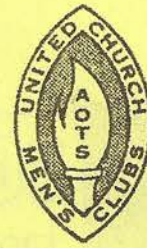


AOTS News



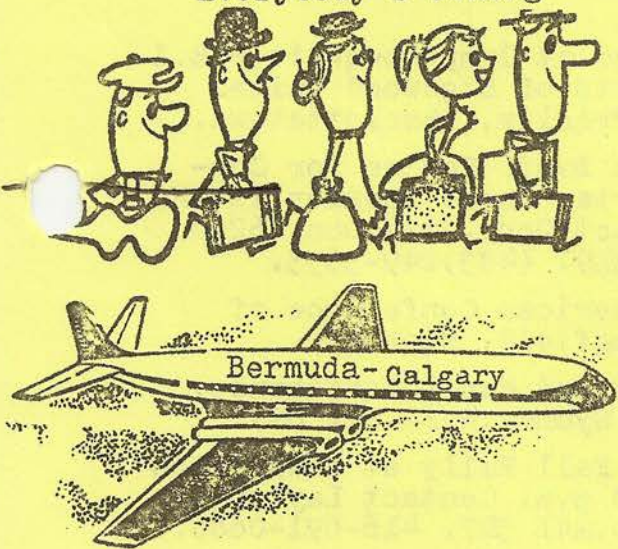
Vol. 4, No. 2. June 1981



MAIL YOUR REGISTRATION

12th Biennial Convention of the National Association of U.C. AOTS Mens' Clubs CALGARY, Alta. August 21,22,23, 1981

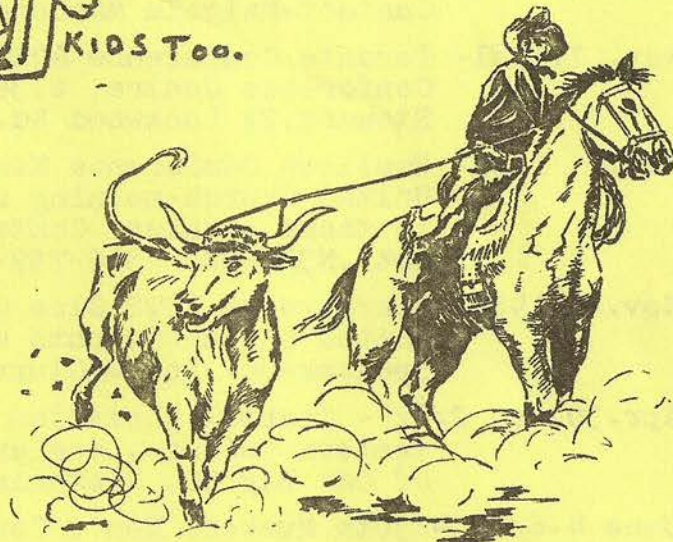
Everybody's Coming



SPECIAL NOTICE

New Address for National AOTS Office
Al Smith, Executive Secretary
61 Nordin Ave.
Toronto, Ontario
M8Z 2B4

phone 416-259-8008





July 1981 - The National AOTS Office & Address moves to 61 Nordin Ave., Toronto, Ont., M8Z 2B4. phone - office 416-259-8008 home 416-251-3236 G.Allan(AL) Smith-Exec. Sec.

July 8, 1981 - Al Smith and Betty Donnelly will be wed.

- Aug.7-9/81 - Laity Summer Event of the Montreal & Ottawa Conference, at Lennoxville, P.Q., for men, women and children. Contact R.G.Beairsto, 204B, 352 Dorval Ave., Dorval, P.Q., H9S 3H8. 514-631-8594.
- Aug.20,1981- AOTS National Council Annual Meeting in Calgary at S.A.I.T.
- Aug.21-23/81- AOTS National Convention at the University of Calgary, Theme:"In His Service to Care and Share" with Dr.A. Reynolds,Ryerson United, Vancouver as theme speaker. The whole family is welcome. See registration form on back page of this newsletter.
- Sept.18-20/81- 26th Central Newfoundland Men's Conference at Loon Bay Camp.
- Sept.19-20/81- 26th Stanhope Men's Conference at Camp Abeqweit,P.E.I. Theme speaker is Rev.John Roberts of Edgewood United Church. Lloyd Yeo is Chairman,Trinity, Charlottetown.
- Oct.16-18/81- 27th Banff Men's Conference at Banff Centre for Continuing Education, Banff, Alberta. Theme speaker is the Moderator,Dr.Loie Wilson. Contact-Doug.Jamieson, 6208 34 St.,S.W.,Calgary,Alta.,T3E 5L9. (403)249-5655.
- Oct.27-29/81- Annual Meeting of the North American Conference of Men's Work Secretaries at Springfield, Missouri.
- Oct.31-Nov.1- (tentative) 2nd Cape Breton Island Men's Conference. Contact-Malcolm MacDonald,RR#5,Sydney,N.S.,B1P 6G7.
- Nov. 1.1981- Toronto Conference AOTS Annual Fall Rally at Cedar Glen Conference Centre, 2.30 to 9.00 p.m. Contact Layton Stewart,29 Lockwood Rd.,Toronto,M4L 3M7. 416-691-0686.
- Nov.7, 1981- Hamilton Conference Men's Fall Event at Cainsville United Church-morning and afternoon. Clarke MacDonald is theme speaker. Contact Jim Wark,68 Elm St.,Brantford, Ont.,N3R 4V2. 519-759-0468.
- Nov.29,1981- Scarborough AOTS Glee Club Evening at Metropolitan United Church Toronto with the Metropolitan Silver Band. Speaker-Dr. Bob McClure. Time 7.15 p.m.
- Apr.30-May 2/82 - Coastal Christian Men's Conference at Trinity Western College,Langley,B.C. with Rev.Bill Van Druten of Oak Bay UC, Victoria, B.C.
- June 4-6/82 - 30th Muskoka Men's Conference. 1st weekend men only;
June 11-13/82 2nd weekend couples. Contact Don Gard 5078 Spruce Ave., Burlington,Ont.,L7L 1M8. 416-639-0129.
- You may also contact the AOTS National Office re the above events. See address on Front page.
- 1983 AOTS Convention in St.John's,Nfld. We are open for invitations for the 1985 AOTS Convention.

GREETINGS & SALUTATIONS from the National AOTS Office - Al Smith

It was with deep regret that Maurice Wright had to finally make the decision that he would not be able to get out a Spring 81 (April) issue of the Newsletter due to lack of available time from his work. This poor substitute has been written by your Executive Secretary. Some of you may not have realized it but for the last couple of years the Newsletter has only been printed and mailed from the National AOTS Office. Maurice Wright of Oakville has been the editor and composer. Many good comments have come in about the Newsletter.

This edition will be a smaller edition than the more recent ones. It will not contain as much club news. Maurice plans on picking up on missed items with the September issue. I will concentrate on areas where we have not had much news previously.

The St. Anthony AOTS Club in St. Anthony, Newfoundland, is over 200 miles from any other club. It has sent a report on its 1980 activities. It meets every second Thursday evening with an average of 12 members per meeting. Most programs are opened with a devotion by one of the members leading to an interesting Bible discussion.

Their other activities & projects are numerous including \$456. plus birthday & Christmas gifts spent for two foster children in Israel. They also gave \$100. to the Canadian Bible Society.

Their support of their church included painting the basement floor, replacing broken windows, installing a steel door in the Vestry, laying cushion floor in the front porch, material & labour for cupboards for the Youth Group, and looking after the janitorial work of the church.

30 get-well cards, 6 fruit baskets, one sympathy card, one Christmas basket and one vase of flowers were sent out plus a card of congratulations and good wishes to Stephenville when the club was chartered there.

Several services were held at the "Interfaith Home" and the hospital chapel. A couple of family night suppers were held where each member invited another family. The programs were a movie and a singalong.

St. Paul's AOTS #778 in Deer Lake, Nfld. is St. Anthony's nearest neighbouring club. They installed a new Executive in January and held a "Ladies Night" in February.

Their big project this year is sponsoring the West Newfoundland Men's Conference held at West Haven Lodge the first weekend of June.

Memorial AOTS Club #566A, Grand Falls, Nfld. hosted a reunion of the men who attended the Silver Jubilee at Loon Bay Camp in 1980. The reunion was held April 26th with 100 men expected.

Gibson Memorial AOTS #350, Fredericton, N.B. held 8 potluck supper meetings in 1980. The programs were usually a speaker on a current topic. Wives were invited to participate at two of the meetings. Their annual bean & pancake supper netted \$400. for the treasury. They donated to the Scout Group Committee, a youth drama group and the general upkeep of the church. In 1981 they will support their church expansion fund.

The P.E.I. Presbytery Men's Council held an auction last August in support of Camp Abeqweit. Approximately \$3,000. was raised. The Stanhope Men's Conference, held at the camp last September had nearly 100 men present. Their Annual Meeting in December at Cornwall had 65 men out to hear Rev. Ron Elliot of Australia. Barry Beck of Montague was elected the new President.

GUIDELINES FOR
Receiving and Presenting Resolutions at Biennial Conventions
Approved by National Council Executive UC AOTS MC May 31/75

1. Resolutions considered by the Convention should relate to either the work of the National Association, or the needs and problems of the United Church of Canada, or concerns arising from the Convention Programme. The Resolutions Committee shall indicate concurrence or non-concurrence with all resolutions.
2. All Resolutions must be submitted in writing if possible; those submitted prior to the Convention must be received by the National Office not less than one month before the date of the Convention; those submitted at the Convention must be in the hands of a member of the Resolutions Committee prior to the deadline announced by the Resolutions Committee Chairman or his appointee.
3. The National Council in Annual Meeting before the Convention shall select and appoint the Chairman and two other members of a 5-man Resolutions Committee, the other two members being nominated and elected by the Convention in plenary session.
4. The Chairman shall announce the members of the Resolutions Committee and explain its terms of reference, the above procedures, and the deadline for acceptance of Resolutions as early as possible in the Convention proceedings.

NOTE - The above guidelines are printed here for your information and any action you may wish to take re presentation of any Resolutions at the 12th Convention in August/81.

An added note-the above guidelines are a good example for inclusion in "PROCEDURES". (see page 8).

ONTARIO AOTS ROUNDUP - April 1981

154 men gathered at Geneva Park April 10-12 for another successful get-to-gether.

The planning was by Toronto Conference men under Keith MacFayden. Don Smith challenged the members on the subject, "AOTS & You". In groups discussed themselves as Individuals, as AOTS members and as AOTS leaders.

Dr. Bob McClure spoke on Saturday afternoon on "A Challenge for tomorrow".

Rev Karl Burden told about Alcohol and Drug concerns and the question of relaxing the penalties for marijuana possession.

Entertainment was provided by the Irish Roamers & the Scarborough Glee Club. As usual Stan was there with his accordion.

South Raleigh club won the attendance award with 29 men present.

The Sunday offering of \$503.50 went to the Harry Colnett Fund.

One of the Resolutions passed expressed concern that the proposed relaxation of penalties for marijuana possession may give youth the impression that this drug is harmless and thus lead to more use. It encouraged AOTS men to write to their Federal Rep. expressing these concerns. Another resolution calls on all AOTS men to demonstrate their solidarity with the hurting & hungry world by the adoption of a personal & family simple style of living.

12th NATIONAL CONVENTION

United Church AOTS Men's Clubs



University of Calgary, August 21-23rd, 1980

On behalf of the 12th National Convention Committee, may I extend this invitation to attend the convention, August 21 - 23, 1981, at the University of Calgary.

Our program committee is actively planning for a time of learning, as we discuss the theme "In His Service to Care and Share", led by our theme speaker Rev. Dr. Alan Reynolds.

We will have a time of decision, as we study the proposed changes to the constitution, and also make plans for the 80's.

There will be time for reminiscing with old freinds, and making new ones, at the Saturday night shindig and barbecue, where you will be treated to some fine old western horspitality.

There is also a program planned for the ladies and children, so make sure to bring them along.

Why not make this part of your vacation, stay with us awhile and enjoy the grandeur of the Rocky Mountains, Banff and Jasper National Parks, Dinosaur Provincial Park and more.

A note to those of you wishing camping facilities, KOA have indicated that space is available but would appreciate your reservation by June 30th, as this is the peak tourist season.

If you require any futher information, let us know when you send us your registration form and we will endeavour to supply same.

George Waite, Vice-Chairman.



"In His Service to Care and Share"

NOTES from Alan Staig

"From Alan to God's people in Canada who are faithful in life in union with Jesus Christ. May God, our Father and the Lord, Jesus Christ, give you grace and peace."

(based on Eph. 1:1-2)

In late March and early April I was privileged to take a swing through Western Canada on AOTS business and I want to share with you some of the excitement and action that I encountered.

In Duncan, B.C. the British Columbia AOTS Annual Roundup was attended by about 100 men (and many of their wives). In speaking to the men I chose to concentrate, firstly, on "Motivation and Risk" and secondly on the "Maintenance of Momentum". Both of these focal points seemed to be well received, and many kind remarks were made. I was very conscious of being in the "cradle of AOTS" - an unbroken heritage of nearly 60 years of service.

The men of the Calgary AOTS Biennial Planning Committee held a special meeting to fit in with my brief visit to Calgary. I can assure you that the Alberta guys are planning an unforgettable event.

"REGISTER NOW FOR CALGARY"

Jim Dickie and I had a fine discussion in Edmonton with Keith Gross, newly appointed Conference staff person. With Jim & Keith in Edmonton and Jack Robertson further south, great things will come from Alberta in the near future. Jim & I were able to fit in a visit to the Wetaskiwin AOTS Club at its annual ladies' night. Garth Mundle was the guest speaker and he gave a challenging address on being proud to be a member of the United Church of Canada.

Saskatoon has puzzled us for some time because of its lack of organized men's work. I spent 24 hours there and thanks to some good preparation by Rev. Don Laing of Bethel United Church I was able to spend an evening with 15 men of that city. We talked about many faith issues, about organization, about being men in Canada in the 1980's. For all of us I think it was a worthwhile time. Incidentally, I learned about a men's event I'd not previously heard about - a weekend of fellowship near Prince Albert. Ray Silzer tells me he is going to try to attend.

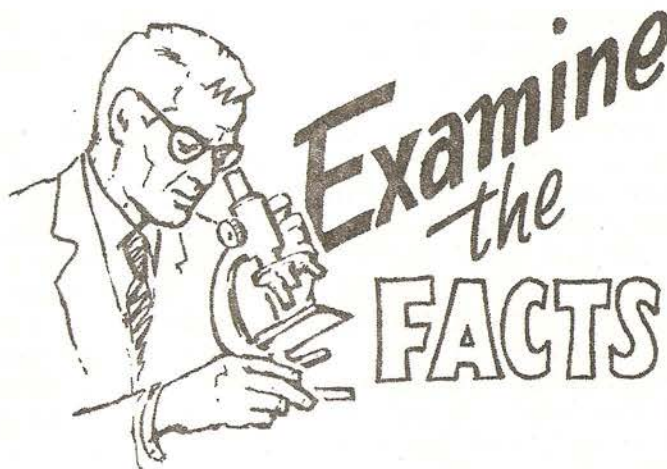
The South Saskatchewan AOTS Spring Rally in Regina invited me to be their theme speaker, and I was thrilled to talk to about 150 men. I was impressed with the number of men who travelled long distances; I guess that is a prairie tradition.

I did all that (and more) in seven days. It was busy and tiring - dealing with airplanes and changes in time zones - but I came back to Toronto lifted up and most encouraged by what I had experienced.

As a kind of finale to these notes, I want to leave with you two impressions:

1. In Western Canada, men's work in general and AOTS in particular is well and growing. The men are committed Christians, well organized and with excellent leadership.
2. We hear much about tensions between Western Canada and the rest of the Nation. In AOTS circles, not only is this tension invisible, but I believe most emphatically that a nationwide strong AOTS can have a unifying influence on this land.

Peace Alan Staig.



AOTS CONSTITUTION

At the 1981 AOTS Convention in Calgary, decisions will be made re proposed changes to the AOTS Constitution. All clubs and individual members have received information on the proposed changes. It is important that you study these proposals in preparation for action at the Convention. If you will not be attending the Convention, discuss the issues with a delegate.

The proposals are divided into 3 areas - Constitution, Bylaws and Procedures. Your first action in examining the facts might be to answer the following questions.

1. What is covered by the Constitution and what should be the rules for amending it?
2. What is covered by the Bylaws and what should be the rules for making changes?
3. What is covered under Procedures and what should be the rules for making changes or additions.

In trying to determine the answer to those questions for myself I have compared the regulations on the operation of our AOTS organization to the setting up and operating a home. Maybe the following will be helpful to you as you examine the proposals.

I compare the Constitution to the basic structure of the house (or home). First the type of building (Organization) such as it being a one or two story house, or an apartment etc. Secondly the interior design for the type of living desired such as the number and size of rooms, windows, washrooms etc. These are the basics requiring infrequent changes and not easily changed. Changes in those basics in a house requires going to the municipality for their o.k. and a permit. Changes in the Constitution requires advance notice to all members and the final decision by a National Convention.

The BYLAWS I compared to the parts of the house that might require more frequent changes but do not alter the basic structures - such as painting, rugs, drapes, and even such things as cupboards or a sink in the kitchen. Rules on changing Bylaws should be in the Constitution. Bylaws should be able to be changed much easier and more quickly than the Constitution. If this is not so, they do not require to be separate from the Constitution.

cont'd over

Bylaws could be the responsibility of the National Council with a proviso that changes or additions be reported to the next Convention for confirmation.

I compare PROCEDURES to the agreed rules of operation of the home-children's allowance, where to go on vacation, time of day for the main meal, chore roster such as for dishes, garbage, etc. In the organization they are items that might otherwise be dealt with by a simple motion. Listing them in Procedures gives them more authority as a continuing guide. They might include payable expense rates for attending meetings, rules re invited guests for annual Council or other meetings. As items in Procedures they are the governing regulation until rescinded or changed. PROCEDURES would normally be decided on or changed by the National AOTS Executive but should be confirmed by the National AOTS Council at its next meeting. To some extent Procedures is the listing of the motions made pertaining to the operation of the organization.

You may not agree with the comparisons That I have given above, but using those or some others you should examine each proposal and make a decision on its validity and if it is listed under the proper heading.

One important decision in examining the facts is to look for what is missing. Imagine having built a house you find that a room has no window or is too small for the use intended just because you did not look carefully at the plans. Such an imagination may be far-fetched regarding a house but is it so when relating to constitution and Bylaws?

I do not wish at this time to comment on any of the specific proposals but I would ask a few questions that you might consider as you examine the facts.

1. Under the proposals for the National Executive Committee, how do the points of membership, quorum and cost of travel relate to the effectiveness of that particular committee?
2. What are the privileges and responsibilities of an ex-officio member?
3. After the Constitution has been passed and a question arises that is not covered by the Constitution or Bylaws, where do we go for help in making a decision?
4. Should the content items of the Bylaws and Procedures require to be set down by action of this upcoming Convention?
5. Are any of the proposals just excess baggage that does not add effectiveness to the operation of AOTS?

Notes: 1. If you do not have a copy of the proposals and wish one, write to the AOTS National Office and one will be sent to you. See address on front page.

2. If I can be helpful by answering any questions you may have, do not hesitate to write to me. Same address as #1.

THIS IS YOUR CONSTITUTION! DON'T TRUST TO LUCK! EXAMINE THE FACTS!
DISCUSS IT WITH OTHER AOTS MEN! BE PREPARED TO ACT!