
The Handshake

As One That Serves

Issue No32

Fall Edition

Sept 1994

19th National AOTS Convention

August 11, 12, 13 1995
Ramada Inn, Belleville Ont.
Theme

"The Heart Of AOTS"

Theme Speaker

Jeff Dejonge

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President's Message

Greetings my Brothers. Now that summer has drawn to a close, it is my hope that you come back to your respected churches with renewed strength: with fresh creative minds, willing to pull just a little more than your share of the load. May you find the extra strength needed to overcome the obstacles which befall you now and push on desiring to serve God and man.

If your desire is to fulfil the needs of the National Body of the AOTS organization may God be with you. There may be some in our midst who are failing to pull their share, we must overlook the shortcomings and press on to a greater richer goal. It is not your/my responsibility to correct the faults of the

world, "Justice is mine, sayeth the Lord". Rather encourage those that are falling by the wayside or those who are finding the Road of Life rough and difficult. Help them to find peace with God and to trust their tomorrows. Stand by them when they stumble and help them up when they fall. God asks only that you be a helpmate and friend, one who shares and encourages with a helpful heart and a hopeful mind.

It is not I, your National President, who asks these things of you but it is your and my God who trusts you will be his arms, legs, hands and voice in this world where man slays man.

May each of you right now find in your heart to serve your God

where you are at. You are not expected to do great things this day but you are obliged to God to do all the little things which are within your reach right now.

May your faith reach beyond the tip of your fingers and you be prepared to trust always. As Fall goes on into Winter, it is my hope that each of you will rededicate your lives to God and your desire be increased to serve the AOTS body wherever it be.

Go with God and may PEACE be with you.

John Carswell,
Your National
President



The Handshake

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Deadlines

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We are pleased to report that the Fax-wires are humming. 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 Clubs and individual AOTS members plus any men's groups that are known to the Handshake. Regional inserts are used when the work load so dictates.

Purpose

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

Bibles N' Prayers

Breakfast with a thousand fellow Christians

The Handshake is pleased to share along with John Carswell and Bill Cummings the religious experience of attending yet another B.C. Leadership Prayer Breakfast in Vancouver. Expanding on the observations in part of our guest columnist, whose article follows, these Prayer Breakfasts restore your faith in the Christian, Business, and Political communities.

In Ottawa it is called the National Prayer Breakfast in Washington the Prayer Breakfast which always has the President in attendance and often as the speaker.

Our speaker was the Honourable John Manley the present Minister of Industry for the federal government. He witnessed as a Christian in the world of politics and was most impressive. The head table had representative from every level of government.

Our President elect Craig Watson had the good fortune of attending the National Prayer Breakfast this year. We look forward to printing his comments in the next Handshake.

For now lets hear from Bob Harvey the Religious editor of the Ottawa Citizen as he expresses hope for parliament after attending the National Prayer Breakfast. We pick up on his article written about National Prayer Breakfast of a year or two ago, where he finds hope for christianity within the political arena.

" The Prayer Breakfast also gave us a glimps of the private faith of some other very public people. Liberal leader Jean Chretien and NDP House Leader Nelson Riis provided Scripture readings, and Antonio Lamer chief justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, provided the closing prayer.

Such ritual acknowledges a shared christianity were once a normal part of politics in Canada. Even Sir John A. MacDonald once went forward at a revival meeting to give his life to Christ. All that has fallen out of fashion in the last 30 years. Today, politicians fear that public declarations might be seen as an attempt to take some kind of a partisan advantage.

So it was refreshing to hear John Fraser, Speaker of the House of Commons, give the major address at the prayer breakfast. Fraser is an Anglican and gave a clear testimony to his own Christian Faith, larded with poems touching on the theme of the day, Hope. He even lamented the fact that politicians are so careful to keep their faith a private matter that they often fail to give testimony to its value.

Fraser is the first sitting member of the House of Commons to be a main speaker at the breakfast since it began in 1964. Until now, members have been too shy or too humble to take centre stage at the breakfast, and the main speakers

have been from outside of parliament. So maybe Fraser's emergence from the closet is some kind of hint that we're fast approaching a new maturity in Canadian politics. If it's OK for Svend Robinson to be gay, and for Kim Campbell and Jean Charest to inhale Marijuana, then it must surely be okay for politicians to admit once again that they believe in God.

Lost and Found

Sometimes Reports are late. Somtimes they are lost or misfiled. Somtimes they just never arrive. Somtimes there is just not enough space. In the case of Ron Welsh his report on the Bay of Quinte was late and also lost under the perverbial mountain of paper that clutters up the Handshakes office. Cyril Lockes article just never arrived. But take heart. Your Editor hereby promises to enter each item in a computerized data base as it comes in. Famous last word? Perhaps ! We do our best.

Convention News

Organization

Twenty six men from the Bay of Quinte Conference turned out for the organizational meeting of the 19th Biennial AOTS Convention. Committees were struck with the assurance that all the men's groups of the Conference will be helping to put this convention together.

Theme and Speaker

The Theme "The Heart of AOTS" has been chosen as has the theme speaker who is the Rev Jeff DeJong Minister of Wellington United Church. Jeff is an energetic young man who is known as a great motivator.

Barbecue- Music-Tours

A Barbecue is planned for Friday Night. Special Music, special Bay of Quinte Attractions.

More and more information with each issue of the Handshake.

Convention Theme
"The Heart of AOTS"



Wilmar Heights AOTS

"Lorne Thornely on the Sick List"

From The Minutes

We see in the minutes by Lorne Thornely that the club's sick parade includes Bob Lewers who is home from Hospital recovering from surgery and Fred Wading who is not well and is expected to move to a nursing home. What is not reported is that Lorne Thornely now belongs on this list as he suffered a stroke recently. Reports have him home from the hospital with good expectations for a recovery. The Handshake wishes you God Speed Lorne on behalf of your many AOTS friends right across Canada.

And More

Dinner at Baileys Restaurant returning to Church for meeting which included Initiations, Committee Assignments, discussion of the the Cheese selling project and other business items

And Still More

The Club's part in the Church's 40th Anniversary is a Church Photo Directory.

June 5th -Don Milne in charge - June 17 Golf Tournament at Peppertree Club. - 16 Oct Laymen's Sunday-Pete Davis and Mel Brockelbank conducting service. - April 21st dedication of Ted Kersey Christian Education Service Center. Club responsible for luncheon, food, set up-clean up. - Plans for a Men only Bible Study Group. - Ed Lewis and Paul Thomas delegated as AOTS reporters for Church Newsletter.- Club to assist with set up for Sid and Dorothy Bagnall's 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration. The Handshake sends it's Congratulations on behalf of all AOTS men and their wives who have known the Bagnalls down through the years.

Bay Of Quinte

Ronald Welsh Reporting

A very successful Fall Round-Up was held by the Belleville Presbytery in November 1993. 125 men were present and a great evening of AOTS fellowship was had by all. 27 men from the Bay of Quinte Conference attended the Ontario Round Up

Housing Project

AOTS group in Peterborough have just completed a large housing project. It was sponsored by the AOTS group and they did all the leg work. All of the units are rented. There are two handicap accessible apartments as well as 1, 2, 3 and 4 bedroom housing units.

Visiting

Have touched bases with several clubs, installed officers and new members and have taken part in church services. Put on worship service at Frankford United Church. Craig Watson gave the message. Frankford interested in forming club.

Second Mile

Accompanying my report is a cheque in the amount of \$387.00 for the AOTS Second Mile Fund. This represents 25% of the profits made by Westminster AOTS from the sale of fruit cakes this past Christmas season. I feel that we should be encouraging all groups to have a project to support National AOTS ever year or two.

Rising from the Ashes

Our church at Westminster is being put back together quite quickly and we hope to be back in the church by the first of August. Nine months without a church building has been a great stress for the entire congregation but hopefully all will be well in the fall when we start a new church year.

Bellefair AOTS Spring-Summer Activities

Thanks to Harry Wolfram and his Bellefair Newsletter we bring you the following club news

Mother's Day Brunch - Was held a on May 8th. Served scrambled eggs and bacon along with juice, rolls coffee and tea. About 150 attended. Hinted that all tips go to the Club, Please.

Toronto Conference Agreed to pay dues and are planning to attend AOTS Camping Weekend for men on June 3-5 at Camp Scugog. See Toronto Conference new this page for more details. Also promoting Toronto Conference Rally for Oct 23 at King City United Church.

Maple Syrup: Still being sold. Is first class "Medium" grade. A little more expensive but much superior to "Light" grade which is sold in the stores.

Oranges and Grapefruit: Like Wilmar Heights will sell fruit this fall.

Had Float in Easter Parade.

Blue Jays- 210 signed up for game on May 20 against Cleveland.

Toronto Conference News

Finances .Clubs to pay 50 cents per member at a minimum of 10.00 per club to defray operating expenses.

Meetings.

Camping Weekend for June 3 to 5
Fall Rally Sunday October Oct 16

Twinning: Toronto Conference Clubs with Newfoundland Clubs (See Newfoundland Report Page 7 .

Club Reports

Bellefair- See above

Wilmar Heights- see this page

Trinity- Pancake Supper-Ladies Night-Breakfast for Neighbourhood link Variety show.

Don Mills- Pancake Supper

Its Bellville Convention 95
The Only Game In Town **Aug 11,12,13**
The 1995 AOTS Convention Game That Is !



Duncan

They say it is good business to acknowledge your best customer and that is why we have given Duncan 1/2 of the B.C. page. The scene above is duplicated each year by dozens of clubs across Canada. In this case our chefs are Len Phillips on the left and his partner Keith Bennett. The enhanced 40 on Keith's Apron tells you that this is the fortieth anniversary of Duncan's "Congregational Fun Fair". Incidentally the image was taken from the Citizen which is one of Duncan's weeklies. The quality is acceptable so if you have a newspaper clipping with a photo on it just send it along and it will be given a run in the Handshake.

The 40th Congregational Fun Fair

When we tell you about the Fun Fair you will see the same organizational pattern as they used in their Annual "Spring Tea" and their "Yard Sale and Auction." Although this is Canada's largest AOTS club of over sixty members the old AOTS adage applies here as it does to smaller clubs, "Everybody on a committee and everybody working."

15 Committees 41 members

Each event has its special committees to serve special needs. Committees for the "Fun Fair" were listed as Dinner, Bottle Throw, Horseshoe Pitch, Music and

P.A., Sponge Throw, Face Painting, Tickets, Beat the Buzzer, Stake Your Claim, Parking, Hay Ride, Peanut Toss, Lions Club Ride, Cake Walk, Fish Pond and last but not least the "Spares Committee" which explains itself and is listed in each event. Does not that list conjure up a happy, busy and noisy time. The "Yard Sale and Auction" and the Spring Tea and their committees were more business like and formal as their names envisioned like waiters, cashiers, security, set up, clean up and tear down.

The Handshake received from Duncan 12 pages of hand written minutes, 4 newspaper clippings, 3 authored by Don Morton and the one from which the above image was taken with the author unknown. Do I hear a great big "Well Done" from the rest of Canada. Keep up the good work Duncan.

Esquimalt

Assisted in the Easter Sunrise Service at Saxe Point Park and helped with the hot chocolate, coffee etc. at the church hall following the service.

Assisted the UCW with their spring summer sale at the church. Ladies Night was on June 10 with the men cooking and serving.

Oak Bay Garage Sale

Our Annual AOTS Garage Sale was held at the church on April 30th. This is our principal fund raising activity for the year. All members were involved in

setting up for sale and on the sale day itself. Wives and other interested members of the congregation also put in many hours to help make the sale a success.

Camp Pringle

A work party, led by Mike Pipes, painted the interior of "our" cabin at Camp Pringle. They also did some general cleaning and tidying in and around the cabin. Financial support was given a child who would otherwise be unable to attend Camp Pringle this summer. A Large number of Oak Bay AOTS members and others of the congregation attended the AOTS Rally and Congregational Picnic at Camp Pringle on June 2 . Oak Bay was awarded the attendance shield for the day largely due to the number of "guests" who were present . Our regular, annual donation was made to the operating expenses of Camp Pringle.

Financial support was given, in conjunction with Oak Bay United Church Council, for a special camp for women with Aids.

The Oak Bay AOTS has voted to financially assist members wishing to attend out of town conferences and meetings where these are sanctioned by the United Church and by our local AOTS.

Ladies Night Out

Our annual "Ladies Night Out" was held at the Chinese Village Restaurant with 46 members, wives, and other guests . Entertainment was supplied by popular local magician Tony Eng.

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Hospital Project-Fruit of our Labours

Yes fellows the above pictured incubator is the one that was purchased by the funds you raised. It's at the United Church Hospital at Bella Bella and indeed it has a premature jaundiced baby from Klem Tu in it. The incubator supplies oxygen until the baby's liver develops so it can take overakes over. From left to right Dr. Andrew Kotaska, Baby in incubator and Nurses Wendy Hail and Eileen Young

On the Hospital Scene with John Carswell

On May 1st I flew into Smithers, B.C., which is 1 1/2 air hours north of Vancouver. There I was met by Dr. Peter Newbery and driven to Hazelton where he works.

Hazelton and Dr. Wrinch

Hazelton has a population of approximately 8000 people of which half are Native. The United Church runs a 20 bed hospital there, which is situated on approximately 40 acres of land. This property was a gift to Dr Wrinch in the late 1800's. Dr. Wrinch, after whom the Hospital is named, originally wanted to be a missionary in China, but after travelling the Skeena River for many days, he decided to set up the Hospital in Hazelton instead. This hospital later became know as the Wrinch Memorial Hospital.

The Thomas Crosby

Dr Wrinch received a call to work on the Thomas Crosby Missionary Ship which travelled between Prince Rupert and Vancouver with stops at many ports along the way.

Hazelton Medical Site

The medical setting in Hazelton consists of 9 homes and trailers, all owned by the United Church of Canada. The doctors in all of these remote areas are paid on a salary basis rather than on a fee for services. When chatting with them its most evident that they are highly dedicated people. There are 6 physicians in this hospital. They are encouraged to purchase their homes and become a part of the community.

Rehabilitation

They have a man, Bruce Hoskins who tends the grounds and has a work shop. The hospital has 2 beds set aside for recovering alcoholics, who are encouraged to work in the work shop or on the grounds as a part of the recovery process. They are expected to work regular shifts to help prepare themselves for re-entry into the work force, Bruce also plants small fruit trees which at a later date are dug up and given to the local people to become fruit bearing trees.

A Model Project

The Provincial Government classes the work that Dr. Peter and his staff are

doing as model project for rural hospitals. The major funding is supplied through the provincial government. Hospital Services which are directly involved in this rural hospital project are Bella Bella, Bella Coola, Fort Simpson, Hazelton in B.C. and in Lamont Alberta which is 40 miles east of Edmonton. Other areas seeking assistance and advice are Dees Lake and Stewart B.C.

Largest Medical Library

The Hazelton Hospital has the largest medical library in the Pacific North west and has computer contact with a large hospital in Massachusetts. It is possible to get an answer to a medical problem in as short a time as as five minutes. There are files for over 6000 people in the Ophthalmology department. This again is part of the model project for rural areas with the team work of the doctors, dentists, physiotherapy etc. When speaking to Dr. Phil Muir, who has served for for over 25 years, he simply said "Thanks for your contributions, they really have been a great help"

No Fee For Services.

The fact that the doctors are paid on a salary basis, frees up money for other projects. Some of these are a non smoking program, assisting the elderly in finding homes, control of drinking, and other preventative measures, which help to keep people out of hospitals.

This message would not be complete of I failed to mention Lorna, one of the native nurses, who bubbles with joy in helping people. She has a direct and positive approach, splashed with humour, which undoubtedly helps people recover from illness.

100 Years and a Plaque

Dr. Peter informed me that this work of the United Church Hospitals has gone on for over 100 years. He also agreed that we could have a plaque hung in the hospitals with the following wording: "AOTS-- A Generous Contributor to the United Church Medical Care" (with the AOTS crest.)



Executive Director

Reports from Ken come in like clock work along with the Minutes of the various meetings of the National Executive. Wherever the National Executive meets Ken is always there. He keeps those posted who are supposed to be there, sets up an agenda and makes sure that the various reports such as those seen on the next two pages are in the hands of the National Executive prior to the meeting. Some reports miss the mailing deadline so copies of these are handed out at the meeting.

In the meanwhile he is keeper and shipper of our AOTS supplies, answers queries re. new clubs and acts generally as the hub of our AOTS communications. You can catch him by letter, phone or Fax at the following numbers.

Kenneth F. Lane
44 Paris Drive
Elliott Lake, Ont.
P5A 2L9
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Hamilton Conference

This Conference put on the 1994 Round Up that was reported on in the Spring-Summer Handshake. Here, I am sure, I speak on behalf of Ontario when we say well done Hamilton and especially you Howard Wills. Howard continues to visit all clubs in his area and reports several strong clubs of 25 to 30 members who serve their congregation and community well but don't see themselves as a part of the national picture. I hope we supply them with the Handshake and in it they see a vibrant national brotherhood of men. The three active AOTS Clubs of Hamilton are alive and well. More on their activities in the next issue.

From Hamilton Report
By Howard Wills.

London Conference

Our man, Edwin Parr, he of the two new hips sends his apologies to Ken Lane for not getting to the Charter night at Elliott Lake. It seems you have to wait six weeks for driving privileges after hip surgery. Never the less he reports visiting six clubs in his area. Also reports on a Pot Luck Supper, a short business meeting, and a fun night which included 3 to 5 clubs in the area plus men from other churches. The average number of 35 men comes up.

Mention of the successful Round Up but wonders at the cost of \$ 200.,00 plus transportation and what can be done about it? Also reports of a 65 member Choir that came to St. Catherines. 5 clubs sold tickets. All proceeds to the Kenesserie Camp (correct spelling and results next issue).

Manitoba Conference

Have retired \$36,000 of their \$50,000 of costs for one house built under Habitat. Run by AOTS and Sponsored by 44 United Church's in Winnipeg. Would appreciate support from AOTS sources. Held a garage Sale and were able to put \$500.00 towards above.

A number of men from District Council attended the Annual Western Manitoba Clear Lake Men's Conference. Lois Wilson was the speaker.

Optimistically working on Churches to start AOTS clubs. National Meeting in February was a great boost for Men's clubs in Winnipeg. Hoping that some of their fellows will attend Annual meeting in Regina.

From Report
by Jacek Romanowski
President Manitoba AOTS Conference

President Elect

Craig Watson our President elect is also co-chairman of Convention 94. The information on the Convention Page 1 and 2 two are from his report.

Sunday May 94:

"To-day is one of those days I will never forget, as we held our first planning meeting for the National Convention at Belleville in 1995. The enthusiasm, the

positive response and the attendance from some 12-14 clubs gave one some assurance that AOTS is on the move again." The Handshake has been in contact with the convention committee and is assured of a wealth of Convention news that will arrive well before the next issue in Feb 1995.

Western Vice President

Wally Shoult's report covers many miles, several clubs and special events like Round Ups and meetings of the National Council. He observes, *"Unfortunately, not every church has a group of men dedicated to responding to the inner needs of men and those of us who do should be thankful for the fact that we are a part of a vibrant fellowship."*

Amen to that Wally!

Central Vice President

Ontario Round Up

Steering Committee

Report from the expanded "Ontario Steering Committee" * with Keith Arner in the chair. This committee was established years ago as a steering committee for the Ontario Round Up. It met on April 15 and 16 in 94 and present were Keith Arner, Gil Reashore, Dwight Reveler, Allan Smith, Jack Thompson, Craig Watson, Ron Welsh, Howard Wills and Harry Wolfrain. Regrets from Edwin Parr.

Agenda

The agenda included a discussion of a surplus of funds from Round Ups 93-94-95, and what to do with same. There were 6 possible suggestions for its use some of which they felt did not specifically deal with the funds. An expanded steering committee was struck to include any National AOTS member in the Central Region. This committee to meet at Camp Scugog for Sept 22 and 23 for the specific purpose of planning men's work within the central Region. Geneva Park has been booked through 1996 for the Ontario Round Up,

*Expanded committee to include Ken Lane, Keith MacFayden, Gil Reashore, Layton Stewart, Craig Watson, and Gary Wilson

From Minutes by Harry Wolfrain



Magnificent Obsessions

By Don Smith*

Hazelton B.C.--Did you hear the one about the preacher, the pilot, the physician and the social worker? Well you are about to and it's no joke.

Dr. Peter Newbery wears all four hats as he ministers the body and souls of his patients in and around Hazelton, about, 2200 K.M. north of Vancouver.

In his spare (?) time he is a guest speaker and conducts workshops under the auspices of the United Church, and delivers sermons about ten times a year at various churches across the country where interest has been expressed in what the church is doing in health care.

Medicine From the Pulpit?

In a sense, I suppose," he said affably. "You've hit on a particularly interesting area for me these days for because there has been some very interesting new evidences developing concerning the fact that there are now links being made between faith and illness that are verifiable; scientifically experimented on links which appear to indicate there is a very active process that occurs within the immune system to strengthen it when people have an active faith, when they approach illness with a sense of humor going on.

All these positive things can be measured in terms of their effects on the immune system. "In that sense, I find the links between theology and medicine very easy to make, and a lot of fun to work with.

It wasn't always fun. Doubt and indecision, the curse of youth, plagued him early on. Theology, medicine and social service converged to chart a confusing course toward a goal he at first could not quite see.

"I started off my university career in medicine at the University of Toronto and got quite turned off by what I saw of Medicine there." Dr. Newbery explained. "I just felt that it wasn't for me, so I did a degree in philosophy, then a couple of years of social work, then returned to theology. I've always been interested in healing and health care in a general kind of way."

Because he had a pilot's licence since he was 17, upon his graduation the church asked him to go to Alert Bay in Queen Charlotte Strait situated near the tip of Vancouver Island. So He and his wife left Toronto, and for the next four years he flew an old Cessna 170-B on floats for the United Church

Preaching Physician Takes to the Heavens

Float Flying

"By the end of the second year I had managed a Cessna 180 which made a lot more sense, but still on floats--float flying around the coast and doing ministry in logging camps, fishing villages, native villages, lighthouses and radio stations. But while I was in Alert Bay I had the opportunity to watch a physician who I admire a great deal, named Jack Pickup, who'd worked most of his career in Alert Bay, often Pretty much by himself. When I looked at the kind of contribution he was making to that small community, I realized that my original dream of medicine would fit very well in a remote and isolated place. What it boiled down to, was that I could see an area where I was needed, rather than in the city where there seemed to be a lot of physicians."

By now in his mid-thirties with two children, he resumed his medical studies at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ont., went to Hazelton upon graduation, and is there still.

Fit and 50-ish, the ebullient GP said life in the bucolic north-west is anything but boring. Flying alone through snow covered passes, fog shrouded valleys and gyrating wings that can push you into cumulus granite in a heart beat has made the hymn "Nearer My God to Thee" his anthem more than once.

On a flight from Bella Bella to Bella Coola last year in marginal weather, he turned out of a valley and got hammered with the most violent turbulence I've ever seen. I was banging off the ceiling of the 180. I don't think the wings were level once, except to pass through the zero going from the vertical in one direction to vertical in an other, said Dr. Newbery. I had the power back in what would have allowed me to descend at a rate of about, 1,000 ft. per minute, with the nose down, and I was still going up at 1000 ft per minute. I was only about 100 feet above the clouds when I came out of a chunk of turbulence... I had the nose down and I was hanging on for dear life. He agreed that if he hadn't been already religious, that would have done the trick.

Prayed Hard

"That was one of those times when I prayed hard," he said. His anxiety level soared to record heights again several years ago when as a minister he had as his passenger the late Dr. Robert McLure, the Canadian surgeon who became the first layman moderator. Ferrying Dr. McLure from Alert Bay to Port Hardy as part of the cleric's intensive itinerary, the tiny float plane hit a descending ceiling and an ominously deteriorating visibility that



Dr. Peter Newbery

is notorious in the coastal mountains.

"I used an old pilot's trick of flying relatively close to the trees and the shoreline in order to keep some visible reference point." said Dr. Newbery, "and with power reduced and flaps extended I was flying just a foot or two above the water so that if we ran out of visibility at any time we could just cut the power altogether and the airplane would land."

Finally realizing he would be unable to reach Port Hardy in this fashion he made a wide sweeping turn to Port McNeil and touched down on a glass like surface shrouded in mist so thick they could barely make out the dock 100 yards ahead.

You could imagine my concern, being responsible for the life of the Moderator of the United Church and his schedule." said the Doctor. "As I was taxiing into the dock, I turned to Dr. McLure with a sigh of relief and said, "Well Bob, now you know something about the excitement of ministry on the North Island." Without hesitation, and with his eyes sparkling with interest and excitement, he replied, Oh, this is nothing; I know ministers in the cities who operate in a thicker fog than this."

*Source of Article not known. The author is not our Don Smith. A part describing Dr Peter's responsibilities has been left out but is to be found John Carswell's article on page 5.

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Newfoundland

A Newfoundland Tragedy

By Cyril Locke *

Newfoundland generally and Newfoundlanders particularly have been subjected to the greatest and most serious tragedy of her five hundred years of history. VIZ: The closing of the cod fishery, which has been the mainstay and backbone of her economy, and by far the most labour intensive industry known to Newfoundlanders over the long period of her existence, Consequently, the repercussion of that calamity will be so catastrophic that even the sages will find it difficult to comprehend or predict.

Newfoundlanders are a proud and hardy lot, who take pride in wholesome family life. They are law abiding; God fearing and decent living people who beg no favours other than the opportunity to work and live in dignity with a proud sense of independence. How long those virtues can be maintained in the face of changing life styles can only be wild speculation at this time, and will largely depend upon the help and encouragement coupled with charitable understanding and Divine intervention out poured during the recovery period.

The recovery period will depend upon the length of time a seriously depleted resource can be rebuilt. It will also need sound inovative multiple faceted training programs to meet the demands of an ever changing technological future. What is probably paramount for long time stability is attitudinal change on the part of our people and the acceptance of grim reality. Nevertheless, Newfoundlanders over five centuries of time have endured the vagaries of disaster, misfortune and calamity, have bowed down only in humility, but never in the face of challenge and confrontation.

Present economic conditions leave much to be desired, but the future, besmirched by the evils of greed and profit of the past will emerge, and with it a new vitality of spirit, ushering in a new era of hope, and the dawn of a new day. To this end we will pray, and solicit the prayers

of others in this Nation to help us build a more prosperous future for all whose desire it will be to live in this era of a new opportunity.

N.B.

Several of our most devoted AOTS Clubs are drastically affected by this closure. Just what the future holds for some of them is very difficult to predict.

* Cyril is a long time AOTS member who worked his way from the club level to the position of National President. He was honoured for his loyalty and dedication with a Life Membership in the National Association. Along the way he also served at numerous levels in the courts of the United Church. At the National Convention in Calgary in 1981 he read the scripture lesson for introductory theme speech that was given by the Reverend Alan Reynolds. The speaker paused before beginning his presentation and wondered aloud if perhaps he should leave us in the spiritual glow created by Cyril's reading. One searches for religious experiences but here was one that stayed with us for a lifetime.

Member at Large Reports

Bruce Martin National Member at Large and President of the Vancouver Island District Council reports in part on the B.C. page,

The Camp Pringle Rally for which his council is responsible can be found there also. His excellent report on the Youth Ministry Survey was in the last Issue and I believe was the only one from across the country.

Special mention was made of the AOTS logo signs which are very popular and are available through Ken Lane at the address on page 6. Sorry for making such a mish mash of your report Bruce but your two hats makes for difficult reporting.

Moon landing proves it's a small world

It was 25 years ago that my wife sent me a copy of your paper with the full account of the historic moon landing (Moon trip was truly "giant leap for mankind," July 20).

I was in a remote village called Gambella on the western edge of Ethiopia at the time-which felt very much like being on the moon-- where I had been sent by Canadian Crossroads International.

After avidly reading your moment by moment account of the three brave astronauts, I looked up at the equatorial full moon and could imagine them clearly taking those famous few steps.

A week later I journeyed to the ancient capital of Gondar where I met some Ethiopian teenagers anxious for some information on the moonlanding. Their school was planning a drama replay of the event and needed a dialogue copy.

I was able to give them the full account, thanks to your paper. They were pleased beyond words.

So the Vancouver Sun found it's way in to the centre of Ethiopia in 1969. The Planet Earth is indeed as small as it must have appeared to Neil Armstrong and his fellow astronauts.

Ian Potts Courtenay B.C.

* Ian has been associated with AOTS for a long time. He was one of the original Qualicum Conference attendees. AOTS supported Cross Roads Africa and indeed sold a "Cross Roads Africa Tulip Bulb to raise money for this worthy outreach project

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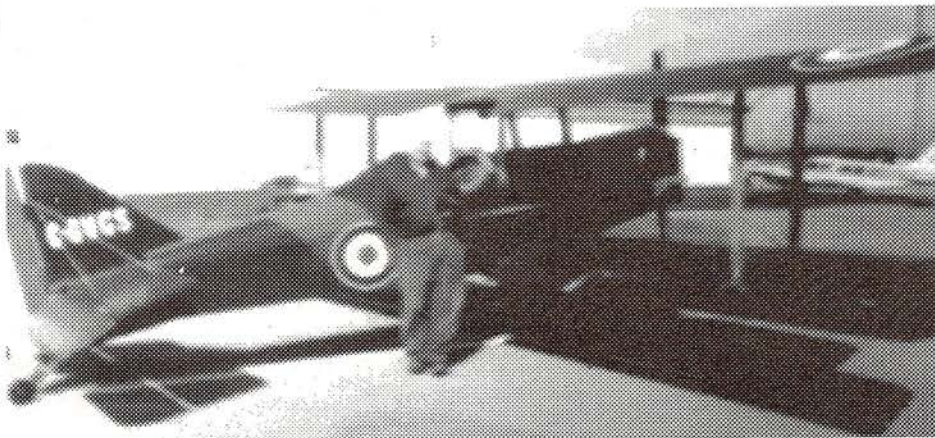
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The Upper Room Club of Abbotsford B.C.



Retirement You Say ?

1917?

That is Vic Murray standing by a 1917 World War I Fighter Plane that he built himself. Not from a kit but from a set of plans using Sitka Spruce for the frame work. The wood was dri-kilned and came in 1/2 by 6 planks from which Vic had to cut all the stringers and cross pieces for the frame. It took 3500 man hours over a twelve year period with Vic supplying most of the time.

Father and Son

His son a structural engineer helped with the painting and the fine tuning of the engine but most importantly presented the aircraft under his signature to the Department of Transport for a licence to allow them to fly it. The engine is a four cylinder Lycoming .

The plans it was built from were for a 1917 SE 5 Scout Experimental, manufactured at that time by the Royal Air Force Factory. Indeed it was a model used by our own Billy Bishop during World War I.

Vic's S.E.5 is kept at the Chilliwack Airport. You can drop by for a look see but don't expect to get a ride as it is a one seater.

Next

But don't despair Vic and his son have under construction a Star Duster Sports Biplane which is a two seater. Perhaps they will give you a ride in it when it is finished. The line forms on the left.

Langley AOTS of Langley, B.C.

Langley was the host club for the 1993 Convention held at Trinity Western. National gained two dedicated AOTS men on their council in Don Baycroft the B.C. Provincial President and Bill Pike who was voted in as National Finance Chairmen. This duo, as President and Secretary of B.C. supply leadership on the Provincial level also.

Langley for the last decade has supplied leadership for the B.C. Celebration of Faith which came mostly from the late Frank MacLean and his successor Bill Pike. These two as keepers of the flame that has blessed us with the Qualicum Conference. The B.C. Coastal Men's Conference and finally the Celebration of faith.

For years Frank Maclean and his buddy Tom Murray represented men at the B.C. Conference Level. Tom went on to represent men at two General Councils and as member of the Executive of the National Association of AOTS Clubs. The genius of these two lay in their ability to recruit leadership and once having done that remained on the scene as loyal supporters of those that succeeded them.

The club itself has hosted every National President going right back to the Charlie Burritt years. Your editor recalls meeting with a handful of members in the kitchen of the old Langley Church. Facing reduced numbers and possible extinction Bill Reid and Art Van and a few others not

only pledged themselves to keep the club going but voted to support National even though their treasury was at an all time low. At any rate they went on to become the strongest club in the Fraser Valley. With that long preamble lets here from their minutes as supplied by their secretary Gordon Peever.

The first item in the minutes states, that they sat down to eat. Not unusual in itself but you say, but it is the way they produce the dinner. For as long as the Handshake can remember it has been of a pot luck nature. One suspects that the suppliers, and for that read their wives, have met in collusion and send down a well balanced collection of casseroles, salads, buns, biscuits and other food items to make up an excellent meal. It has worked well over a couple of decades so if your club is pressed for caterers give this a try. Oh by the way the club supplies the desert and a certain few clean up the dishes and the last one out turns out the lights and locks the door.

Issued cheques of \$ 600.00 and \$200 dollars respectively for two organizations they support namely The Foster Children and the Stepping Stone Society.

Held a May dinner with entertainment and a talent auction. Nels Hindle in charge of entertainment and Bill Pike the Talent Auction. This dinner and evening was for the whole congregation and was explained to the congregation for the three Sundays preceding same. In the succeeding minutes it was reported that the dinner food sales and Auction netted \$ 2268.00.

There is more lots more. Read it in the next issue. By the way if you can supply me with a bit of club history I could work it into your report as I have done here.

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Helpful In Crisis

Scripture: Luke 10:25-37
Key: Vs 27

"Love the Lord our God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength and with all your mind" and " Love Your neighbour As Yourself."

AOTS: As One That Serves. Our goal as followers of Jesus is to be like Him. That means we see someone in need we must reach out to help. By doing so we are being used as instruments in the Lords's hands and His love will shine through.to the one in need. This old hymn says it so well:

*Oh to be his hand extended
Reaching out to be oppressed
Let me touch Him
Let me touch Jesus,
So that others may know and be
blessed."*

As servers, if we would only take the time to look around us, we would soon find those who are hopeless, those who are in difficulty, those who are in crisis

situations. These people cry out for help, though quite often it is a hidden inward cry.

AOTS! You one person: serving and showing a caring heart can be enough to totally turn a person's life around. That old familiar saying is so very true: "You may be the only Jesus some people will ever see."

That is why Jesus told the story of the Good Samaritan; to clearly show what it means to "love thy neighbour."(Luke 10-27) The man who was beaten robbed, and left to die by the roadside was certainly in a crisis moment. Remember, many others passed by, but One man had compassion and cared. The one man the Samaritan, even went out of his way to bring the wounded man to an Inn and pay for his care out of his own pocket.

Men of AOTS, there are many precious souls out there today that have been beaten and robbed by the enemy and left to die by life's roadside. Maybe it was a family matter, an emotional setback, physical stress, wanting to escape from their

pain. Very often a person's decisive moment is a surface issue rooted in a deeper crisis - a spiritual one. These souls offer a personal challenge for Christ-like servants. One might suggest a local church, arrange a visit from your pastor, contact a service agency or suggest helpful literature.

Christian Men, caring for others is a major part of what AOTS is all about. YOU have a vital role to play in that caring process. Why not show someone that Christ-like love of the Good Samaritan in a tangible way every day.

Why not let the motto for you and your club this new season be

*Others":
Other Lord, Yes Others
Let this my motto be.
Help me to live for others,
That I may live like thee."*

Devotion prepared by Gil Reashore Chairman of the Spiritual Life and Leadership Committee



United Church Goers

The above was a foot note below the names of Muriel and John Walton in a letter to Ken Lane. As you read the body of their letter below think of two AOTS types namely John Carswell and Bill Hastings who worked long and hard to produce the Hospital Brochure for the National Association. Just think, it was that brochure that triggered these two people to make the offer outlined in the self same letter. You will pardon we two, who for a fleeting momentsfelt we had died and gone to heaven.

Dear Mr.Lane
My husband and I went to Bella Bella a few years ago and he worked as a Physician in the hospital while I studied for an examination and enjoyed the warm hospitality of the people, in their homes and on their fishing boats.

We said we'd go back some day and I am planning to retire in 1995 and we would

be free to go. Please send applications for Bella Bella, Bella Coola, Lamont, Port Simpson and Hazelton Hospitals. Muriel and John Walton
United Church goers

Wont' You Join Us ?

Fill in Membership and Renewal Form Below
(You can just drop a note to Ken with the pertinent facts if you want.)

New Clubs?

For Application Forms - Literature- Videos - Contact Persons
Write- Phone or Fax
Ken Lane
44 Paris Drive
Elliott Lake, Ont. P5A 2L9
Phone
705-848-1800
Fax
705-848-0704

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

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Church	Phone Area Code Residence	Code Office	
Occupation	Retired From	Age	

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