

The



Handshake

As One That Serves

Issue No.29

Winter- Spring Edition

Feb 1994



Greetings from the President

It is most gratifying to address the readers of the Handshake as your National President. It is my hope that each one of you had a truly Joyous and meaningful Festive Season.

Alberta

My first few months serving in this capacity has shown me many ways that we as AOTS men can be of greater service to our churches, communities and each other

During my trip to Calgary in September, it was evident that more clubs and greater services were needed in that area. Later, our recording secretary, Dave Turnbull and I attended Banff Conference at which time our AOTS advertising signs and other materials were put on display. We found enough time during this weekend to hold an AOTS meeting and were able to provide information on this great organization.

DMC3

Near the end of October, I attended my first DMC3 Meeting in Toronto which did prove to be an eventful time. In case you were wondering, Unit # 3 of the Division of mission in Canada is a group that is there to help with adult concerns in the United Church of Canada. In the case of AOTS it is its official link with The United Church of Canada. Each one of the twenty plus people in attendance expressed their goals and desires in the respective departments for which they were responsible. I had the opportunity to speak on the AOTS Hospital Fund, passing out some literature on the subject. At the same time I was grateful for the chance to talk on the grant supplied by the National body of the

United Church for the AOTS, encouraging them to continue with the same dollar value.

National Executive Meeting

The DMC3 meeting coincided with the National Executive meeting at 85 St. Clair, which in itself proved to be successful and saw many things accomplished at that time. Some of the more noteworthy events which took place was an agreement to make an AOTS Video to be shown across the country in order to help others know what our organization represents. We also agreed to send the director of the United Church Hospitals, \$6,000 to go towards an incubator for the use of premature babies.

British Columbia

I also had the pleasure of installing the officers of South Burnaby AOTS at their annual Ladies night, in the early part of December. The AOTS Advertising signs were displayed again giving me the opportunity to speak on AOTS once more

The same signs travelled to the Upper Room in Abbotsford where an ecumenical group of retired Ministers and Christian Laymen meet every 2nd Friday. "Yours Truly" spoke about the AOTS services again. This prompted this group of men from various denominations to contribute \$145.00 to the National Hospital fund. A very noble effort for men on-a fixed income.

Vancouver Island

Attended the Vancouver Island District Council on Saturday Jan 15th. I spoke at this function and installed their new slate of officers. Arrangements have been made for me to install the new officers at the Duncan Club and again

Coming Events



**41st Annual
B.C. Round Up
Langley United
March 5-6
Speaker
Rev. Jim Elliot**

**Theme: Men On The Move
Chaplain-Rev.Doug Alexander**

**7th Annual
Alberta RoundUp
First Milwood United
Edmonton, Alberta
March 12 &13 1994
Theme
Celebrating Our Faith**

**39th
AOTS Ontario
RoundUp
1994
April 15-16-17
National YMCA
Conference Centre**



**Theme
Me and My God
Speaker-Rev. Ted Lutz**

**Celebration of Faith
May 27-28-29
TrinityWestern
Langley,B.C.
Theme**



"Yesterday Speaks"

(Insights for the past for yesterday& tomorrow

**Speaker
Rev. Al Skinner**

Continued Page 2 Column 1

The Handshake

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Deadlines

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Fax- Fax- Fax

The three private fax numbers are available twenty four hours a day. Please try the President's number first

The Handshake is sponsored and financially supported by the National Association of AOTS Clubs. Further support comes by donations from companies and individuals. Over 3000 copies are distributed across Canada, to AOTS and UCM Clubs, individual AOTS members and any men's groups that are known to the Handshake.

Regional inserts are used when the work load dictates .

Purpose

Is to share inspiration in service in His name with all Christian Men regardless of where and under what banner they gather.



Greetings From The President (Cont.)

be the guest speaker. Later on I will be sitting in on the AOTS Provincial Council at Langley on January 22 to finalize plans for the 45th B.C. Round Up.

In closing I would like to wish each one of you a Prosperous and Happy 1994 and a Happy Easter.

God Bless,
President John

For All Men

We within the AOTS organization are continually endeavouring to assist our fellow men in strengthening their faith and broadening their spiritual scope in life. This is with the hope that they will be stronger in their own church and community, and lead to the helping of others who are less privileged. It is rather like throwing a stone into a smooth pond the circle grows continually larger.

It does seem that people in general feel that AOTS are wanting men to join their organization at a cost to their own church and club. And there never was anything further from the truth. Our real goal and desire is for men to work in their own churches, clubs or groups, serving the Lord through service. When men feel they have a desire for greater outreach across the country and elsewhere, then they may want to join with the United Church AOTS Men's Clubs, serving and helping others in their travels through life.

National Outreach

1. Over the last twelve years AOTS Clubs and individual members have donated \$76,000 to the United Church Hospitals. Their director Dr. Peter Newbery uses this fund to buy new equipment or to assist his staff to upgrade their technical skills.

2. National publishes this Newsletter three times a year and distributes over 3000 copies to AOTS ,other clubs and to individual members. As you will see it reports on the smallest club to the National Executive level. Other areas covered are National Projects such as the Hospital fund. An important area is its coverage of the many men's retreats, Round Ups, and Conferences right across Canada. If you haven't already attended one of these do so for each and every one is a religious experience.

3. National supplies a complete kit to aid in setting up a club. The kit will be backed up by a twenty minute Video. A neighbouring club stands ready wherever possible to sponsor a new club.(*)

4. National administers the Harry Colnett

Scholarship fund from which Scholarships are given to students who are dedicated to helping with the agriculture of the third world countries. Perhaps you have a student in your congregation who would qualify.(*)

5. Yet another Project that is sponsored by the national organization is run by the Queens Street AOTS Club of Kingston who puts out "The Observer on Tape". This project led by a sight impaired man sends out three tapes to the sight impaired individuals in congregations all across Canada. In total they supply them to three hundred individuals with a total of 900 tapes with no charge whatsoever. Perhaps you have a sight impaired member of your congregation who would enjoy this service. Again there is no charge.(*)

6. Also available is a Hand Book of Devotionals prepared by the National Committee of Spiritual Life and Leadership under the chairmanship of Gil Reashore. These are prepared as a source of devotionals and especially for the individual who has trouble in the preparation of one.

In conclusion let us say that the national church recognizes the National Association of United Church AOTS Men's Clubs as an official body. You will note it encompasses both AOTS and UCM.

This Handsahke and the above services comes to you free of charge courtesy of the AOTs clubs across Canada. Won't you join them in their efforts to extend the hand of Christian Fellowship.

(*) You may direct any queries or requests for the above material to the address below.

Write or Fax

Ken Lane

AOTS Executive Director

44 Paris Drive

Elliott Lake, Ont.

P5A 2L9

for information on the above and for
New Club Applications-Kits-Videos
Pamphlets-Pins-Membership Cards

Etc



Active Senior's past professions filled with variety and excitement

The Pembroke Observer July 28th, 1993.

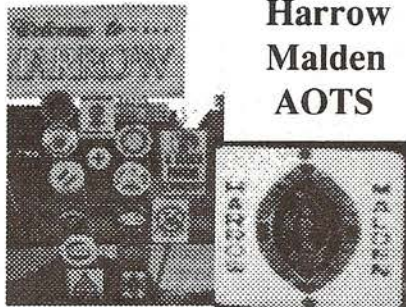


So read the headline in the Pembroke Observer and yes that is our Phil

Spence working out on a stationery bicycle. The story behind the story had Phil in Hospital with word from his daughter that he would welcome visitors and letters. While the Handshake was preparing to spread this news along came the good news that Phil was home again. Good on you Phil. Soorry about the photo but it was taken from a xerox copy A few of you out there will not know that Phil has been one of the corner stones of AOTS. Indeed he was our second executive

secretary, A position along with many others in the United Church in which he served for many years. He has attended all but two of the 22 National Conventions which would indicate at least 44 years of membership in AOTS. Phil still serves in the lodge that he now lives in by helping those less active than himself. He would welcome letters from his old buddies at:

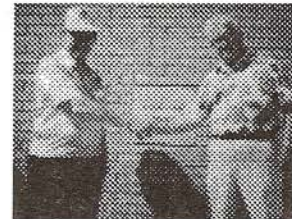
#103 Little Lake Estate
Beachburg, Ont.
K0J 1C0



**Harrow
Malden
AOTS**

This very active club which is famous for its Youth Workshop has come up with a sign on the outskirts of town welcoming along with the other service clubs all visitors to Harrow. I Have enlarged the AOTS sign just to let you know its there.

The club put a sealing coat of oil on the parking lot last summer. You will remember that the club financed this project originally. The Church office was completely renovated plus the addition of a new computer and software. The Sanctuary floor was refinished. Ran a beef supper in March and a Barbecue and Barn Dance in June. Served a turkey dinner in November for 800 people. Sponsored two new clubs and adopted 6 year old boy in Guatemala They report a membership of 33 with 22 of them attending the Ontario Round Up last spring. Can't help but wonder if Harrow sold Christmas puddings again last year. Perhaps their minutes will say they sold over a ton of cake again. Keep the photographs coming guys.



**Wilmar
Heights
Opens
Wilmar
Court**

That's John Carswell (L) congatulating Lorne Thoreny in front of newly opened Wilmar Place. Many AOTS involed. More pictures more news next Issue



**Theme
Speaker
Rev. Ted Lutz
Theme:
"Meand My God"**

**39th
AOTS Ontario Round Up
April 15-16-17**

**Special
Appearance
the
Chaverim*
Musical Group**
*A group of young Christian vocalists and musicians

**Sing
Along
Music
With
Sid and Jim**

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Register Now! Forms have been mailed out. Get yours by phoning Al Simpson at 905-844-6980 or at 567 Maplehurst Ave. Oakville Ont. 6L6 4Y8



Abbotsford Men's Fellowship Breakfast

Recently we have received two letters from one of our Members Maniom Kopesanthy, who along with his wife accepted a six month posting to India. This couple, who are recently retired Lab Technicians under the Sponsorship of an American Hospital Association are setting up a Clinical Laboratory with some new equipment. Once \$100,00 worth of instruments are in place they will instruct the staff in how to use same. This part of the venture is going well although the budget will not allow for too much in the way of sophisticated equipment.

Their first reaction was one of horror at the poverty that surrounds them in the very shadow of the Taj Mahal. The next striking observation was the sparse rations that they were expected to live on. On their weekends off their first target is a good square meal at one of the European Hotels. We have many more adventures to share with you from Maniom letters but that will have to wait for the next issue.

Theo Roberts Reporting

Vancouver Island District Council

Since the last issue of the Handshake this council has met on Oct.7 1993 and Jan 15 1994 with four clubs reporting and an average attendance of 15. On Jan 15 our National President installed the following officers:

Pres. Bruce Martin
Sec. Howard Groom
Treas. John Dexter

Centennial-- Art Farnden reported on a very successful annual "Trolley Tea" which netted them \$643.00. At their September meeting they watched a Video on the "World Grain Feed Bank" which lead to a lively discussion. One wonders what the discussion was like in the October meeting when they heard from the University of Victoria's Linguistic Department about Skulduggery and the Lords Prayer.

Duncan

The Duncan club continues to lead the way in communications with their community and the Handshake. We have on hand three newspaper articles from Duncan's paper the "Citizen" One under the heading of "Slides entertain guest during father-son event" has seventy members and offspring sitting down to an excellent supper and an evenings entertainment. A short report on donations that were approved for the National AOTS Hospital Fund, the Cowichan United way and the Cowichan Musical Festival, Three successful projects were reported. A catering job for the UCW, a pancake brunch, and a garage sale that netted \$2,150.00.

Under the heading "New Slate of officers installed at AOTS gathering" are listed Alan Taylor President, Des Morris Vice President, Ron Matthews Secretary and Keith Bennett treasurer. The article later says that the installation will be held on Jan 27 and the Handshake has learned that the National President John Carswell will assist with this ceremony. Substantial cash donations were approved for the Providence Farm, the citizens for safety and justice, the Salvation Army and the United Church.

Preliminary plans are well under way for the Burns Night of January 22 as announced by Roy Laird. Other dates confirmed were AOTS services for the extended care hospital on Feb 6 and at Cowichan Lodge on Feb. 20. Membership has been reported to be back up to 60 again.

Just in is Duncan's financial statement for 1993. Under Donations it reads \$3440.00 to 18 organizations and \$6117.49 to the Duncan Church. The grand total reads \$17, 590.43. We stand in awe.



Keith Bennett

**Plan to attend the Banff
Conference this year**

In Memory Of (*)

Good bye dear friend its not the end
For memories dear, you do still send
Of all those years of service true
To friends, to family, to God by you.

WGH

Fred Cunnings-Oct.12 1993

Life and Charter Member of Duncan AOTS. President in 1978. A 25 man AOTS Choir at Memorial Service.

Len Jarvis - June 1993

Past President and member of Collingwood AOTS. His warm and friendly presence will be missed at all AOTS functions. Len took to writing in his retirement and some of his work has appeared in the Handsahke.

Frank MacLean- Oct 1993

Founder of the modern day Celebration of Faith. President of Provincial AOTS-UCM- Life member and President of Langley AOTS Prebytery and Conference Rep.

Bill Martin-June 25-1993

President of Duncan AOTS 1n 1958. RCNVR in WWII. A 25 Man AOTS Choir at Memorial Service.

(*)

All of the above have been honoured by their respective Churches and local Communities. The Handshake pays tribute to their life of service to AOTS and through it to Christ their Lord.

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Oak Bay

The Oak Bay men had a busy spring and summer in 1993. Our usual spring garage sale fund raiser was supplemented by another in September due largely to a lack of storage space for items that keep coming in. In all, over \$ 5400.00 has been realized. A large portion of the money has been given to Camp Pringle for general operating expenses and to furnish (with help from the UCW) a room in the Laura Butler Lodge.

The report went on to tell of help for their young minister in training and continued support for their Youth Minister and their young people.

A number of the men attended the Banff Men's Conference.

Ken Adsett Secretary
Reporting

South Burnaby

The Annual Ladies night was held on Dec 4th at which time the officers for 1994 were elected and installed. The



national President installed the new offices and brought everybody up to date on the status of AOTS.

Installed were:

President Trevor Dawson (above)

1st VicePresident Don Stanley

2nd vice President Yosh Yasunaka

Secretary Kenton Galloway

Treasurer Russ Shairp (above)

The following information was taken from the 1993 Financial Report.

The money making projects consisted of three garage sales held in February, June and Oct. with a Net Profit of \$4373.64. The the Spring and Fall Pancake Breakfasts netted \$ 894.24.

The annual fall donations of \$2025 went to 12 deserving organizations. A quick glance down the list guesstimates about 60 percent was disbursed throughout the community.

Esquimalt

Three members of Esquimalt attended the National Convention at Trinity Western University. Esquimalt was the scene of several convention committee meetings under the direction of Roy Jones convention committee chairman. Members of his committee were drawn from his church, several Vancouver Island Clubs and clubs on the lower mainland.

No dinner meeting was held in September due to to the hall being occupied. The October meeting saw the Oak Bay club presenting the travelling gavel. The Speaker was the Rev. Howard Groom who gave a slide presentation. The club sponsored a Festive dinner in December with local talent and Carol singing being the entertainment.

Grodon Radmore

Club Secretary

Reporting



Paul Wells

Langley

The Langley club has been busy over the last year playing host to the 19th National Convention at Trinity Western this last summer. Actually The Handshake on behalf of National wishes to thank all those club members and their wives who served so well behind the scenes. A special thank you to the Guys and Gals who got everybody to and from the airport without a hitch. Dare we say their themes song was "Get Me to the Church on Time".

Their outreach project at the moment is the "Celebration of Faith " under the Chairmanship of Roy Jones. The dates for this years Celebration are May 27, 28, 29.

It was under the direction of the late Frank MacLean that this club has kept the modern day Celebration going.

Langley has been most faithful in getting



Garry Weerts
President

their minutes to the Handshake and from it has learned the following. Made Tom Murray a Life Member*. Hosted the ladies with a Turkey dinner. Helped with the Sunday School picnic. Supported the Baby Fold fund. Held a wind up Picnic in the spring. Held a spaghetti dinner for the Church. Hosted the White Rock Men's club .Took the Sunday Service on May 9th. Made Vic Carscaden a life member. Vic has since passed away. There is much much more which will be included in the next issue.

* No less than three photographers stood ready to immortalized the presentation of Tom's Life Membership, Bill Hastings for the Handshake who brought the wrong Flash. Art Man the clubs official camera man whose flash wouldn't work and Theo Roberts who forgot to put film in his camera. The "Three Stooges" rise again ?

Gordon Peever, Club Secretary
Reporting

Chilliwack

This long time club reorganized in 1993 but still operates under the name and principles of AOTS. The Handshake has been a guest on several occasions and noted the use of the AOTS grace, sing songs, and a variety of guest speakers. A few months ago their speaker's subject was "Earthquakes " which here in B.C. could be most informative and helpful to prepare for what they tell us is the inevitable.

Their latest project was not a Garage sale but an Attic Sale and it netted funds for the church to the tune of \$ 600.00.

Dick Haythorne the club president is also a director on the Conference Council of AOTS.

From Annual report by Dick Haythorne

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Hospital Project Update



Dr. Peter accepts \$6000.00 cheque from President John.

From the National Minutes Nov. 1 1993 :Our current goal for this project is to raise \$10,000 over 1993 and 1994. President John contacted Dr. Peter Newbery to let him know that there was \$6000.00 in the fund which could be made available to purchase a gastroscope. Dr. Newbery accepted this donation with thanks but indicated that it was more urgent to purchase a new premature baby incubator for the Hazelton Hospital. The one that was presently being used was due to pack it in leaving premature babies at risk.

A brochure was prepared by Bill Hastings and John Carswell for distribution to National Convention delegates. This same brochure has been distributed to all charges in B.C. Using the above as a model, National has printed similar brochures that have been distributed far and wide.

All our readers will be aware of the coverage of the convention in the observer and in particular the presentation made by Dr. Peter at that time. It is hoped to get further coverage in relationship to the incubator.

Dr. R. Peter praised and thanked AOTS at the National Convention for its support for the United Church Hospitals. The Handshake in turn thanks him for his mention of AOTS in the the article that appeared in the Observer. And while we are at it a great big thank-you for your continued support of the United Church Hospitals.

Church & Community Service (Dr. Murray McPherson)

On behalf of the National Association of United Church AOTS Men's Clubs I would like to make known a plan to provide a number of scholarships*, each to the value of \$1,000.00 to students of agriculture, fisheries, and/or food sciences who are interested in serving on the international scene. These awards (known as the Harry Colnett Scholarships) are designed to encourage students to prepare for service in international agriculture and education particularly in projects related to the production and distribution of food in developing countries.

You may know of an individual in your family or congregation who might qualify for this scholarship. If so write to

Dr. Murray McPherson
740 Lanark St.
Winnipeg, Man.
R2N 1M3

* Two recipients chosen recently
Full details next issue.

D.R. Poole Trophy



The above photo had the following caption as taken from the local newspaper. *"the Park St. United Church AOTS Men's Club has been recognized with a national award for its youth work. The 35 members of the Park St. group help fund a variety of programs throughout the year and raise funds through events such as beef dinners and pancake breakfasts. Here Lloyd Richards (left) past president of the National AOTS, presents the D.R. Poole Memorial trophy to Jack Authier of Park St. United."*

Treasurer's Report



From the National Minutes: Treasurer Ernie Orpin's Financial Statement dated Sept. 30, 1993. There is a shortfall of \$ 5135.88. He stated travel costs are out of hand. Drastic cut backs are necessary if we are to remain solvent. After much discussion a motion was put forth " that payment in the amount of 50% of economy travel and accommodation costs will be accorded to the members of the sub executive and all council members for attendance at those council meetings that they are scheduled to attend." A proposal was made that in identifying those who by reason of their positions had to attend all meetings, that a sub executive which consists of these people and includes the position of President, President Elect, Treasurer, Secretary and Executive director would be created. Since this meeting, ways and means of further cutting the costs are under consideration.

The Last Words Convention93

- 1.The Order of Proceedings is finished and is ready for publication
- 2.Word has it that Evelyn Elliot who broke her ankle at the convention is coming along.
- 3.Bob Gardner's car which needed serious repair in Washington State on the way to the convention blew up near Kamloops on the way home. At this point he bought another car.
- 4.Lloyd and Eileen had to get a new transmission for their motor home.
5. And the last last word is that the Convention ended up ever so slightly in the black.

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Central Canada Reports.

September and October have been busy with one new club chartered (Tillsonberg). - Held a meeting with men of Tecumseh church on affiliation. To Toronto Conference Annual Meeting and installed the officers.

Ed Parr our new London Conference AOTS President slated for hip surgery. Our thoughts and prayers go out to him. Blenheim considering a new club.

Will have reports on the 6th London Conference Men's retreat held on Nov. 1st. and Tri-County District Rally november 20th ready for next issue of Handshake.

Keith Arner Central Vice President

Executive Director

A two page report outlining his activities. He finds it hard work getting in club data for the new year. Busy compiling rosters, answering new club queries etc. In other words acting as the hub of communication both in and out for AOTS and other men's clubs. You can reach him by phone, Fax, or letter. See page 2.

Bay of Quinte AOTS Conference

Reports 17 clubs with over 300 members. Not much news in this issue. Is it because the line of communications are down? A copy of each clubs minutes will suffice. Perhaps the Conference President could include Rallies and club activities in his National reports? And Oh yes photos are welcome. If they don't make the Handshake they make the Ontario Photographic archives which will be touring the country soon.. The Bay of Quinte Conference is hosting the 1995 National Convention at Belleville Ontario.

Pres. Ronald Welsh Reporting
Tri-County AOTS Conference President

Constitution Committee

Bob Lewis has reworked the Blue Handbook and the revised Edition will be printed shortly. Revised Constitution available on request.

Fellowship & Membership

Keith MacFayden visited St. Pauls United, a new club and presented their charter. Good fellowship all around. New club in the works in London Conference.

Toronto Conference

Under their new President, Al Smith, this AOTS Conference is looking to the future. In doing so it has proposed several innovations yet wishes to shore up some of its traditional activities. The Handshake has tried to preserve the intent of a two and half page report by excepting pertinent information.

There was a historical background in regards to nomination of officers, elections, resignations, and finally a fixed roster of the elected executive for 1993- 1994 which took place at the Toronto Rally. There was a full slate of officers with Al Smith as President.

Proposed New Relationship with national.*

With quotations from various constitutions dating back to the 1960's as references the following was suggested.

1. That the Toronto AOTS Conference act as a collecting agency for National dues while withholding approximately one fifth of the monies collected for Conference operations.
2. Operating a supply depot of AOTS material and supplies to service AOTS and others in the Conference.

* This was presented to National in the form of a motion and was defeated.

Relationship with Toronto Conference Club.

1. A vice President for each Presbytery
2. An annual men's gathering for each presbytery
3. Hold and Annual meeting of the Conference AOTS Council for reports and workshops
4. Hold an annual Conference wide gathering for men.
5. Send out regular Newsletter for men.
6. Continue the Bill Ellis Memorial

Fund for support and encouragement to attend men's events.

Proposal to improve operation of Toronto Conference Council

1. Develop a set of by-laws
2. Develop a budget.

From there on there were financial comments and the actual motion that was presented to National.

Montreal Ottawa Conference

Dwight Reveler is a fresh breath of AOTS air in a conference which we rarely hear about. There is one club, Rothwell AOTS, still active. Their charter is dated 1961 and as Dwight says they are to be congratulated for 32 years of service.

All possible contacts with presbyteries are being made with Dwight promoting AOTS wherever he goes. He is keeping close contact with Rothwell.

With Brad Lavene appointed as head of this region's Youth Ministry they are looking forward to immediate progress. The Handshake speaks with ignorance about this ministry but would welcome a guest editor to elaborate on the topic in a future Handshake.

Hello there Rothwell AOTS ! Let us tell the rest of Canada about you through your minutes.

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Saskatchewan

St. Andrews Moose Jaw

Has just published the three hundred and fifty first edition of its club newsletter the " Menu ". There is no club in our organization that can or ever will top that record. Congratulations St. Andrew's. The latest editor is Harry Dow who I believe worked with the original editor as his assistant. Am I right Harry?

Through 1993

So what went on in the St. Andrews club throughout 1993? They presented their annual \$ 100.00 Bursary from their Memorial Fund to this years deserving student Marylin Johnson. Invited widows of former members of their club to be their guests at Ladies Night. Assisted financially with the Christmas Inn Dinner which has been a tradition at their church on Christmas day. Congratulated Gord and Lori Knight on the birth of a son Brandon. Your editor congratulates the club for having a member young enough to have an addition to the family. At the other end of the chronological clock they helped celebrate, on his invitation, the 80th birthday of Hartford Gardner.

Sick and Visiting

Report in each issue on the status of members on the sick list the latest being Lloyd Paton who is back home from the hospital. Attention all the other clubs . Have you a committee who sees that the sick and shut-ins are visited?

And there is more much more. Watch for it in the next issue. But first lets hear about the rally which they hosted.

South Saskatchewan Men's Rally

St. Andrew's filed the following report for this Rally. The event began with a discussion group at 4. P.M. held at and sponsored by the Zion Church Men. Approximately 30 men attended. We viewed a short video on the operation of St. Andrew's College . presented by Bill Adamson, President of the College. This

was followed by a discussion group and several subjects concerning the church were covered over a cup of coffee.

The Main event of the Rally was the supper and program that followed in St. Andrew's Social Hall. Approximately 135 men enjoyed a meal prepared by St. Andrews UCW. The assembly was made up of forty men from the Regina Churches, the rest from the five Moose Jaw United Churches and one man each from as far away as Yorkton and Earl Grey.

Entertainment was supplied by the Peacock High school Jazz Choir. This was well received and the men enjoyed joining with the choir in the singing of a couple of hymns.

The devotion was given by Judge Allister Muir and this was followed by the highlight address presented by Dr. Adamson. We were urged to renew our faith, to do more reading, reflecting and talking about Christ and be faithful to his discipleship.

We feel that the Rally was an unqualified success and this can be attributed to the cooperation of the local churches and their men who worked so willingly on the committee.

Good on the bunch of you. Ed.

Wesley AOTS Regina

About a year ago eight fellows met at Wesley United and agreed to continue as an AOTS club. The Handshake apologizes for not acknowledging this effort before this but pleads forgiveness because the last two issues have of necessity been all Convention.

Wesley has a long history of a successful men's club and if the determination of these fellows is any measure it could well rise out of the ashes one again. Being only eight in number they decided to run the club by committee with each of them taking turns in the chair.

With this in mind they set up an agenda of meetings as follows.

In Feb under Norm Bray they scheduled the Banff Men's Conference Video and talk, with questions and answers. March saw Wilf Gardner running the meeting. In April they went to Regina area

conference in Moos Jaw. In May Ma Lindberg ran things. In June Paul Bolivar scheduled a picnic with partners. Come September Ken Aidie arranged a joint meeting with the UCW. October and November saw Jim Wilson and Ross Evans taking the Chair. Minutes were supplied to the Handshake and tell of a Pancake Dinner guest speakers and the need to have signing Bank officers. The Handsake is sure all of Canada wishes this group well. What's the old saying "The best things come in small packages." Well done guys, in the spirit of Christian fellowship we all wish you well and hope to hear that you are up and running in 94

Manitoba

Minnedosa AOTS 40th Anniversary

The Minnedosa club celebrated its 40th Anniversary (May 1953-May 1993, along with our Annual Ladies Night on the evening of June 2, 1993, to honour 5 Original Charter Members Namely, Harry Jack, Newton Clark, Eric Chipperfield, Clayton Sencle and John Bennett , who was unable to attend. Dr. Cliff, Honorary President in May 1953, and Mrs. Matchett of Winnipeg, were also present for this occasion. To the good doctor goes the honour of launching the original AOTS Men's club in the Minnedosa United Church. In the fall of 1952 Dr. Matchett along with Fred Charles, Newton Clarke and Clayton Sencle and Dr.H. Recker met in the Minnedosa bus depot with Mr. Fred Tully, Brydon McCrea, Art Sykes and Roy McPhail to discuss the formation of the AOTS Men's Club.

The Minnedosa AOTS was organized in the spring of 1953 and it seems the date was April 24th. The charter slate of officers appears to have been : President Dr. Harry Reekes, Vice president Mr. George Bullard, Secretary, Mr. Newton Clark, Treasurer Mr. Jim Murray. The AOTS Charter Night was held in May 1953, The Gladstone Men's CLUB

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The AOTS Charter Night was held in May 1953, The Gladstone Men's Club acted as sponsors for this Charter Night. So the club was officially formed and has continued to be active to this date.

Some 60 club members, spouses, friends and guests attended this happy occasion beginning with a social hour followed by a smorgasbord, prepared by the AOTS members and served buffet style. A Program followed supper with George Greenly as chairman, introducing our honoured guests. Many guests also attended from several AOTS Clubs in Win-

nipeg. The Winnipeg District Council of the AOTS brought greetings from their clubs.

Newton Clark spoke of the early beginning of the club and many members were recalled from those early years. Musical entertainment was enjoyed by the local group, "Cameron Connection" followed by a guest speaker for the evening Rev. Keith Boughton Winnipeg, who formerly served the Minnedosa United Church from 1961 to 1969. Keith recalled

those years he had spent in Minnedosa and especially the fellowship with the AOTS club. He reminisced with many humorous incidents that had occurred at various times and also congratulated the club for their fine work and holding together for these 40 years.



As no photos were supplied with this excellent story we turned to the



Handshake's Archives and found two charter members serving under the most humble of circumstances. We have Newton Clark on the left peeling spuds and Harry Jack on the right making pancake batter. Rumor has it that they got the night off at the 40th.

Maritime Conference Meetings Well Attended 38th Stanhope Men's Conference

The Island United Church Men hosted the 38th Stanhope Men's Conference Sept. 17-18-19 at Camp Abegweit on the shores of Northumberland Strait, at Augustin Cove PEI.

"The Call To Hollines" was this years theme, and it was addressed by the Rev. Andrew Bryce. In his three presentations, Rev Andrew talked about our need to be connected to God, the obstacles that stand in our way, and how we can overcome the obstacles. The 65 men present participated in small group discussions after each address.

On Saturday afternoon the group was privileged to hear the faith story of the Rev. Dr. Henry Tye, minister of Park Royal United Church, and Past President of Maritime Conference.

Saturday evening the "young men" led in song and worship and one of their number, Robert Avery, told his faith story. All present were inspired and blessed by these two stories.

The music team of Doug Ezeard on the organ, soloists Brad Chugg and John Wilton, and song leader

Wayne Proud provided many hours of joyful sounds over the weekend. The Conference closed on Sunday with a Communion service led by the Rev. John Bennett, followed by a time for individual prayer needs.

E. Wilson Jones
President
Maritime
Conference
Men
Reporting



Coming Event

The 11th Christian Men's retreat, Feb. 25 to 27, 1994, at Circle Square Ranch, Sussex, N.B. Maritime Conference Men.

Cape Breton Island United Church Men's 13th Annual Conference

Hosted by the Waterview Pastoral Charge, the Cape Breton Island United Church Men's Conference held its thirteenth annual Conference on Sept. 24, 25, & 26, 1993 at Mira Pines, Cape Breton.

The guest speaker was none other than the Rev. Douglas I. (Stretch) MacEachren, Moncton N.B.. The Theme for the Conference "The Daring Doxology", was very professionally

presented by Rev. MacEachren. The registrar was Lloyd MacDonald of North Fourchu, C.B. who reported the highest registration in years.

Presentations

Other highlights of the conference were a plaque presented to Mr. Peter Murray for 43 years service as an elder of the United Church of Canada and for his interest in men's clubs. A plaque presented annually by Malkie MacDonald to the group with the highest attendance went to the Waterview Pastoral Charge.

The weather certainly cooperated and the men enjoyed a special treat by the MacDonald brothers of Marion Ridge with boat rides up the Mira River which was described as super.

Thanks to all those who worked so hard to make it a success. The kitchen staff, the caretaker, and to Bruce Macdonald for his continuous supervision. It was one of the most successful conferences of all time and our thanks to those fellows who travelled so far like PEI, Bridgewater, Dartmouth, Debret, N.S. A special thanks to the Rev. Ardie MacDonald and her mother from Debret, N.S. for attending the Conference.

A. Peter Murray
Reporting



" The Furnishings of Faith

Scripture Genesis 26: 1-25

Key Verse- "Isaac built an alter there and worshipped the Lord. Then he set up his camp there, and his servants dug another well."

Opening Prayer: Oh God of Grace and Glory: we meet here together conscious of our everlasting love. We thank you for the presence of our spirit among us. Lift up our words of prayer as we give ourselves to You in the true spirit of serving . Amen

Lesson: An Alter: A Tent: A Well: These three things that we find in the life of Isaac are symbolic of three things that should find their place in the life of any man of faith. What do they suggest to your mind? Let us explore,

"An Alter" speaks of dedication to the will of God. An Alter was a place upon which men offered a sacrifice. In Isaac's time the alter may have been erected but the impression is that in the

life of Isaac it was neglected. It does not appear very often in the story of his life. Could that explain the mediocrity that marked his life?

"A Tent" speaks for detachment from the ways of man. A tent is portable and easily moved. A house is built on a rock foundation and is attached to an environment. A tent can be moved in a moments notice. The tent suggests the need to develop a spirit of detachment from the pleasures of this world.

The Tent also suggests a detachment from the praises of the world. As men of faith: Christ warns us that the world would show displeasure with us. It is a bad sign if the world speaks well of us, and a worse sign if we want it to do just that. So where to we, as men of faith: serving the will of God, live spiritually? In a tent.

"A Well" speaks of dependence on the word of life. Think of the difficulties that Isaac encountered while digging the wells. He and his men had to fight for the wells. So always is it with men of faith. To most, the most difficult book in ones home to pick up and read is the

Bible. Why ? The Devil will see to that. But in spite of the difficulty they found in digging the well, Isaac's people faced the necessity of digging it. It was a matter of digging it or dying. They could not survive without water. Neither can we as men live this life of faith without the word of of life. If we are to promote Christian Fellowship, deepen the Spiritual Life of men or develop a program of Christian Service, then we must dig deeper, serve more willingly, or die. That is the challenge we all take up now.

Closing Prayer: Oh God our Father, we thank you as men of Christ, from the joy that comes from serving Him, and for our faith in victory of His Kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

the 1994 Handbook of Devotionals available from Ken Lane. See Gil Reashore address below



Application For Individual Membership
with the
National Association of United Church AOTS Men's Clubs

Please Print

Surname	First Name	Initial (s)	Nick Name
Apt # R.R. No. Street			
City, Town, Village	Province	Postal Code	
Church	Code-Telephone Residence	Phone-Code-Business	
Occupation	Retired from	Age	

The Annual fee is \$15.00 payable upon application and yearly thereafter in January.

Cut Out Mail
Ken Lane
44 Paris Drive
Elloit Lake, Ont.
P5A 2L9

**Do
It
Now!**