor, and Craig Spence was best man. The couple live in Winnipeg.



MR. & MRS. MARC HARJU

Jean Ceaser of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Marc Harju of Fargo, North Dakota, were united in marriage June 14. The ceremony was performed by Tom Tullis, Minneapolis North pastor. Kristy Pepin was matron of honor, and Ken Cline was best man. The couple live in Fargo.



MR. & MRS. DAVID KOLB

Michele Sos of Caston, Pennsylvania, and David G. Kolb were united in marriage May 31. The ceremony was performed by James Capo, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, associate pastor. Karen Bolgardy, sister of the bride, was matron of honor, and James Kolb, brother of the groom, was best man. The couple live in Danielsville, Pennsylvania.



MR. & MRS. DARWIN KORNOWSKE

Leah Marie Klein of Kent City, Michigan, and Darwin H. Kornowski of Denmark,

Wisconsin, were united in marriage June 14. The ceremony was performed by Harvey Wieringa Sr., a minister in the Grand Rapids, Michigan, church. Tammy Neely and Darren Komowski were attendants. The couple live in Grand Prairie, Texas.



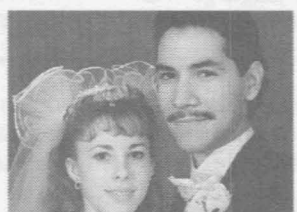
MR. & MRS. RONNIE GUNNOE

Pamela J. Jermakowicz and Ronnie R. Gunnoe were united in marriage May 24. The ceremony was performed by Garvin Greene, Knoxville, Tennessee, pastor. Rebecca Sena was matron of honor, and Theron Blaine Dennison Jr. was best man. The couple live in Pasadena.



MR. & MRS. GABRIEL STUART

Adina Stoute and Gabriel Stuart were united in marriage Nov. 17, 1991. The ceremony was performed by Victor Simpson, Bridgetown, Barbados, pastor. Julie Stoute, sister of the bride, was maid of honor, and Sherrod Scantlebury was best man. The couple live in Barbados.



MR. & MRS. JOSE RODRIGUEZ JR.

Carol Ann Head, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alton C. Head of Fort Worth, Texas, and Jose Reyes Rodriguez Sr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Jose Reyes Rodriguez Sr. of Houma, Louisiana, were united in marriage Sept. 13. The ceremony was performed by the bride's father, a minister in the Fort Worth West church. Diana Jones was matron of honor, and the groom's father was best man. The couple live in Fort Worth.



MR. & MRS. EDWIN TSCHETTER

Mr. and Mrs. Urs Eng of Winnipeg, Manitoba, are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Michelle Annalies to Edwin Tschetter, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jake Tschetter of Winnipeg. The ceremony was performed July 19 by Carl Burns, Winnipeg associate pastor. Priscilla Wolfe was maid of honor, and Jake Tschetter, brother of the groom, was best man. The couple live in Winnipeg.



MR. & MRS. TERENCE SANCHO

Marlene Sinamal, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sinamal of Martinique, and Terence Sancho, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sancho of England, were united in marriage in Paris, France, June 28. The ceremony was performed simultaneously in English by Sam Kneller, Paris pastor, and in French by Gilbert Carbone, Paris associate pastor. Ginette Dilvy was maid of honor, and Eddy Stanlinck was best man. The couple live in Peterborough, England.



MR. & MRS. MICHAEL FINGER

Kristine Michelle Gosse and Michael Matthew Finger, children of Mr. and Mrs. Len Gosse of Barrie, Ontario, and Mr. and Mrs. Don Finger of St. Paul, Minnesota, were united in marriage July 5. The ceremony was performed by Gary Lucas, a minister in the Barrie church. Tia Walker was maid of honor, and Don Finger was best man. The couple live in St. Paul.



MR. & MRS. WILLIAM MIRO JR.

Ann E. Lafortune, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Michon of Springfield, Massachusetts, and William J. Miro Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. William Miro Sr., were united in marriage Aug. 2. The ceremony was performed by Dennis W. Johnson, Springfield pastor. Tiara Zuzzo was maid of honor, and Phil Staiano was best man. The couple live in White Plains, New York.



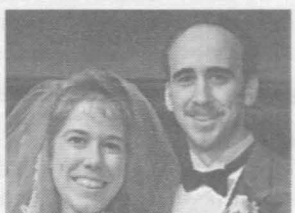
MR. & MRS. JASON ARENBURG

Karen Janan Pelley, daughter of Dennis and Lorraine Pelley of Pasadena, and Jason Obed Arenburg, son of Robert and Carole Arenburg of Attleboro, Massachusetts, were united in marriage June 14. The ceremony was performed by the bride's father, Pasadena East P.M. associate pastor. Lisa Pelley, sister of the bride, was maid of honor, and J.K. Livingston was best man. The couple live in Attleboro.



MR. & MRS. TYRONNE DEVOTA

Patrick and Bernie Wijesuriya of Tawatte, Sri Lanka, are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Dilrukshi to Tyronne Devota, son of Ophelia Devota of Bambalapatiya, Sri Lanka. The ceremony was performed Aug. 25 by Donald Peiris, a local church elder in the Colombo, Sri Lanka, church. Anoja Wijesuriya, sister of the bride, was maid of honor, and Kumar Paul was best man. The couple live in Bambalapatiya.



MR. & MRS. BRIAN HAWK

Sara J. Border and Brian C. Hawk, both of Canton, Ohio, were united in marriage May 3. The ceremony was performed by the groom's father, Walter Hawk, a minister in the Canton church. Cathy Anderson was matron of honor, and David Hawk was best man. The couple live in Wooster, Ohio.

ANNIVERSARIES



MR. & MRS. WALT LANDON

Walt and Enid Landon of Sheridan, Oregon, celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary Oct. 12. They were surprised with a reception at the Feast in Pentecost, British Columbia. They have two sons, Ron and Phil; one daughter, Linda Bates; one son-in-law, Jeff Bates; 10 grandchildren; and one great-grandson.



MR. & MRS. DONALD LEAVELL

Donald and Anna Leavell of Montgomery, Alabama, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary June 7. They have two sons, David and Paul; one daughter, Jane; one daughter-in-law, Angela; and one grandchild, Casie. Mr. Leavell is a deacon in the Montgomery church.



MR. & MRS. FRANK MUEHLBAUER

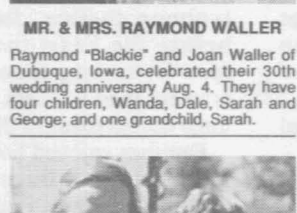
Frank and Bernice Muehlbauer of Royalton, Minnesota, celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary Aug. 19. They have

four daughters, Karen, Sharon, Jean and Rita; four sons-in-law, David Noller, Sam McGhee, Mark Lieser and Jim Ollia; and seven grandchildren. Mr. and Mrs. Muehlbauer serve as deacon and deaconess in the Brainerd, Minnesota, church.



MR. & MRS. CARLOS MCGUIRE

Carlos and Louise McGuire of Victoria, Texas, celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary July 19. They have three children, Vickoy, Steven and Sandra; and two grandchildren.



MR. & MRS. RAYMOND WALLER

Raymond "Blackie" and Joan Waller of Dubuque, Iowa, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary Aug. 4. They have four children, Wanda, Dale, Sarah and George; and one grandchild, Sarah.



MR. & MRS. LLOYD CHUBBS

Lloyd and Anna Mary Chubbs celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary Sept. 9. They have four children, Scott, Shawn, Jody and Trevor.



MR. & MRS. HAROLD MCCORMICK

Harold and Thelma McCormick of Marble Hill, Missouri, celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary Sept. 21. They have four sons, David, Mark, Brad and Shannon; two daughters, Gaylene and Cheryl; two daughters-in-law, Sherry and Polly; two sons-in-law, Eddie Benfield and Milton Douglas; four grandsons; and three granddaughters.



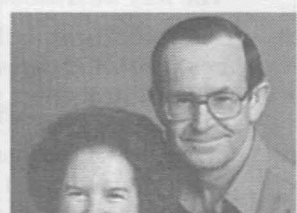
MR. & MRS. GAIL ALLWINE

Gail and Karen Allwine of Spokane, Washington, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary May 25. They have two sons, Tim and Stephen; and one daughter, Dorothy.



MR. & MRS. CHARLES WAGERLE

Charles and Marcella Wagerle of Wichita, Kansas, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary June 28. They have four daughters, one son, two sons-in-law, one daughter-in-law and seven grandchildren.



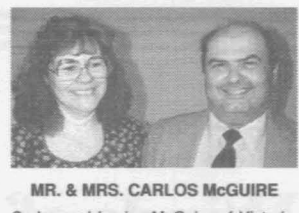
MR. & MRS. JOHN PREVO

John and Mary Prevo of Granbury, Texas, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary Oct. 12. They have one son, Jon; two daughters, Elizabeth Misner and Tammy; one daughter-in-law, Dora; one son-in-law, Ivan Misner; and two grandchildren, Nathan and Cassandra.



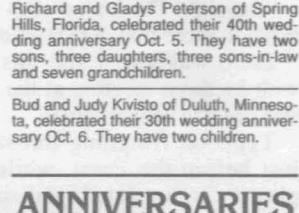
MR. & MRS. GENE WATKINS

Gene and Barbara Watkins of Baker, Oregon, celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary Aug. 17. Ontario brethren honored them with a reception Aug. 7. The Watkinses have one daughter and three sons. Mr. Watkins is the associate pastor of the Baker and Ontario, Oregon, and Boise, Idaho, churches.



MR. & MRS. KYLE RICHARDS

Kyle and Patty Richards of Clarksburg, West Virginia, celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary May 3. They have two daughters, Christy and Janet Farrell; one son-in-law, Robert; and one granddaughter.



MR. & MRS. JIM HARRISON

Jim and Roberta Harrison of San Jacinto, California, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Oct. 26. They have three children, Jim (deceased), Nancy and Patty; one son-in-law, Jim Guss; one daughter-in-law, Joanne Harrison; nine grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.



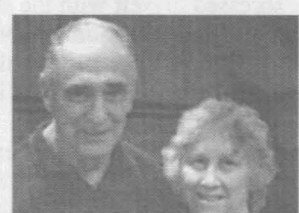
MR. & MRS. SAM REEVES

Sam and Hazel Reeves of Palm Springs, California, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 20. Banning, California, brethren honored them with cake and refreshments. They have three children, 11 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.



MR. & MRS. IRA LUFFMAN

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Luffman of Port St. Lucie, Florida, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Aug. 8. Port St. Lucie brethren honored them with a reception. The Luffmans have one son, Rick; one daughter-in-law, Christine; and two granddaughters, Jennifer and Johanna.



MR. & MRS. EUGENE REIS

Gene and Dot Reis of West Orange, New Jersey, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Aug. 21. Their two daughters, Cynthia Whyte and Amy; two sons, Stephen and Kenneth; and four grandchildren gathered with Gene at Dot's bedside to celebrate their milestone anniversary. Mrs. Reis died of cancer Sept. 9.



MR. & MRS. EDWARD SANDERS

Edward "Bud" and Ruby Lea Sanders celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Sept. 6. They have three daughters, Billie Sue McNair, Bobbie Morgan and Nancy Bald; seven grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren. Mr. and Mrs. Sanders serve as deacon and deaconess in the Victoria, Texas, church.

PERSONAL

(Continued from page 9)

that sin before they can have a positive relationship with God.

In other words, we can't run away from God or from our spiritual problems by leaving the Church. We still have to face our sins and overcome them, regardless of where we may try to hide.

Some people leave the Church because they are looking for greater opportunities for leadership or advancement, which they hope to find in another church.

If their motivation is selfish, that is, if they are seeking status and recognition, regardless of where they decide to attend they will *still* have to deal with that selfishness before they can have a positive relationship with God—before their increased level of service will be meaningful.

Growth in new teachings

On the subject of spiritual growth, I have tried to explain carefully every doctrinal change we have made (though I am amazed to find that of the few who have decided to leave the Church, many have never actually *read* or even tried to understand the details of the new teaching—they have only listened to the interpretation that others have put on it).

I have explained that Christ holds me responsible to let the Bible, not just our traditional teachings, be the guide and conscience of all our doctrines and practices. That is also what Mr. Armstrong believed and taught.

The growth God gives us comes from the Bible. As I have explained many times, the Church of God cannot help but be a self-correcting Church if it is responsive to the Bible.

The Bible demands that we be honest with ourselves, and that we admit our shortcomings and correct them. *This is a process that will continue until Christ returns.*

Yet, we also need to realize that not everyone can fully understand every change all at once. Even so, we can still have, indeed we must have, unity in those things that really matter.

What is it that really matters? Again, we must go to the Bible for the answer.

The Bible tells us what the bottom line is—but *like most every other church on earth, we don't like to believe it.* In our humanity, we like to be right on every single little point, and we don't like to tolerate people who don't agree.

But the Bible says that the real difference between true Christians and false Christians is whether they *believe* that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, the promised Messiah sent by God to die for our sins, who was resurrected to the right hand of God the Father, and who is the Lord of our lives and is coming again to judge the nations.

That's the bottom line! When a person believes that, *really believes* that, it completely changes his or her life. God gives that repentant person his Spirit.

The new child of God may not fully understand every doctrine. That person may have all kinds of personal ups and downs, lots of lessons to learn, lots of shortcomings and a long way to go

spiritually, but he or she is a Christian.

That's not just my definition, friends. That's what the Bible says. Do we believe the Bible, or do we believe what *we want* to believe?

John made it quite plain when he described obedience to the commands of God: "Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God and receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him. And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us" (1 John 3:21-23). That's the plain truth.

What believing really means

Believing on the name of the Son of God means you know Jesus Christ is not just another man, *but is God.* It means knowing that you are a sinner and that God has provided atonement for your sin by sending his Son as a human being.

It means knowing he has a claim on your life and that you owe your life to him. It means knowing that all he said about himself is true, and that God gives you eternal life by his grace

by grace through faith in Jesus Christ—and set up a *substitute* system of achieving eternal life only for a select group of those who acquired special secret knowledge.

That established a two-tiered hierarchy: those who had this knowledge and those who didn't—those who were "spiritual" and those who weren't.

All this led to a sort of caste system in which those who thought themselves spiritual looked down on others in contempt. And such caste systems don't die easily.

John was pointing out that the very essence of right belief, which necessarily results in obedience to Jesus' command that we love one another, lies in the fact that Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our redemption, *is indeed God!*

John wrote in 1 John 5:20: "We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true. And we are in him who is true—even in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life."

Responsibility to understand

We have also commonly referred to 1 John 2:19 as a way

with those who disagree with us on peripheral issues, as well as with those who are not believers at all. Jude wrote, "Be merciful to those who doubt" (Jude 22).

In the context of unity in spite of differences, Paul wrote to the Romans: "May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God" (Romans 15:5-7).

Jesus set the example for all those who follow him. He accepted us in spite of our sinfulness and our weaknesses. Paul calls that fact to our attention, and in light of it tells us to accept one another.

A malicious spirit divides

There is a different kind of spirit, though, that we do have to take note of and avoid in fellowship: Those who are contentious, divisive and malicious.

John spoke of one who was like that in 3 John 10: "So if I come, I will call attention to what he is doing, gossiping maliciously about us. Not satisfied with

As Jesus Christ leads us to grow, there will be those who are not ready for that growth. Let's not make enemies of them. Let's not condemn them. Let's love them, pray for them, be gentle and patient with them.

through faith in his Son.

It means that you are obligated to obey him, and that means that you will love your brother and your sister. And it means you will join the work of spreading that good news.

John wrote that the purpose of his Gospel was "that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name" (John 20:31). *How can we treat others as enemies who believe that?*

We have often used John's instruction in his second epistle as a reason to sever all contact with those who do not agree with us on every doctrinal point.

John wrote in 2 John 10-11: "If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not take him into your house or welcome him. Anyone who welcomes him shares in his wicked work." What teaching is John talking about?

Verses 5-7 give the answer: Those who do not continue in Jesus' commandment to love one another, and those who do not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh.

John was referring to Gnostic heretics who denied the true messiahship of Jesus. Some of these heretics taught that Jesus was a man upon whom the Christ came, rather than that Jesus was one person who was both God and man.

Others taught that Jesus' body was not a real body. In other words, these were dangerous heretics who taught that Jesus was not really a man at all, but only a spirit who appeared as a man.

These teachings *destroyed* the very essence of the truth about God's personal sacrificial love for humanity—salvation for sin-

ners by grace through faith in Jesus Christ—and set up a *substitute* system of achieving eternal life only for a select group of those who acquired special secret knowledge.

What John is telling us is that when we *really* believe in these fundamental, *clearly stated* truths about Jesus Christ taught throughout the New Testament, the more obscure details of doctrine become far less important than Jesus' command that we love one another. *That means that God is infinitely more interested in how we treat one another than in how we define a word!*

That doesn't mean that details aren't important too. We have a responsibility to the truth as we understand it. We have to face up to our errors and change them.

But when we let explanations of doctrine become more important to us than Jesus' command to love one another, then our understanding is in vain!

We need to teach correct doctrine, and we need to *live* correct doctrine. The fact that a person doesn't understand some point of doctrine in the same way you or I do is *not* proof positive they are not converted.

So, how do we treat those who have left to attend in other churches? With love. *We should know what we believe and why!* And we should be prepared to explain and discuss that.

But *how* we explain and discuss is important! It needs to be done in *love, gentleness and respect.*

Peter wrote in 1 Peter 3:15: "In your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect."

If we indeed set apart Christ as Lord, we will take this approach

that, he refuses to welcome the brothers. He also stops those who want to do so and puts them out of the church."

It is that malicious spirit that creates the dividing line between those with whom we may fellowship and those with whom we should not.

The Spirit of God—Jesus Christ in us—leads us to love one another, to be patient with one another, to be merciful. Only when spiritual damage is being done in the Body of Christ, usually in the form of contentiousness, flagrant or habitual ungodliness, or malicious division, do we need to take positive action to avoid a person.

Paul wrote: "I am writing you that you must not associate with anyone who calls himself a brother but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or a slanderer, a drunkard or a swindler. With such a man do not even eat" (1 Corinthians 5:11).

As Jesus Christ leads us to grow, there will be those who are not ready for that growth. Let's not make enemies of them. Let's not condemn them. Let's love them, pray for them, be gentle and patient with them.

We should not, indeed, we *must* not stop growing. But one vital, fundamental aspect of the growth God is giving us is to realize that he commands us to love one another! God does not demand that we agree on every little point of doctrine.

But he does demand that we have unity in Christ—and that unity revolves around true belief in who Jesus was and is, and what God has done for us and all humanity through him—and that belief is evidenced by our love for one another!

Jesus said: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I

have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" (John 13:34-35).

When we bite and devour one another, when we accuse, criticize and condemn one another, we are hardly loving one another.

Committed to truth

"So why should we change our teachings if the particular teaching is not essential to salvation anyway?" someone might ask.

Because it is wrong to keep on teaching God's people something that the Bible shows to be incorrect, no matter how significant or insignificant it might seem to be. As God's people, we are committed to truth.

We cannot keep on teaching an error once we see that it is indeed an error. However, as I have explained above, nor should we condemn, criticize and make enemies of those who are not yet able to see the error God has led us to see.

Our brethren are committed, faithful people. They believe what they believe because that is what the Church has taught. But sometimes, the Church has come to see that what it taught on some point was wrong.

But it is not easy for everybody to suddenly say, "Oh, I see. What I have believed for all these years was wrong. Now I should believe it this way." That can be especially hard when the new teaching is similar to what they used to believe in their former church.

There can be a certain, very real, emotional barrier that gets in the way even though the actual explanation may make perfect sense.

Reach out with understanding and love

But let's learn to pray for those who have a difficult time and reach out to them in patience, understanding and loving concern.

As I say, if they decide they need to attend elsewhere, then let them go as friends, not enemies. God's way is not the slanderous, antagonistic, contentious, belligerent or bitter way.

I pray, as I know you do, that we will all continue to grow in the love of God. I am grieved to see anyone become upset, confused or disenchanted with what God is doing in his Church.

Yet I know that Jesus Christ is at work in his Church, and that I must follow his lead. I am deeply grateful that God has seen fit to show us our shortcomings and lead us into growth and positive change.

God's mercy is everlasting, and how thankful we can be that he loves us enough to correct us and never stop working with us!

This is a wonderful and exciting time to be in the Church of God! How sad it is to see a brother or sister go somewhere else because he or she cannot see what God is doing here.

Let's all pray for the success of the new community service program (see page 1) that will get under way in the Reseda, California, congregation this month.

Pray that we will learn from the experience so that we can make the adjustments necessary to make each new program even more successful than the previous!

NEWS OF PEOPLE, PLACES & EVENTS IN THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

UPDATE

Washington, D.C., church to celebrate 25th anniversary

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The church here will celebrate its 25th anniversary April 10.

Activities planned are a Sabbath service with a guest speaker from headquarters, a fellowship and cake cutting hour, a catered dinner and a dance.

Ministers who have served in the Washington area and members who have moved from the area are invited to attend the celebration.

For further information and dinner-dance reservations write **Helen Coleman** at 305 Loureiro Lane, Oxen Hill, Maryland, 20745-1546, or call her at 1-301-567-9027.

Outreach helps battle dystrophy

TYLER, Texas—Thirty-six students from Ambassador Outreach appeared on late-night KLTV in Tyler Sept. 7, answering phones for the 27th Muscular Dystrophy Association Jerry Lewis Labor Day telethon.

The shifts were from midnight to 2 a.m., and 4 to 6 a.m., Monday. This is the second year Ambassador students have participated in the telethon.

"We were impressed that you had so many people come last year and that you're back this year," said **Carol Biggs**, secretary and bookkeeper for the MDA district office in Tyler. "We couldn't operate without volunteers like the ones from Ambassador."

Gayle Prejean, regional director of MDA, commented on the students' enthusiasm and professional appearance. "You all added a lot of class to the set," she said.

The KLTV broadcast covered 20 counties of East Texas. Twenty pledge centers called in their totals to the regional telethon headquarters at the Tyler Broadway Square Mall, where KLTV had set up a temporary studio.

"Since Outreach is a community service organization, we were extremely happy to join MDA in serving that special segment of our community by responding to telephone calls from donors," said **Chad Bullock**, Outreach president.

MDA's services in Tyler include providing wheelchairs, subsidizing medical costs and sponsoring summer camps for patients with neuromuscular diseases.

Royal hoops to hit East Texas radio waves

BIG SANDY—Ambassador College basketball games will air on KEEES radio, 1430 AM, Longview, and KYZS radio, 1490 AM, Tyler, during the 1992-93 season.

Thomas Delamater, director of Development & College Relations at Ambassador, and **Matthew Williams**, president of KEEES TalkRadio, which operates both stations, broadcasting identical programming, made the announcement Aug. 31.

"I think this program will benefit not only the East Texas community

but also the students and the entire college," said Mr. Delamater.

"Certainly it will enhance the college's presence in cities like Tyler and Longview, as well as add to the enthusiasm and school spirit of the student body.

Announcers for the broadcasts are junior **Anthony Mullins** and sophomore **Todd Woods**.

"I think it will do a lot for the players and teams themselves," said **Gil Norman**, athletic director at Ambassador College. "It will inspire them to do the maximum good both in skill and sportsmanship."

Ambassador College, which is paying for its time on KEEES and KYZS, is seeking business sponsorship to help offset the cost.

Geneva church celebrates 25th anniversary

GENEVA, Alabama—Three hundred five brethren celebrated Geneva's 25th anniversary Sept. 5.

Guest speaker at Sabbath services was evangelist **Gerald Waterhouse**. Activities after services were an hors d'oeuvres reception, comments from visiting ministers, a dance and a fish fry on Sunday.

Columbia church celebrates 25th anniversary

COLUMBIA, South Carolina—The church here celebrated its 25th anniversary July 4.

During Sabbath services a videotape from Pastor General **Joseph W. Tkach** congratulated Columbia on its 25th anniversary.

Joel Lillengreen, Portland, Oregon, East and West pastor, was guest speaker at Sabbath services.

Activities were a chicken barbecue, a slide presentation about the history of the Columbia church

World Tomorrow Program

TELEVISION STATION

UPDATES

New Stations

| Station/Location | Air Time | Channel |
|--------------------------|------------------|---------|
| KWWL Cedar Rapids, Iowa | Sunday 10 a.m. | 7 |
| WCBS New York City, N.Y. | Sunday 7 a.m. | 2 |
| WDAF Kansas City, Mo. | Sunday 6:30 a.m. | 4 |
| WTKR Norfolk, Va. | Sunday 8:30 a.m. | 3 |
| KELO, Sioux Falls, S.D. | Sunday 6:30 a.m. | 11 |
| WFSB Hartford, Conn. | Sunday 8 a.m. | 3 |
| WJKA Wilmington, N.C. | Sunday 8 a.m. | 26 |
| WPTA Fort Wayne, Ind. | Sunday 8 a.m. | 21 |

Renewals

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|----|
| KALB Alexandria, La. | Sunday 9:30 a.m. | 5 |
| KBTX Waco, Tex. | Sunday 7:30 a.m. | 3 |
| KCBS Los Angeles | Sunday 6:30 a.m. | 2 |
| KJAC Beaumont, Tex. | Sunday 8 a.m. | 4 |
| KOLR Springfield, Mo. | Sunday 9:30 a.m. | 10 |

and a coffee, cake and punch reception.

Church employee tours Deaf Missions

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Iowa—**Dave Barnett**, a minister and an employee of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Department, toured Deaf Missions here July 3.

Founded in 1970, Deaf Missions is an organization supported by donations from individuals, churches and other organizations.

In 1982 Deaf Missions started a project translating the entire Bible into American Sign Language (ASL) so it could be understood by the majority of deaf people in the United States, Canada and other countries using ASL.

"Our main purpose in visiting Deaf Missions was to better the

methods for our work in translating the Church's booklets from English to ASL and producing them into the sign language videotapes excluding the voice," Mr. Barnett said.

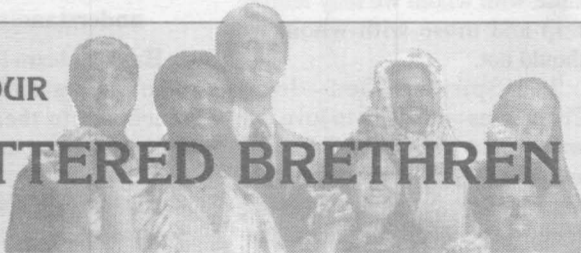
"Deaf and hard of hearing brethren can better understand God's true word in their native language, ASL. English is a foreign language for most deaf people," he added. "They need to see the Bible in ASL, which is their cultural language."

So far Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services has produced for deaf brethren two videotapes covering ASL Bible studies, biblical phrases and the booklet, *Why You Should Be Baptized*.

Two other booklets, *Statement of Beliefs* and *What Is the True Gospel?*, are being translated into ASL.

FROM OUR

SCATTERED BRETHREN



"That He would gather together in one the children of God who were scattered abroad." (John 11:52)

What was it like to be a staff member at the 1992 SEP camp in Malawi?

By **Paulene Rogers**

BLANTYRE, Malawi—Barbara Simon and I boarded South African Airways, Thursday, Sept. 3, with great anticipation. It was time to set off to Africa's warm heart of Malawi for the two-week Summer Educational Program.

Paulene Rogers and Barbara Simon attend the Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, church.

We were looking forward to one week with youths in Blantyre, and one week at beautiful Lake Malawi, Africa's third largest lake.

The word *Malawi*, which means "many flames of fire," has an interesting origin. As fishermen sat in dugout canoes they saw the sunset reflected on the water as flames of fire. *Lawi* means flame, and *Ma* is plural.

Explorer David Livingstone discovered the inland sea here, larger than many countries, and the picturesque island mountains with a people so welcom-

ing. No wonder Malawi is known as "the warm heart of Africa."

Learning new skills

The SEP program began Sept. 6 in Blantyre. Meeting on Church property were 28 campers and seven staff, including Bill Whitaker, Blantyre pastor, and Gardner Kunje, a local church elder.

Monday through Friday was filled with crafts, sports and council. Crafts included completely new skills for the students, taught by Mrs. Simon. Campers used fabric paints to create original T-shirts.

We decided that the camp emblem be a map of Malawi, silhouetted by a warm sun. The words *Malawi SEP 1992* outlined the entire picture in the national flag colors of black, red and green.

Many enjoyed carving wood and leatherwork. While half of the group tested their skills at crafts, the other half learned ball sports.

During previous camps, ball sports laid a good foundation for this year, when campers endeavored to learn the finer rules of professional volleyball and netball.

Evenings were filled with culture. Learning to ballroom dance

was strange at first, but by the end of the first week in Blantyre, the campers were gliding around the floor doing dances such as the cha-cha, fox-trot, waltz and swing. What a pleasant reward as their instructor.

Lake Malawi: overwhelming

Halfway during the program campers and staff boarded a bus for the four-hour trip to Lake Malawi. Some had not visited the lake.

The setting was overwhelming. The sun was hot, the water clear, the beaches golden and etched with palm trees. Fish eagles called from a baobab tree.

Mike Macgraw, a U.S. volunteer from the Peace Corps, taught us about the importance of protecting the natural environment.

He emphasized that each living creature depends on its surroundings and how man, through his

own greed, is slowly killing himself by destroying everything around him.

The national park protects marine life in the tropical, deep-water, rift-valley lake. In masks, snorkels and fins, we marveled at the underwater pageantry.

Some of the 400 species of male fish attracted the females to their crater-like nests with dazzling colorful dances.

Steep climb

The optional hike was most challenging. It was a steep climb to the highest plateau in the park. Getting to the top, a sheer rock, took a tremendous amount of perseverance.

Among other new activities were Frisbee football, catch the flags, night walks and boat trips to islands.

Back in Blantyre we prepared for a Saturday evening awards



SEP IN SOUTHERN AFRICA—SEP campers marveled at the underwater pageantry in Lake Malawi.

banquet. The banquet and formal dance was certainly a fine way to end the 1992 SEP camp.

The trip to Malawi was most inspiring to both Mrs. Simon and myself.

Never before had either of us encountered a group of people so willing to learn, thankful, warm and extremely humble. It was also a wonderful opportunity to see this beautiful country.



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