

# The Handshake

ISSUE NO. 9

NOVEMBER, 1988

## SPECIAL NATIONAL EDITION

### National President's Report

September, 1988

Since I was elected as your President in July 1987, I have thanked our Heavenly Father for a "Closer walk with God" and for the fellowship of so many AOTS members and the opportunity to meet with and make many new friends. Attending meetings of clubs, District Councils, Rallies, Roundups and National Executive meetings has proved to me that my request for increased membership and better communications has materialized. I pray earnestly it will continue, despite the conflicts within ourselves and the United Church of Canada. AOTS men must be the Light to all men of God's church and accept the challenge to stay united as an Association of Men's Clubs for the church, our communities and our own inner satisfaction of fulfilling the vows to uphold our Aims and Objectives. You and I have the choice to make, with God's voice to help us, let us listen and try to understand His Word.

*In His Service,  
Ernest Stafford*

### An Apology

Our apologies go out to all contributors who have sent in dated material for publication.

Due to extenuating circumstances this material has become out-dated and cannot be used.

We hope this will not curtail your contributing for the next issue.

Due to time lacking, reports from many clubs were not received, thus not making the paper. All will be included in the next issue.

### Editorial Comment

If you are thinking that this is yet another corporate takeover you are dead wrong. It is purely a case of your National Executive giving the publisher and editors\* of the "Handshake" a mandate to get out the fall-winter national newsletter, like, right now!

### What Happened?

Would you believe that one of our own, Jach Arthur who edits the Challenge, is out in the political hustlings running as a Conservative candidate in the federal elections? Need we say any more other than to wish him well in his latest endeavour?

### Why The Rush?

Your National executive wants the membership to know that it has forwarded a resolution to General Council a copy of which is included herein along with one other item related to this subject that were



*President Stafford challenges the "Handshake" to publish a National Newsletter.*

taken from our Letters to the Editor Department.

We feel that there is a balance between the two presentations: the legal, an analysis as the situation stands now and a grass roots plea for loyalty and solidarity.

### Can You Hear Me At This Time?

To all who have become upset during these trying times with the United Church and to those who feel we are on our way to hell in a hand basket we say "We hear you" and know you are hurting (we are hurting too). But now is not the time to (as Rev. Chris Jack, an old navy chaplain said) "quit the ship it's not sinking."

Rather, at this time when we are tempted to be pulled apart, let's join together as a more closely knit unit in the body of Christ.

The fight for Christ will always win and you are urged to consider where we are at, where we are going, and why things are happening. I didn't say accept. Sure, at times we must write letters, talk on the phone or even shout at one another during

this trying period. But, we can not allow it to pull us apart for we then have lost our defence.

To those who have left the Church, we hurt for you even more, but you haven't left our A.O.T.S./Men's Groups. It is just a temporary absence we hope. We want you to help us during these troubled times, we need your dedication and Christian Fellowship. Your advising, opinions, direction and help is needed more than ever and we urge you to assist us during our battle for Jesus Christ.

For further communication please contact me at (604) 430-4616 or at 4134 Maywood Street Apt. 707, Burnaby, B.C., V5H 4C9.

—John Carswell



# National Council Meets in Duncan

Theme: Man's Choice, Today for Tomorrow

Duncan AOTS Men's Club were hosts to National Council when members from across Canada gathered for their Annual meeting. National President Ernie Stafford was in charge of the many faceted program. Out of town guests were billeted at AOTS homes in the community and richly entertained, including tours of Duncan, "The City of Totems", and home of the World's Largest Hockey Stick, Chemainus, "The Little Town that Did" and other local attractions. Transportation provided by members of the Duncan club and in the Victoria area by members of the Victoria club.

The impressive event was culminated when the AOTS guests from across Canada were hosted to a banquet — Duncan

style, catered to by U.C.W. ladies and also attended by Duncan members and their wives. There were 16 past presidents of the Duncan club in attendance and a highlight of the evening was a presentation of a Life Membership to a highly respected member of the Duncan club, Fred Cummings who was a charter member.

Guest speaker of the evening was Dr. Peter Newberry — Director of United Church Health Services, a Medical missionary and pilot to villages and churches across Northern Canada. The Doctor spoke of his experiences and the need for personnel and equipment.

It was announced that the Biennial Convention for 1989 would be held in Sackville, New Brunswick, July 7-9, at

Mount Allison University.

The National Council of United Church -AOTS Men's Clubs resolved by a majority vote to oppose the United Church of Canada's report on "Membership, Ministry and Human Sexuality" and requested the Moderator and General Council of the United Church of Canada to implement suspension of the statement "Membership, Ministry and Human Sexuality until further notice and call for an expression of opinion from all congregations within the United Church of Canada.

—Ernest Stafford, National President

*The full text of the resolution will be found elsewhere in this issue of the Handshake.*

## National AOTS Executive Director's Report

Greetings! I trust you had a good summer and are ready to start a new year (September- June) of exciting activities. I have just returned from the Annual Meeting of the National Council and look forward to a year of continued growth in numbers of involved men and AOTS action.

We have had many enquiries as to the policy of AOTS National regarding the report, Membership, Ministry and Human Sexuality. The latter report is the response by the 32nd General Council to the matter of homosexuals etc. If you do not have a copy, and cannot find one locally, please write to me and I will forward a copy. In regards to that matter you will find a copy of National Council's position in this mailing. We do believe the policy decision taken reflects the views of most AOTS Men and Clubs.

Another important matter was dealt with at the Annual Meeting and that is the arrangements for the 16th National Convention to be held in 1989. Originally the site was to be Baddeck N.S. but due to higher than expected costs it became necessary to move the location. We have now firmed up arrangements at Mount Allison University in Sackville, N.B. for the weekend of July 7-9, 1989. A Steering Committee is together under the leadership of Ralph Sams of Dartmouth, N.S. Please mark your calendars for this outstanding event. While registration forms are not yet prepared, I can advise you that the Registrar is Don Campbell of Cornwall, P.E.I. (Site 8, Box 39, RR #4 - C0A 1H0).

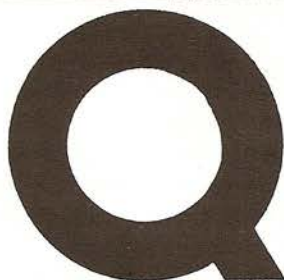
Planning is in high gear. If you wish to register early, write to the Registrar and send a \$25.00 deposit.

One of the highlights of the Annual Meeting was our after dinner speaker Dr. Peter Newberry, who related some specific examples of how equipment purchased with AOTS National Hospital Project funds was instrumental in saving lives of accident victims. Hopefully more on this will be in one of the upcoming Challenge editions.

You should have received four new additional devotional aids prepared by the Spiritual Life Committee, if not, contact Bob Lewis, AOTS National Office, 105 Lamp Road, RR #3, Amerstburg, Ontario, N9V 3R3.

Please keep in touch!

—Bob Lewis, E.D.



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Bill Hastings (604) 858-3726

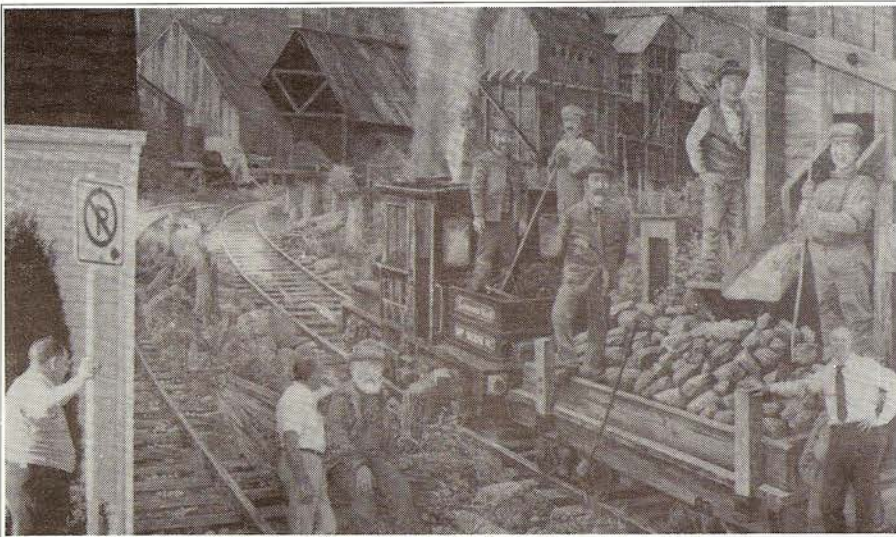
Ken Martin (604) 433-7171

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The Handshake  
707 - 4134 Maywood Street  
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# Annual Meeting of the Council of the National Association of AOTS Clubs held at Duncan, B.C. September 29—October 1, 1988.



← Council was treated to a tour of Chemainus, B.C. This small Vancouver Island town, striven by closing mines and mills, established itself as a tourist attraction based on murals which depict old time and lumber scenes.



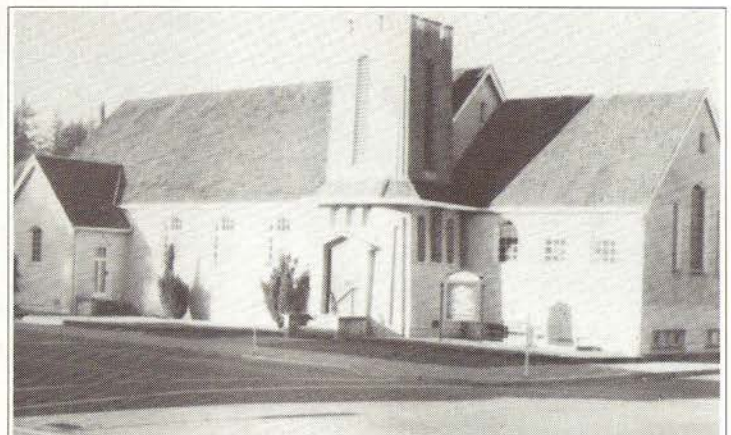
*Council*



*Closing Banquet*



*Opening Devotional*



*Duncan United*



# National Council at Work in Duncan, B.C.



*Reports, Strategy, Decision: Maurice Wright, Left Foreground: Recording Secretary, Right Foreground: E. Stafford, Nat. President*



*LEFT: John Carswell, Leadership  
Wally Shoults, Alberta Pres.*



*LEFT: ?, CTR: Murray McPherson  
RIGHT: Lloyd Clark*



*LEFT: Reg Cooper  
RIGHT: Willard Proud*



*LEFT: George McKeever, Man.  
RIGHT: Eldon Jensen, Sask.*



*Roy Jones, B.C. President*



*LT: Lloyd Richards, Central Vice Pres.  
RT: Who is this debonaire gentleman?*



*Ken Lane: Member at large  
Apologies for names missed: Editor*



*LEFT: Jack Cleave  
RT: Who is this handsome gentleman?*



# Address to National Council of UC- AOTS Men

by Dr. Peter Newberry — Director of UC Medical Services

On Saturday, October 1, Dr. Newberry, the newly appointed director of the United Church Hospital Services, addressed the National Council and members of their families at Duncan United Church. Approximately one hundred persons met for dinner after which they listened to a stirring presentation on the medical work of the Division of Mission in Canada. On this first anniversary of the appointment of Dr. Newberry as the successor to Don Watt, we heard of the extensive health care services provided by the Church with special reference to the contributions and support of AOTS men.

Working conditions in remote areas of northern Canada frequently require travel by canoe, ski-doo or airplane. Travellers have to attempt "to keep their vision clear when the controls (aircraft) are all slushy and mushy."

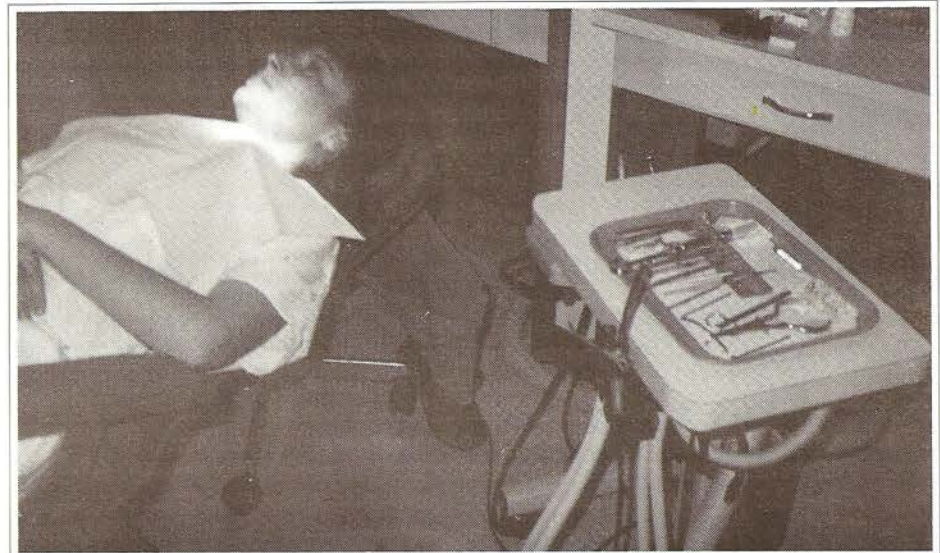
Physicians are frequently called to serve with the "tragic side of life". Dr. Newberry referred to the high incidence of depression and suicide among young people and provided insights as to how we as a service group can continue to help. Specialized equipment is needed; he expressed the hope that not only would AOTS men continue their dollar support but that we would visit the communities to see the results being achieved. he reminded the gathering of a one hundred year old partnership which has been forged between those who are on the front line in providing medical help and those who provide the support.

As One That Serves,

—Murray McPherson



*A patient being examined with computerized ultrasound equipment, which allows measurement of the anterior chamber of the eye, and diagnosis of some diseases at the back of the eye. This equipment is essential for the replacement of a cataract with a new lens, which allows almost complete and full vision to be restored to patients who would otherwise eventually be blind. We do up to 50 lens replacements each year in this hospital — thanks to the A.O.T.S. There are 50-100 people in our area who have had their sight restored.*



*The cart and hand pieces for the dentist were supplied through the A.O.T.S. gifts. They allow a very flexible, but up to date approach to the dental work we have to do.*



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## AOTS Membership and Communications

Inter-club visitation is a valuable means of communicating everywhere and every way. We should cultivate the idea and continue the practice in all churches, communities and the promotion of effective outreach projects.

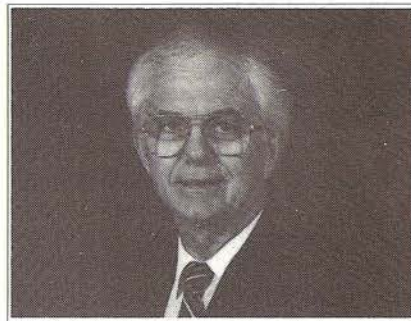
By visiting and inviting, we can spread the literature available from AOTS and other organizations, whatever denomination. I know there are men and clubs who need our help and we theirs, because of declining attendances at churches, leaderships of and by men of the church. We have a duty to our friends and neighbours to be AS ONE'S THAT SERVE.

New clubs and groups are being formed and we have the Youth who are looking for Leadership and Guidance.

God has blessed us, we have managed to survive the bad times and thankfully weathered the good times. God gave us the means of communicating to our fellow being and with Him, use your voices with "The Faith Of Our Fathers".

—Ernest Stafford  
National President

## To Presidents and/or Secretaries of all AOTS Men's Clubs



Jack Authier, Chairman

I am writing to bring you up to date regarding Second Mile Support. Bob Lewis, National AOTS Executive Director, has presented an update financial report to Lloyd Clark, National Finance Committee Chairman, and has included in this report Second Mile Support statistics to May 31, 1988.

After reading Bob's report, I am pleased to be able to tell you that \$4,739.00 has been received for Second Mile Support to date. However, there is still some way to go prior to December 31, of this year. I

believe that I mentioned in my January 1988 letter to you that the National Executive are hoping that \$20,000.00 will be given to Second Mile Support during this budget year.

Will you please accept my thanks for any funds that your club, or members of your club, may have contributed this year. In the event that no contributions have been made to date, will you please encourage your members to do so since their support would be most appreciated by National.

Contributions should be mailed directly to Bob Lewis. In the enclosed brochure is a convenient form for your use. Note Bob's address included.

Please deep in mind that individual donations are eligible for income tax deductions.

Plans for future growth of the National AOTS organization depends on Second Mile Support. We encourage you to be a part of these plans.

—Jack Authier, Chairman,  
Second Mile Support

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## The National Association of United Church AOTS Men's Clubs Financial Statement for the Year Ended December 31, 1987

### Operating Funds

#### Income:

Dues — all sources	\$16,514.00
Second Mile Support	10,329.26
Other Donations	370.00
DMC Grant	9,500.00
Sale of Supplies	2,282.92
Other Income	<u>1,899.52</u>
	<u>40,895.70</u>

#### Disbursements:

Office Salary	\$9,424.98
Office Expenses	6,242.01
Executive Travel	2,418.72
Meeting Expenses	15,059.10
Newsletter	2,404.14
Supplies for Resale	699.16
Committee Expenses	542.31
Other Expenses	<u>2,430.16</u>
	<u>39,220.58</u>

### Special Funds

Harry Colnett Scholarship	1,929.60
United Church Hospitals	7,921.07

### Receipts

	-
	6,400.00

### Disbursements

	-
	6,400.00

### Balance

	22,132.53
	1,974.21

—Robert Lewis,  
Treasurer



## Have You Considered AOTS Nut Tins to Raise Funds for Your Club?

AOTS QUALITY NUTS, are a long time favourite fundraiser and will again be packed in vacuum tins with distinctive AOTS Labels. This provides several advantages to AOTS Clubs in their fundraising projects, as:

- A distinctive product, enhancing the AOTS Community profile and objectives.
- Avoidance of "loss leader" competition from stores selling the same item at cut-rate prices. The unique AOTS tins will not appear on dealer shelves or counters.
- Attractive pricing, yielding good consumer value, and high AOTS profits.
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Nut sales have been a prime fund raiser across Canada and some of the clubs that have enjoyed the program for several years are: Cityview AOTS, Kapuskasing AOTS, Wakefield AOTS, Wilmar Heights AOTS and Zion Wexford AOTS.

Join their success. Small orders accepted for new clubs to help them get things up and going. Questions would gladly be answered by collect call to Embark Fundraisers, the official agents for the producers of AOTS Nuts.

For further details contact:

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## United We Stand, Divided We Fall

The Banff Centre  
Banff, Alberta

October 15, 1988

Mr. John Carswell

Dear John:

The following is appropos to our discussion of Saturday, October 15, 1988 during the 34th Annual Banff Conference, of the problem facing the United Church today concerning the ordination of homosexuals and of the departure from the United Church of good devout Christians who cannot accept the action of the 32nd General Council.

For some time I have struggled with this, feeling that such departures are to result in the abandonment of our Church to what we view as an undesirable element, but being unable to state my feeling in words that would have the appropriate effect.

You will recall that, as we discussed the problem, an analogy suddenly occurred to me, I KNOW that God spoke through me as I posed this situation for you to consider: —

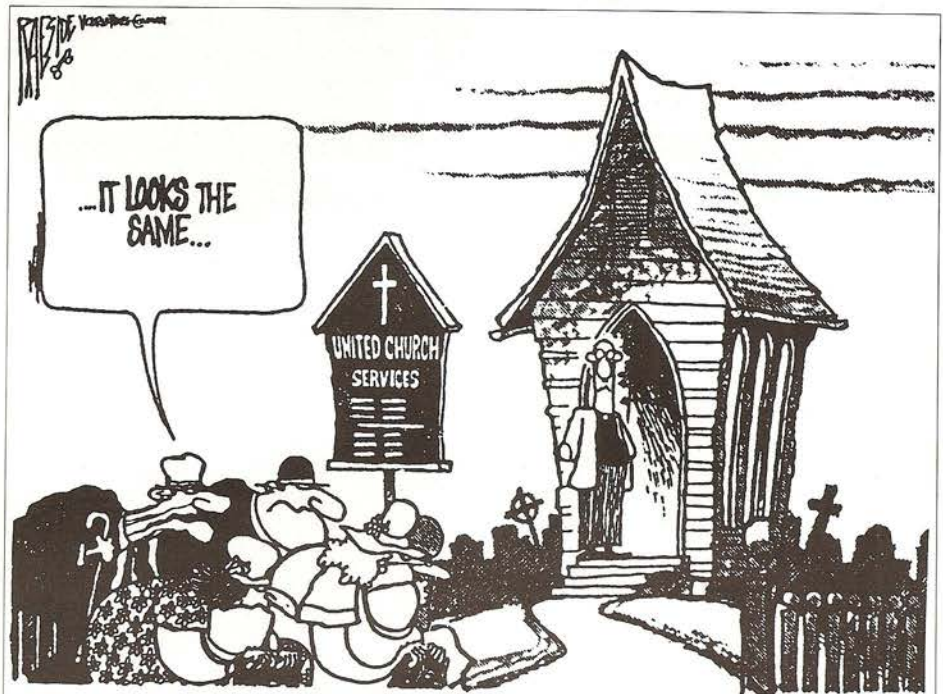
Suppose that you are well established in your own comfortable home but in your compassion and love for your fellow Man, you open your heart and your door to a relative (friend, stranger), inviting them to share your blessings. Then, when things "don't work out", do YOU turn your back on your home and possessions, leaving everything you have worked so hard for your visitor?

This is the action that is being taken by those members who are leaving in protest. We must STOP this movement — we must REVERSE it and bring these members back to support our fight. To keep that which we have worked so hard for over the years. The well-know adage is certainly appropriate: —

"UNITED WE STAND—  
DIVIDED WE FALL."

*In God's Love, May we be strong.*

—Harry Vogel





# Resolution on Sexuality Passed at the Annual Meeting of the National Council of the National Association of United Church AOTS Men's Clubs

At the National Council Meeting in Duncan, B.C. on October 1, 1988, there was much time spent addressing the topic of the ordination of homosexuals. When it was realized after some heated discussion that there could be no agreement in an open meeting, a committee was formed to further study the subject.

After much deliberation, the committee returned with a resolution to be studied, adopted, rejected. The following resolution was endorsed:

Re: Membership, Ministry, and Human Sexuality; A New Statement of The United Church of Canada by the 32nd General Council

Whereas the United Church AOTS Men's Clubs expressed considerable concern at their 15th National Convention at Regina in August 1987, about the financial and human resources which are being spent by the Church on the study of homosexuality and pornography; and

Whereas the United Church AOTS Men's Clubs National Executive voted to reject the report, "Toward a Christian Understanding of Sexual Orientations, Lifestyles, and Ministry," at their April, 1988 meeting and communicated this message to the National Church offices; and

Whereas the statement of the 32nd Council of The United Church of Canada, "Membership, Ministry and Human Sexuality" (S.O.L.M.) retained areas pertaining to human sexuality which appeared in the previous report, "Toward a Christian Understanding of Sexual Orientations, Lifestyles, and Ministry," and which AOTS members find offensive; and

Whereas many congregations across Canada have expressed opposition to the ordination of practicing homosexuals; and

Whereas some United Church AOTS men are now leaving the Church with their families or giving serious consideration to same;

The National Council of The United Church AOTS Men's Clubs recommend the following corrective actions to the leadership of the National Church and the membership at large in dealing with the current crisis surrounding the report, "Membership, Ministry and Human Sexuality":



May 15, 1988 Victoria Avenue AOTS Men's Club

Left to Right— Bob Lewis, National AOTS Executive Director, Speaker; Emile Thibault, President; Robin Shepherd, Vice-President; Ralph Bisschop, Devotional Chairman

- 1) The United Church AOTS National Council request the Moderator of the United Church of Canada and General Council to suspend implementation of the new statement, "Membership, Ministry and Human Sexuality" until further notice and call for an expression of opinion (Remit) in regard to this statement from all congregations within the United Church of Canada; and
- 2) The leadership of The United Church of Canada be requested to retain the traditional standards of the Church in regard to human sexuality, namely the practice of sexuality within the context of Christian marriage and the celibacy of the single person; and
- 3) The leadership of the Church cease

and desist from what many members perceive to be a cover-up of the actual nature and thrust of the new statement, "Membership, Ministry and Human Sexuality" and divert their energies to healing the serious wounds, which acceptance of this report in Victoria, has inflicted upon the body of Christ.

#### Special Note:

The initials S.O.L.M. refer to the recommendations of Sessional Committee #8 which replaced the original report, "Toward a Christian Understanding of Sexual Orientations, Lifestyles, and Ministry." These recommendations are now contained in the document entitled, "Membership, Ministry and Human Sexuality."

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# Banff Conference

## "Whoever Believes in Me"

The 34th Annual Banff Conference unfolded right on plan starting October 14th and continuing to the 16th. There were 351 in attendance who came away spiritually motivated. Right Rev. J. Barry Curtis was the theme speaker and he spoke on we men being the Body of Christ and we are to carry the love of God with us and having a caring, sharing attitude always.

He pointed out that today there are many different types of Gods in our world of materialism but cautioned us to hold fast to our spiritual God. We were encourage to remove the walls from around us and allow the Spirit of God to become active in us. All men are to be active instruments for God in the world today. It

was pointed out to us that Love increases with sharing and we can continually reach into God's reservoir of Love and Strength.

Rev. Curtis spoke on how the values change when men release themselves to God's will. When our spirit meets God's Spirit we become transformed and such great joy we find in being a true servant of God.

The Banff Conference this year was a spirit filled time and all returned home to spread the gospel.

Next year I plan to go again, why don't you go too?

—John Carswell

## Visit of Executive Director to Festival of Faith

I was very privileged to be able to attend the Festival of Faith representing AOTS and bringing greetings from the President. The Festival of Faith is now in its fifth year, and its purpose is to promote a personal relationship with Christ. It also serves to bring the Peace of Christ to each. This is accomplished in two main ways, through group discussion and through three story-tellers. Each story-teller presents a personal witness as to how Christ has influenced his life in a meaningful way. Many of the over 100 attendees were spiritually motivated by these dedicated men as they gave their witness in relation to the Festival theme "Come, Go with Me."

The setting for this recharging of batteries was Mount Allison University in Sackville N.B. (about 20 miles from Moncton). The quietness and beauty of the lovely University grounds, together with the majesty of the Chapel made the

setting superb for a "meeting with God."

While my main purpose in attending was to be an ambassador for AOTS, I must say that the people, the music, the programmes and the surroundings make this a worthwhile event for many men wanting to know his Saviour a little better. Those attending were mostly United Church men, some AOTS, some not. Leadership was provided not only by United Church people, but also Baptists and the Roman Catholic Church. It takes place in June each year and is highly recommended. The organizers are to be commended for the excellent results, keeping in mind that they are not reimbursed for any personal costs.

NOTE:

The photo is of Willard Proud who is one of the planning committee members for this event. Willard also is Maritime Representative to the National Council.

—Bob Lewis

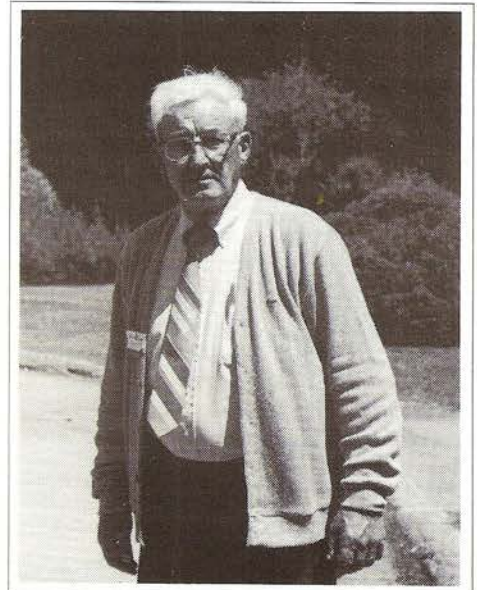
## Banff A.O.T.S. Workshop

Wally Shoultz conducted a workshop at the Banff Men's Conference on "Worship and Work of the A.O.T.S. United Church Men's Club."

He spoke on the aim of men's work, promoting, Christian Fellowship, to deepen the spiritual life of men, increase men's knowledge of the work of God, develop an effective program of Christian service, develop leadership and many other topics.

His message was loud and clear to the 65-75 men who participated. Each man left with a fuller knowledge of the area where they can become involved in God's work.

It was a very worthwhile exercise and it is hoped we have this type of workshop in Banff every year.



Willard Proud

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# A.O.T.S Men's Service Club

Gordon United Church, 935 Goldstream Avenue

Victoria, B.C.

Greetings from the A.O.T.S. Men's Club of Gordon United Church, (Langford, B.C.). During the past year under the able leadership of our President Bob French, we had a very successful time. We meet, on a regular basis, on the third Tuesday of each month, (September through June). Our meetings start with a home cooked meal at the Church, (cooked and served by ladies of the congregation under the direction of Irene Latowski), grace is led by Albert Silman, (a charter member of our club). We next have a Devotional by one of our members, a short business meeting and then a Guest Speaker. Our average attendance is 24 members. We often host Youth groups to dinner (such as the C.G.I.T. and Explorers) and a large number of guests.

In addition to our regular scheduled meetings, we also participated in several field trips such as the Saanich Artifacts Society Farm and Museum and the Institute of Ocean Sciences at Patricia Bay, (where Mr. Ed Hill conducted a tour of the facility followed by a luncheon in their cafeteria).

During the year we participated in several church and congregational functions, fund raising events and church facility work projects, (under the able direction of Maintenance Superintendent, Ross Busby). In addition to our Youth Sponsorships, we also contributed to the General Fund, Building Maintenance and various other Church related items. Our annual Fred Hayhurst scholarship award



*A.O.T.S. Club hosting C.G.I.T. — 1988 Gordon United Church — Langford, B.C.*

went to Miss Debbie Wyatt, who will be attending a secondary education facility this fall.

Regular programs during the year included such diverse programs as Buddhism, when Mr. Johnathon Kelly spoke on his religion, a musical evening by the Arbutus Chapter of the Sweet Adelines, and the "Coroner's Pringle.

Closing out our year, we held our Annual Ladies Night at the Peacock Restaurant in Sidney where over 70 members and their ladies enjoyed a fine evening of good food, fun, entertainment and wonderful fellowship. Our final club function was our Annual Picnic held in June when 50 persons attended our picnic (we share with the choir), at Ernie Crockford's estate in View Royal.

We are enthusiastically looking for-

ward to our new church year and several events, (a program on Recycling, a visit to the Navy Helicopter Squadron at Patricia Bay, a program on our local waters, a tour of the University of Victoria facility "Dunsmuir Lodge", and many more interesting items); these have been selected and scheduled to try and involve as many men in the congregation as possible.]

Lastly, we wish to thank our Minister, Rev. Colleen Erb, whose super support, spiritual guidance and Christian example has in no small way added to the success of our club.

*Yours*

*As One That Serves  
Gordon's United Men's Club  
—Larry Buchanan*

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## Cranbrook – Sponsors of Cambodian Refugees

Wilf Prouten reports the activity in Cranbrook, B.C. last March (A.O.T.S. Month).

Prior to March 1988 the congregation/A.O.T.S. Club had discussed the possibility of sponsoring a Cambodian refugee family to Canada and Cranbrook United Church. It was decided that they would respond particularly in March, being "Special Events" month.

Next came the discussions on raising money for this "Great Cause." After many meetings a decision was made to hold a "White Elephant Sale." (Garage Sale)

Many items were collected for the families use and still more to be sold at the "White Elephant Function". This activity brought in \$650.00 as a starter. Next the Sunday School (including teachers...God bless them) raised \$250.00 on a hot dog lunch sale. With all the activity at that point almost \$1,000.00 had been raised together with just short of a house full of furniture. Such dedication and involvement! God is blessing, that's for sure.

On our last report from Wilf there appears to have been a delay in the family coming to Canada due to some sickness of

the father (T.B.?). Wilf reports that Cranbrook United are all praying for this family which they are sponsoring in hopes they will arrive soon. Why couldn't you pray for this family right now?

Keep us posted Wilf. We are waiting to hear the ongoing results and want to share in this great happening. May God's richest blessing be on Cranbrook United at this time.

*—John Carswell  
(The Little Editor)*



## Youth Work Committee

B. Cumming, Chairing

At the National A.O.T.S. Executive meeting in Duncan, B.C. I stated that we as a committee would seek to create a greater awareness in our youth. A member of our committee, Keith Stainton presented us with a new approach to consider in our work with the young of our church.

It is presented as a question and answer perspective and we anticipate a response from our readers.

Question 1: Do we have too narrow a concept of ministry with respect to our young people?

Question 2: What changes in mission vision should be considered?

Question 3: What mission delivery vehicles could be effective?

Keith has shared some of his concerns with us. It comes as a consequence of his work where he is asked to be in attendance of perform with other religious or ethnic groups. In many cases the feeling comes across that they are doing a lot better job than we are. We seem to have missed the commission of doing our best in a secular world. Outstanding support programs are apparent in many groups other than religious groups. In the changing work areas of our lives and society this is very apparent. Their family structures and support groups not only do well but are worthy of our

attention. In our awards systems what is working well with us?

This leads us to the response points in our three questions.

It appears that in recent times ministry to (youth) the young the goals have been:

1) Introduction/conviction of the young to the concept of God and His Son Jesus.

2) Encouragement of service to God through service to people.

3) Encouragement of attendance/participation in church activities.

In the broad sense, the United Church has not spent much time, money, talent in nurturing its Christian community. Other beliefs/cultures apparently are more committed to enhancing the overall well being of their communities. Some examples are Jewish, Ishmaelies, Japanese and Sikhs. In this profile and without bias, prejudice, forethought in mind, or reason, but rather in self-examination let us say perhaps we are too docile and (proud?) to consider emulating some of the successful operational strategies of these groups where the goals sought are compatible with Christian beliefs.

Due to our space allotment we will leave question three on the burner and maybe there are some folk out there who would like to feed it.

—Your Committee for the Young

## Trenton's Club is Active

The Men's Club meets on the first Sunday of each month at 5 p.m. for supper meetings. The men have about four teams who take turns at preparing meals.

The Men's Club have various ways in which they contribute to the work of the church in our community. Some of the projects are as follows:

- 1) Congregational Skate and refreshments
- 2) Annual Take-Out Ham and Salad Supper
- 3) Supper for the Choir in appreciation of their contribution to the life of the church.
- 4) The preparation and serving of a banquet to the Trenton High School Graduation Class.

5) We serve Pancakes and Sausages for the Winter Carnival Breakfast, and also for the Centennial Days Breakfast.

6) Our club also plays a major role in the Harvest Festival.

The Men's Club can also be found assisting at the MacLennan Memorial Camp, painting projects in the church, renovating within the church or carrying out construction projects like the new ramp in from of the Church Hall.

The men who attend the monthly supper meetings have enjoyed the fellowship, and we extend an invitation to any man to join us for fellowship and projects.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Fergie MacKay, President*

## Mailing List Update

In preparing a mailing to Life Members, the National Office came up short of proper addresses for the following members. Please write to the National Office if you can provide the correct address and postal code for:

Frank Baker  
Jack Baker  
Jack Banks  
Roy Caldwell  
Dr. Norman H. MacKenzie  
Rev. Don Mannell  
George Skinner  
Milton Thorp  
Rev. Carl Zurlrigg

The National Office Address is: Robert A. Lewis, 105 Lamp Road, RR #3, Amherstburg, Ontario, N9V 3R3

## Help! Help! Help!

Do you have an activity happening in your area sometime soon? We want to hear about it like right now! The Handshake wants to participate in the advertising of such activities — a Roundup, Celebration of Faith, Conferences, etc.

Let us know now will you please?

John Carswell, 4134 Maywood Street, Burnaby, B.C. V5H 4C9, Apt. #707

## More Help Needed

When you have a function happening in your area, please have someone do a write-up on it. It is most important that this information be sent to us in order that we may relay it with our excitement and enthusiasm to our readers.

## Can You Reach Him?

Some people have experienced difficulty reaching the National Executive Director. The address is:

Robert A. Lewis  
105 Lamp Road  
RR #5, Amherstburg  
Ontario, N9V 3R3  
Telephone: (519) 734-7345



# Coming Events

## National Convention 1989

The Convention Steering Committee is in high gear now. The location is Mt. Allison University, Sackville, New Brunswick, July 7-8-9, 1989.

Theme Speaker: Rev. Robert Crooks  
Registrar: Don Campbell, Site, 8, Box 39, RR #4, Cornwall, P.E.I., COA 1H0.

The university is in a beautiful setting twenty minutes from Moncton, N.B.

For those of us who want to get the registrations in early, they can be mailed in now with a \$25.00 cheque.

Everyone is looking forward for an exciting time at this convention.

See you there!

## Spring Roundup in B.C.

The British Columbia A.O.T.S. Roundup is being held on Saturday and Sunday, March 11th and 12th in Gordon United in Victoria. This will be a first time of an overnight roundup with the visitors being billeted.

It looks like an exciting time with Rev. Kenneth Benner originally from Orillia, Ontario being the theme speaker. For further information, please contact Roy Jones (B.C. President) at 506 Fraser Street, Victoria, B.C., V9A 6H5 or at (604) 384-4640.

## Alberta Roundup

Wally and Max are planning the Second Annual Spring Roundup in Gaetz Memorial United in Red Deer on March 17, 18 and 19th, 1989. The excitement is already beginning to build on this event with God's blessing.

For further details, contact: Wally Shoults, 3239 Oakwood Drive S.W., Calgary, Alberta, T2V 0K4 or phone (403) 281-2188 or Max Vandenbrink, 151 McLevin Cres., Red Deer, Alberta, T4R 1S8 or phone (403) 347-3750. They are Alberta's A.O.T.S. President and Vice-President respectively and urge you to contact them regarding this coming event.

## Celebration of Faith 1989

On Friday, Saturday and Sunday, May 26, 27 and 28, the B.C. A.O.T.S. are holding a Celebration of Faith at Trinity Western University in Langley, B.C.

It is the 33 Annual event and it is planned to be more exciting than Rev. Albert Baldao, the theme speaker in 1988? He was a most inspiring speaker. For those of you who can, please come this year. For further information, contact Frank MacLean at #102-3031-200 St., Langley, B.C. V3A 4P5 (604) 534-9454. He is our very own Mr. Celebration of Faith.

May God Bless you and keep you in good health Frank.

## Banff Conference 1989

35th Annual Banff Conference  
Friday, Saturday and Sunday  
October 13-14-15, 1989

### Theme Speakers:

Dr. Bill Jacyk, M.D.

Hugh McCullum

Rev. Doug Pratt

### For Registration, write:

Mel Brooke

Box 2037

Rosetown, Saskatchewan

S0L 2V0

Phone: (306) 882-4437, evenings

## March is A.O.T.S. Month

The Nation Executive has designated the month of March as A.O.T.S. Month.

This will be an annual happening and appears to be an excellent idea. In view of this let's each club/member plan on giving an extra effort in service and dedication to bring A.O.T.S. to the forefront this March, whether it be inviting new members, assisting with a church service, or doing a service in your community. Do it this March in the name of A.O.T.S. God Bless your every effort.

## National Convention to be held in Windsor, Ontario in 1991.

Although July - August, 1991 is a long time away, plans have been prepared for this

exciting event. This group, as all of us know, can't be over-prepared. We will all be look-

ing forward to this time.

## B.C. AOTS Seeking to Host 1993 National AOTS Convention

The proposed convention site is Trinity Western University, Langley, B.C.

The lovely rural setting in the Lower Fraser Valley and the tranquil atmosphere is ideally suited for our meeting.

The campus located between Langley City and Fort Langley, and is 25 miles east of Vancouver. It is an easy drive from Vancouver's airport and is located next to

the Trans Canada Highway.

The convention will be completely self contained using the classrooms, chapel, gymnasium and dormitories.

The Celebration of Faith men have used this facility for the past 10 years and find them very satisfactory for retreats and conventions of this nature.

Nyra Groves  
Manager  
Travel Consultant

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