

The National Handshake

As One That Serves

Issue No. 17

Christmas Edition

December 1990

Fear not:

*for behold, I bring you
good tidings of great joy,
which shall be to all
people.*

*For unto you you is born
this day in the city of
David a Saviour, which is
Christ the Lord.*

Luke 2:10-11 KJV

A Joyus Christmas

Coming Events in 1991

Convention 91(see insert)

Alberta Round Up

B.C. Round Up

Ontario Round Up

Tri County Round Up

Toronto Presbytery Rally

Celebration of Faith B.C.

Pancake Breakfasts

Prayer Breakfasts

Stanhope Men's Conference

Banff Men's Conference

And Much Much More!

Watch for Dates Places and Speakers
in the the Handsake

A Happy New Year

Annual Meeting Success

For this edition of the Handshake, I would like to report to you on the Annual Meeting of the National Council as seen through my eyes. The event took place at Westworth United

Moderator

**Walter Farquarson
attends Annual Meeting**

Church, Winnipeg, Manitoba., October 26-28 with most beautiful weather no doubt to compensate for the blizzard of two years ago. The meetings were positive throughout with the theme being "AOTS on the Nineties." On Friday we had the normal reports of Officers and Commit-

Answers were Open and Honest

tees. Based on what I heard, AOTS is alive and well! In the evening there was an open session with a presentation

by the Moderator entitled "The Men of the Church in the Nineties". A lively question and answer period followed. I found this evening session pleasingly refreshing as answers were open and



President Bob Lewis (r) welcomes Moderator Walter Farquarson(l)

honest, without attempts to justify "Toronto Tower" actions.

Saturday saw more regular business, but a large block was allocated for planning for the nineties.. Many ideas were put forward and we hope to work

on them in the ensuing months. The feeling continues in the direction of moving closer to Clubs not affiliated with AOTS. We need to change in our ways to achieve greater unity. A short session on Sunday

AOTS is Alive and Well!

saw more regular business and new ideas. Many of the activities of the week end are reported in more detail in the ensuing pages. My thanks to all those attending and especially our AOTS friends and supporters in Winnipeg for their real fine hosting.

Winnipeg AOTS Excellent Hosts.

President Bob Reporting





Happy Anniversary Consecon

80 men celebrate 30 yrs of AOTS. It was a wonderful night of fellowship, food, and song. Rev Donald Pipe was guest speaker. Don was the Minister at Consecon when AOTS was born there. Reg Cooper Central Vice President and Ken Lane represented National.. Thanks for the photo fellows . It will be run soon.

Bellville Presbytery
AOTS Round-Up
Nov. 24-1990
at Stirling Ontario

The Travelling Cross And Gavel

Richard Macdiarmid(r) President of Park Street AOTS, Chatam Ont. presents these symbols of fellowship to Charles Mc Ritchie, President of the North Kent AOTS Club. It will be later passed on in turn to each 12 Tri County Clubs. Initiated in the sixties with the gavel only the tradition waned. When reinstated with a Cross the last gavel turned up.. The visiting Club brings the devotional the host club the meal and program. In tri-county there is yet another tradition which has several clubs going along to the meeting. Without a doubt this is AOTS fellowship in operation..



Lloyd Clark reporting

Music Night In Sterling

Sid Bagnall and his 45 member Taylor Place Choir entertained some 325 music lovers. All but one club in the Bay of Quinte Conference called it a night to be remembered as they enjoyed fellowship and song in the Sterling theatre.

Craig Watson
Conference AOTS Pres Reporting

Kicked off the season with a corn roast and barbecue

St. Pauls Oakville

on Sat. Sept. 8 which was open to all adults of the congregation. Mr. William Bremmer, Finance Officer of the Division of Mission for Canada attended. The speaker for the regular Oct. 19th meeting

was expected to be Mr. Howie Mills, General Secretary of the United Church of Canada.

Editor's Note. Please share this presentation and the ensuing question and answer period with the rest of us.

United Church AOTS Men's Clubs Ontario RoundUp 1991 April 19-21

National YMCA Conference Centre, Geneva Park

Theme Speaker

Dr, Bill Kitto
BA, MA, M Div, DD.
A challenging Theme
"Growing Into Love"



A Men's Conference Is your life rich and fulfilling?

There is only one joy that gives meaning to all others

*True Love is to Know
The Love that God imparts
True Love is to show
That Love to other hearts*

*True Love gives and gives
Come see for your self
Try it ! It works
Go For it !*

The Hall of Honour



Two Ontario AOTSERS were granted Life Memberships in appreciation of excellent service. Gordon Hall (left) culminated his AOTS career as National President. Many and varied were his accomplishments within not the least of which was the title "Champion". It was all in the name of an AOTS cause of course. This National honour was closely followed by a life membership in his home club St. James Rosemount on Oct16. Bob Brewster (L)President of Toronto Conference AOTS with Gordon Mowat(Right) the other deserving Ontario server who joins this august group. He also has served faithfully at many levels of AOTS.

He is still custodian of the AOTS flags and banners that grace Ontario and National functions.. For many years he acted as official photographer at these and other AOTS functions.





United Church of Canada Scouting Award



Above is John Carswell President of South Burnaby United AOTS presenting this award to Gwen Morse and Keith Stainton who is a club member.

The recipients receive a lapel pin and a parchment signed by the moderator.

A nominee will be a person who:

1. has given noteworthy service to the United Church through scouting.
2. is an active participant in the work and worship of his or her church.
3. actively has encouraged participation in the Religion and Life programs
4. has given leadership in the initiation and or support of projects (locally or regionally) which enhance the partnership between the United Church of Canada and Scouts of Canada.

Application forms may be obtained from

**Youth Ministries, 85 St Clair Ave. E., Toronto Ont.
M4T 1M8**

Vancouver Island Reorganizes

A report from the nominating committee of this long standing District Council stated that they were unable to fill the offices of the Executive for District Council. On Motion by Ernest Stafford, seconded by Keith MacDonald that each of the active clubs be asked to conduct the District Council and appoint a Secretary for that meeting.

Discussion was held and it was decided that they would meet 4 times a year Host Club to provide devotional distribute minutes and the finances for any expenses. This in lieu of Annual dues to District Council. The past signing officers to continue until the next meeting to be held at Esquimalt United Church Oct. 19, 1990..

Alf Lloyd Reporting

Leadership Change in B.C.

Jack Shenton has taken charge of this AOTS Conference. His statement follows:

Vision-1991

We will continue working, providing Christian fellowship for men, and service to our church. B.C. men are promoting greater service in our church across Canada through the publishing of

the news letter, "The Handshake". In this we share ideas and achievements. The editor is Bill Hastings, who is also our National Archivist.

Every year we hold conferences and gatherings which stimulate new "highs" and "deeper understanding" through sharing experiences in Christian Fellowship. There is the Celebration of Faith held at Trinity Western University in Langley under the chairmanship of Bill Pike. We continue to hold the original "Round Up." a weekend conference among member churches.

**Celbration
of Faith
May 24-25-26
Speaker
Bernard
Handley**

In October there is the week end Banff Conference featuring such outstanding speakers as Herbert O'Driscoll. Held jointly with Alberta, Saskatchewan plus a few attending from Manitoba. In 1991 the revolving Chairmanship is under Bill Cumming of South Burnaby AOTS. The speaker will be our own beloved Irishman come Canadian. the Rev George Morrison.

The AOTS challenges men to take an active role in the church. We seek fellowship, inspiration shared hopes and dreams, and fun under our Lord and Master Jesus Christ. We are Christian Men in Fellowship. We would love to hear from you.

There follows a list of names and phone numbers of men who are available for help.

At a meeting held on Nov. 24th names and the positions they would fill on an interim basis until the election at the Round Up in March were put forward. The read as follows

**B.C. Round Up
March 9
9 A.M. to 8 P.M.
Speaker
Rev. Chaucey
MacKay.**

President of B.C. Jack Shenton-----856-4959
Temporary Vice President of lower mianland. Jack Shenton
184-3665-244th St.
Langley B.C.
V3A 4P6

Past President Ken Martin-----433-6199
Treasurer John Carswell(-----430-4616
Handshake Bill Hastings -----858-3726
Roy Jones Vice-Pres, Vancouver Island -----384-4640
Bill Pike Chairman Celebration of Faith -----534-9128
Bill Cumming(Banff Men's Conference)-----433-5106
Bill Cumming Vice President Interior of B.C.-----433-5106

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Bible N Prayers

Lament ToThe Lord

The've brought you up to date, Lord,
down at St. Cecelia's
They've pensioned off the organ, and
they're praising with guitars.
They've done it for the young ones they
want to draw them in,
But I do wish they could worship with-
out making such a din,
For I'm growing rather deaf, Lord, and
when there's all that noise,
It gets so very hard, Lord, to hear your
loving voice.
They've written brand new hymns Lord,
with tunes that I don't know,
So I hardly ever sing now, though I did
love singing so,
They're very go-ahead, Lord, they're do-
ing "Series Three,"
But the words are not so beautiful as the
others used to be.
They've modernized the Bible and
Lord's Prayer and the Creed,
When the old ones were so perfect that
they filled my every need.
My mind's not quite so agile as it was
some years ago
And I miss the age-old beauty of the
words I used to know.
Its very clear to me, Lord, I've over-
stayed my time:
I don't take change so kindly as I did
when in my prime.
But it can't be very long now before I'm
called above,
And now I'll find you there Lord and
glory in your love.
So till then I'll stick it out here though its
not the same to me
But while others call you You, Lord do
you mind if I say Thee? Mavis Clark

"Gesthemane Peace of Surrender" Scripture Matthew 26:36

"Then Jesus went with His disciples to a
place called Gesthemane, and he said to
them, "Sit here while I go over there and
pray."

Somehow I think it was quiet in the
garden of Gethsemane when the Master
went there to face the destiny that
awaited him. How wrong we are to think
that spiritual crises must be marked by
noise and excitement: that the place of
surrender must resound to the crack of

the whip as the preacher flogs the people
of God. At the hour of the greatest
spiritual crisis of all time. It was to a
place of quietness that He came.

Luke 22:42

"Then he went off from them about a
stones throw and prayed.
"Father," he said, "if you will take this
cup of suffering away from me. Not my
will, however, but your will be done.
Then the Son of God, the son of Man
went a little bit farther into the stillness of
the garden until he came to a place where
the sound of a falling leaf might have
been heard, or even the sob of a breaking
heart. He was alone."

Have you ever come to that place where
every other voice has died away into
silence so that you may hear that One
voice- "Not My will, but Thine be done"?

The coming of peace between nations
means the cessation of war. The nature of
the struggle in the Garden of Gethsemane
has depths beyond our understanding.
But a desperate struggle took place there
to make the Son of God sweat in agony
of prayer like that. But then with an
obedience that was unquestioning and
unreserved, the battle stopped and the
prayer ceased with the words. "Not My
will, but Thine be done."

Is peace absent from all our
hearts and lives to-day because the battle
is still on? Perhaps it has been going on
for weeks, for days, or for years, for far
too long! And all the time the struggle
has continued there has been no peace.
Would it not be wonderful if the battle
stopped to-day and we entered into the
peace of surrender! It would be so simple
even though so costly, to say what Jesus
said in the garden of Gethsemane. "Not
my will but thine, be done." Say it as an
AOTS member now. Then you will know
the peace that comes through surrender.

Gil Reashore

South Porcupine Ont.

Chairman 1991 Ontario RoundUP

Editor S. Porcupine News Letter

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A4P 3C7



A Successful Club

Part V

The Agenda

by John Carswell

At meetings there must be an evident
Agenda. Things are done for a purpose.
If you are working for the betterment of
the Scout movement then devote your at-
tention to that area. If it be any one
agenda such as fixing the buildings, pro-
viding strength for people, or teaching in
the Christian education field then work
toward that cause. Many clubs fail to
function properly due to the lack of an
agenda. One that has not been thought out
carefully, or one that only one person has
decided upon.

Share ideas, thoughts, opinions. Make it
a combined effort so all will feel they had
a part in the formation of the agenda and
help to make it work

John Carswell

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Rise Up Oh Men of God! Nominations

Yes it is that time again !

Clare Bailey is Chairman of the National Nominations Committee. Read what he has to say and substitute, club, council, conference for the organization for which you are the nomination Chairman. There follows a list of the National Officers to be nominated and voted on at the Convention at the University of Windsor August 1-3 1991.

President Elect

Treasurer

Recording Secretary

3 Vice Presidents

Western-Central-Eastern

Standing Committee Chairmen

Church and Community Service

Fellowship & Membership

Spiritual Life & Leadership

Constitution

Convention

Finance

Nominating

Rise up Oh Men Of God
Be done with lesser things
Give heart and soul
and mind and strength
to serve the King of Kings.

Each club, each council has need for men to take on the leadership role. There is always a shortage of volunteer leaders despite the fact that there exists a wealth of talent in AOTS

membership across this Nation. In Matthew 5:14 Jesus describes leaders by saying "You are the light of the whole world." Paul in first Corinthians 12:14 reminds us of the nature of leadership qualities by stating: "There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same spirit gives them. If the AOTS movement is to continue to be a major avenue of service for men of the United Church of Canada it is our responsibility to elect men whose desire and commitment will provide vibrant leadership in this new decade and beyond.

Clare Bailey

Chairman National Nominations

43 Valleyview Drive

Winnipeg, Manitoba

R2Y 0R5

Phone Collect 204-837-2612

Nominee and Sponsors(2)

Must be members of a AOTS club in good standing, an Individual or Life Member.

All applications to be signed by all concerned. No floor nominations. at National Convention



New Publications Song Book

It was reported at the Annual meeting that the revised AOTS Song Book will soon be published. Master minded by our honorary President Sid Bagnall for what is believed the third edition it will be a boon to club sing alongs.



Hand Book Approved

The National executive gave the go ahead and print sign to the publica-

tions committee. This latest hand book is being prepared by Dave Brewster President of the Toronto Conference AOTS Council. With 20 years experience at this kind of work we can look forward to an excellent publication in 91.

Casualty Report



Our Current Executive Secretary, Al Smith has suffered multiple fractures suffered in an automobile accident.

The reports read like an orthopaedics night mare or dream? Al is most grateful for the cards and calls. He is now home and is reported to be champing at the bit to get back into action.

Phil Spence is recovering from multiple operations for a nonmalignant brain tumor. Phil complains that his commands to his



various appendages are ignored at times but that with the use of a walkers and determined concentration he is mobile. He has plans to show up at Windsor..

God help and protect these two dear friends of ours. Our prayers go out to both of them

The Handshake is Alive

The Editor and staff are very pleased to be a part of this excellent line of communication. Reports and notices are coming in from all across the Nation and we are thankful to those reporting.

A few items as to the extent of this project. We put out roughly 2500 copies per issue per quarter at a cost of about \$1100.00. The cost of mailing the last issue was \$567.00. We do have a limited budget from National which does not allow for outreach to our brothers outside the fold of AOTS.

Our Editor publisher is constantly up grading his software and hardware. The

budget covers minor items such as printer ribbons etc. The Editor is covering the rest.

If you enjoy the Handshake and if you or your club wish to make a donation to assist in maintaining this valuable tool of communication please sent it to :

Mr. John Carswell

707-4134 Maywood St.

Burnaby, B.C.

V5H 4C9

God has been good to Us
Lets remember Him Daily





Sid Bagnall
Honourary President



Ernie Stafford
Past President



Bob Lewis President



Lloyd Richards
President-Elect



Tom Ferguson
Eastern Vice President

National Table Officers Report

The National Officers reported at the Annual Meeting in Winnipeg in October. It was suggested that they use the headings as outlined below. The Chairman of the Handshake, John Carswell, presents, a consensus of the meeting under these same headings

Significant Developments

Round the table open discussions of a positive nature. Hoping to include all clubs regardless of their names or titles for we are after all "As One That Serves". Many ideas came up from the wealth of knowledge of the men sitting around the table. New input and much good will came from this meeting

Observations

Although there was some negativeness at the start of the meeting President Bob Lewis said "Lets not just spin our wheels" lets get on with the work we are here for. He took command of the meeting, allowed everyone to talk for 2 minutes on a positive subject with no criticism or interruptions allowed.. This type of presentation in this framework proved most successful and all left the meeting on a positive high note.(Club executives please note)

Problems

There did appear to be some disillusionment in the direction the mother church was taking us but from rapping with each other the conception was that we must continue to pull together for the good of all..Also there appears to be a lack of bodies to fill positions but it was felt that this can be overcome.

Analysis

There were some problem areas such as failure of some people to come to meetings and or even send in a report. It was felt that this could be overcome even to the point of finding a replacement.A positive report is expected from everyone for the January 12 Executive Meeting . Some excellent workable ideas have been put on the table at this Annual meeting and each individual should put these into action or present an alternative approach for his region or committee. The blessings of God will be evident.

Concerns

It is evident that some men have decided to leave the United Church. Everyone is attempting to help these people. Many souls are bared, hearts have been wounded and frightened. In this area we see what is needed in the form of love, concern, a comforting attitude and helpful words. We hope to express ourselves in this manner to help these limping hurting brothers who believe as we do that.

God's will shall be done.



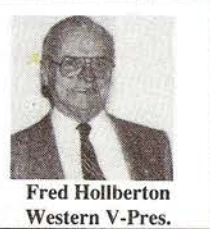
Al Smith
Exec. Director



Ken Lane
Treasurer



Maurice Wright
Recording Secretary



Fred Hollberton
Western V-Pres.



Reg Cooper
Central Vice President

About the 17th AOTS National Convention

Your 17th AOTS National Convention Committee has assembled an insert into this month's Handshake outlining the program. what our theme for the Convention will be and an outline of our theme speaker. Most of all, it includes a Registration form to be completed and returned to the Registrar by

April 15,1991.

We would appreciate it if this months Handshake were to get to all the members within your Church AOTS Men's club.We are looking for a large turnout at this convention,which will be held in the Rose City of Windsor, Ontario.

Your Committee is looking forward to having you join us in Southwestern Ontario August 1991.

Your Chairman
Herb Parker

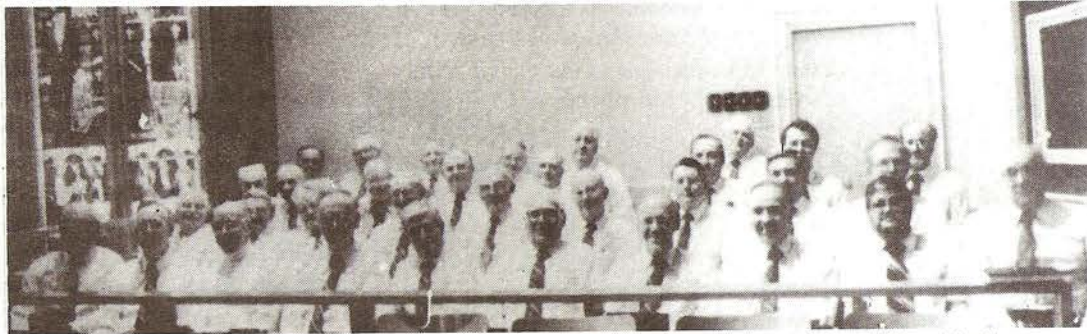




Left to right standing Willard Proud--Tom Ferguson--Jack Waller--Bob Bartlett--Lorne Harding-- Doug Ashfield-- Rev. Don Sutherland- Ralph Sams David Miles----Seated- Dr. Ian Robb--DonCampbell-- Charles Buchanan--Wilson Jones--Tony Burnett.

Maritime Master Minds

Truly these men and their predecessors have kept the men of the Maritime together. Theirs has been the task of organizing and putting on men's events such as the Men's Stanhope Conference Cape Breton Conference and Frederickton Men's Conference



PEI Presbytery Men's Council Choir Under the direction of Jim Hodge

"Have Song Will Travel"

to Conventions Conferences and Sunday Services

Another Scholarship for PEI



Above we see Ronnie MacLean, President of P.E.I. Men's Council, presenting the "Henry V. Clark Memorial Scholarship" to Mandy Carruthers. This scholarship is presented yearly to a deserving Christian Student

Willard Proud Reports to National AOTS



I see the purpose and validity on National Aots Council as enabling men across our nation to continue to give Christian Service in their Church and Community and above all to know Christ and to make him known among the people we associate with, This leads to the responsibility each of us has to reach men now only loosely connected to church activities and then to keep them informed of the service AOTS provides through our special pro-

grams, and an opportunity for them to be part of these services.

I have continued to be a part of most men's events, and have endeavoured to keep men's presence wherever there is an opportunity. Wilson and I were able to have time on the floor of Maritime Conference meeting to share AOTS interests and activities and to have table space in entrance of meeting rooms for AOTS materials.

Maritime President Wilson will be giving leadership in Maritime Men's Conference events I will concentrate on AOTS. I also will promoting a closer connection between AOTS and what I consider as very active men's work in the Maritimes

The new executive (see above) will meet regularly as a full executive. This means we are planning an active future



A Letter from the Newfoundland & Labrador Conference

Dear Al,

Summer- a time of holidays, a time of relaxing, a time of putting off, things that you know should have been done. I guess this is where I stand. I haven't forgotten my obligations but I have become a "little careless". Sometimes I wonder if I am a little hard on myself, because in all fairness I have been quite busy since my last report to you.

-This is a time of year when in late May and Early June, all church boards close out for the summer. So I had reports to prepare for them, and it is that time of year when AOTS closes until September. We usually end with a year end Bar-B-Q and invite our wives along. We give our annual reports, and make for some "starting plans" for in the fall. This year we plan to supply and install air conditioning in our church. This will be a project of AOTS. Therefore we have to organize a fund raiser for early fall, "The Early Bird Gets The Worm."

Getting ready for school closing takes time too, as you can imagine.

-Planning our family holidays, takes some consideration.

-Not following a planned schedule sometimes time tends to slip away.

- On June 1-2-3, 1990 I represented Nfld, and Lab. Conference by attending an AOTS Men's camp (Westhaven) in Pasedena, Nfld. 65 men attended from St. Anthony, Lascie (Host club), Springdale, Nipper's Harbour, Pacquet, Deer Lake, Botwood and Lewisporte. At the opening I brought greetings from National, and Nfld & Lab. Conference. While there I attended the Humber District AOTS Council Meeting. I brought the camp to a close with prayer on June 3. Good Fellowship, good fun, and good food was enjoyed by all. The spirit of AOTS is very much alive in western Nfld.

-July 30 to Aug 10 I attended Coughlan College, Memorial University of Newfoundland. This was two weeks of summer school of Theology for Lay-Supply people. Week 1: Understanding the New Testament with Dr. David Maclachlan

from Atlantic School of Theology, Halifax, N.S. Week 2: Thinking About God with Rev. Frank Cluett from Queen's Theological College, M.U.N. Newfoundland. A very interesting time indeed.

-August 29 I will attend a committee meeting with Twillingate AOTS club to help with final plan for Men's camp at Loon Bay in September.

- Sept 21-22-23 the 35th Annual AOTS men's camp will be held at Loon Bay Camp NFLD. This year it is being sponsored by and organized by Twillingate AOTS club. Approximately 120-150 men are expected to attend. I think this is a highlight of the AOTS year and a wonderful way to start things in the fall. This is always a good time of Fellowship Food and Fun. A clear indication that AOTS in Central Nfld is enthused about its work.

Sept. 12 -131 at Loon Bay Camp a Presidents Consultation Conference will take place. This is a conference planned by the President of Nfld. & Lab. United Church Conference. (1) To hear report on general Council and decisions made in London. (2) To consider the state of our church in this conference. I will attend as Conference Rep.

Oct. 26-27-28 I will Be Attending the Annual Council meeting of National AOTS in Winnipeg. Arrangements are being made and I am looking forward to this event.

So far my year is shaping up to be a little hectic, but I am sure it will be a rewarding one. I have two people to thank for their support; Executive Director Al, who has been so helpful. I feel I have known him for years, and yet I have never met him. My second supporter and helper is my constant friend, Jesus Christ. I always count on Him, and bring all my concerns to Him, in Prayer. He is always there!

Sincerely
Max Hayman
President

Editors Note We look forward to reports and photographs about the above mentioned events. Max was unable to make the Annual meeting. His presence would have been a great plus. His gain in fellowship and inspiration would have been even greater



Lewisporte NFLD

The new is good out of St. Matthew's AOTS Club of this town. We have excerpted the following outstanding activities.

The Annual Ladies Night, coinciding with Valentines day, saw each club member presenting his wife with a rose and the treasurer so honouring the widows of deceased members.

The CGIT served a lovely supper and the High School Concert Band supplied the entertainment. In the interest of efficient continuity at their meetings. Groups of club members are picked at the beginning of the year and are responsible for feeding both the soul and the body for one meeting. One individual responsible for the devotional the rest for getting the dinner ready. On average 30-35 attend each meeting.

This club takes pride in the fact that one of their own, namely Max Hayward, is AOTS Conference President for Newfoundland and Labrador.

They visited Windsor AOTS along with clubs from Bottwood, Bishop's falls, and Grand Falls to hear Max speak on his task as a National Officer and the importance of being part of the National AOTS. Twillingate was unable to attend because of distance and bad weather. They were to present the travelling gavel to Windsor.

Twillingate AOTS held a special Evangelistic service and invited St. Matthew's Male Choir. This event was open to the public of all denominations. People came from miles around. It turned out to be a very spiritual evening.

The Anglican Men's service club invited St Matthews AOTS to share in a hot dinner meeting. There was a large turn out. Members were there from all the Church clubs in town including Baptists, Salvation army, Roman Catholic and Pentecostal.

The club held its annual Hardware Jumble and Bake Sale. It was the usual outstanding success.

Finally the club served breakfast for the Safe Grad event.

From a report by Melvin Slade
Editor's Note :Read this report again Its a practical remedy for any clubs problems. Note the Outreach!