



THE FRONT COVER

We have used the logo created by the Newfoundland AOTS Biennial Committee for the 13th Biennial Convention held at Memorial University in St. John's, July 22-24, 1983. It had a dual purpose:

1. as the convention logo
2. as a commemorative logo, recognizing the AOTS Diamond Jubilee and 60 years of service from 1923 to 1983.

We are sure you would wish us to thank them for the contribution, not only to the convention, but also in recognizing this milestone in AOTS history.

NATIONAL AOTS NEWSLETTER
Official Organ

of the National Association of
United Church AOTS Men's Clubs

United Church of Canada

October 1983
Vol. 6 No. 3

Published by the National
Committee of Communication

Dr. Fred G. Holberton, Chairman
8208 - 123 Ave.
Edmonton, AB T5B 1B6

"I am among you As One That Serves"
Luke 22:27

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

This being my first message as your National President, I want to greet you all in the Name of Our Lord, who came among people of His day declaring Himself to be AS ONE THAT SERVES, and demonstrating His sincerity by insisting on doing menial, though humbling and necessary services to mankind. I too shall strive to emulate Him in expressions of service which I trust will merit His approval. Hopefully I will be interpreted by my fellowman, not so much as being a strong leader among men, bulldozing policy, and supplying clever and clear answers to difficult questions, but rather as one being guided and encouraged by the power and intuition of the Holy Spirit, against which there can be no argument.

Peering down the road of time during the next two years, it is not difficult to perceive the tremendous challenges before us. It is perhaps more difficult to generate the courage to face them, for it will require -- with no less vigor than ever before -- stamina, perseverance, determination and Christian fortitude to stand with courage and kneel with humility, in order to become AS ONE THAT SERVES.

Let me urge in my very first message to you, to take a strong and organized stand against pornography in this nation. It breeds immorality and corruption and will, if allowed to go unchecked, destroy or seriously threaten our civilization. It is a serious matter, and must be fought with tenacity and firmness. Service to mankind is not alone the washing of another's feet, but as well freeing society from the cesspools of moral poison.

My desire is to meet as many of you as possible on your own stom-

ping ground during the Biennium and to be among you, and with you, as together we strive for progress in His Name. Let us begin the 1983-84 year of Club work with greater diligence and more meaningful purpose in our ministry of service.

Sincerely in Christ,

Cyril S. Locke

JACK CLEAVE BECOMES NATIONAL EXECUTIVE SECRETARY



Jack Cleave retired two years ago after 33 years with Dow Chemical. He comes out of retirement to begin a new career as Executive Secretary of the National Association of the United Church AOTS Men's Clubs. Jack brings a wealth of experience, both business and within the courts of the church, to his new position. He has been a Club President, Chairman of the National Constitution Committee, and Chairman of the National Committee of Program Development. He is a Past National President and has served as Chairman of the Department of Christian Development within the Division of Mission of the United Church of Canada.

His appointment was confirmed at the recent National Convention held in St. John's, Newfoundland. He begins his new duties on October 1st. You may write Jack at his office in his home -- 361 Twin Lakes Drive, Sarnia, Ontario N7S 4X4. His phone number is 519-542-7628.

IN MEMORIAM

CONVENTION ELECTIONS

The National Convention of the National Association of United Church AOTS Men's Clubs was held in St. John's, Newfoundland in July. Cyril Locke of Springdale, Newfoundland was elected as our president for the next two years. His initial letter appears elsewhere in the NEWSLETTER.

Also elected at the Convention was Honorary President G. Brydon McCrea of Winnipeg. L. Gordon Hall of Waterloo, Ontario becomes the Past President. Three Vice Presidents were elected -- Eastern, N. Malcolm MacDonald of Sydney, N.S.; Central, Jack Arthur of Bellville, Ontario; and Western, C.T.G. Clare Bailey, Winnipeg, Manitoba. Maurice Wright of Oakville, Ontario was elected as Recording Secretary and the Treasurer was returned to office -- Robert A. Lewis of Amherstburg, Ontario.

MILESTONES

Phil and Effie Spence, Deep River, Ont. celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary August 15, 1983.

Sid Bagnall retired as leader of the Scarborough AOTS Glee Club after 25 years.

Wakefield - Alcove - Rupert AOTS Club, Alcove, P.Q., celebrated 25 years of service. Club founder, Rev. Leonard Bacon returned for the events to be Guest Speaker.

St. Paul's AOTS Men's Club, Stirling, Ont., is celebrating 25 years of service in a novel way. All charter members with 25 years continuous membership are being presented with life memberships in the club.

Reuben McDonald, Moose Jaw, Sask. - Charter member - St. Andrew's AOTS Men's Club.

Thomas William Spicer, Moose Jaw, Sask. - Member of St. Andrew's AOTS Men's Club. May 29, 1983. 81 years.

Fred Hayhurst, Victoria, B.C. - Member of Gordon United AOTS Men's Club. March, 1983.

Walter Latowski, Victoria, B.C. - Member of Gordon United AOTS Men's Club. April, 1983.

Aubrey Oldham - Long time member of AOTS and for a number of years a member of the National AOTS Executive. July 24, 1983.

Devotional

The Spiritual Life Committee has provided Devotionals for use at meetings. We publish one at this time and will present others as they are prepared. This devotional has been used by a club and as the Spiritual Life Committee points out, we must use the gifts that we have to influence the lives of those around us -- and joy and strength we receive back.

Spiritual growth is not developed by simply listening to devotionals or sermons -- but also by taking advantage of the opportunities that are presented to us -- such as in face to face visits with a fellow club member, or a fellow worker.

--- *** ---

(Paraphrase on Romans 12, quoted from "Epistles Now", by Leslie Brandt)

Celebration must be combined with service.

The relationship between man and

God is a two-way street.
Our great God gives;
we must respond to his gracious
gifts.
Our response is the offering of
our lives,
the placing of ourselves at
His disposal,
for the accomplishment of his
purposes in our world about
us.

We are, once we acknowledge God's
love
and accept his salvation,
under new management.

This is what worship is all
about.

It is not confined
to loud singing or verbal
exclamations.

It is turning our hearts, minds,
and bodies
over to God's ownership,
and dedicating our abilities
and gifts to His service.

We have all received such gifts
for this very purpose.
They are not given to us to
enhance our beauty
or assure our worldly
security,
or even to make us more
desirable or respected
among the people with whom we
live and labor.

They are committed to us
in order to be committed back
to God
in and through and by way of
service
to our fellowman for God's
sake.

This is precisely the way in
which our God meets
the needs of our neighbor --
through us
and through the gifts
entrusted to us.

Not all of have those gifts that
enable us
to administer or preach
or teach or finance important
projects.

But we all have specific
abilities --
love, energy, persistence,
patience,

sincerity, concern, creativity.
We are to exercise these things
upon one another
and on behalf of one another.
We are to care for each other
even as much as we care for
ourselves.
We are to allow our God to reach
and touch others,
even our very enemies,
with his care and concern for
them through us.

LET US PRAY: Father God, grace
this time of worship with your
presence and power. Seek out
each one of us and minister to
our special needs. Inspire our
fellowship and fill us with the
mind and spirit of Christ. Pre-
pare us by your grace to carry
out the big responsibility you
have given to us -- to live each
day in such a way that, through
us, others will come to know and
love you. Help us to be enthu-
siastic in meeting the challenges
of life and help us to see them
as opportunities to honor and to
serve others. We bless and
praise you for all faithful per-
sons, throughout the centuries
who have created beauty, in-
creased goodness and advanced the
faith. We pray to you this day,
always conscious of your love
given in Christ for your world.
AMEN

Club News

Your replies to the questionnaire
in the last issue concerning the
content of the Newsletter indi-
cated decisively that you wanted
to know what other clubs are
doing. Only one thing! We must
hear from your club. Many clubs
report regularly and we commend
them, but from the majority we
seldom get news for publication.
Appoint a Newsletter scribe "now"
and let's hear from you.

Our next publication dates are
Feb. 1 and April 1, 1984. Mate-
rial for publication should ar-

rive ONE MONTH prior to these dates and be addressed to:

Dr. Fred Holberton
8208 - 123 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5B 1B6

In all reports, please identify your club by name and address and show date.

VICTORIA AVE. AOTS, CHATHAM #188
- Reports ten of their men attended the Geneva Park Conference at the May 15th AOTS Breakfast. The Guest Speaker was Heather Conliffe, reporting on the 15th session of the Ontario Youth Parliament. Jack Burghardt, M.P. London West, was confirmed as Lay Speaker for Lay Sunday in November.

GEORGE STREET AOTS, PETERBOROUGH #390 - Larri Seili in the Club's publication "Harambee" (May) was exhorting members to register for the Convention in St. John's. June meeting took the form of the annual barbecue. Require serious thought to projects to help the club financially.

K.T.L. AOTS, KING CITY, ONT. #511
- Reports two successful events. A Good Friday morning breakfast and a community "corn roast."

BELLEFAIR AOTS, TORONTO #558
- Projects - Congregational picnic 1983 supported with funds to \$150.00.

- New carpet in Sanctuary supported with donation of \$2200.00 with some club members removing the old carpet.

- Maple Syrup Fund raising effort, product being sold in four different sized containers.

- June meeting was a barbecue.

- October meeting was a visit to Wilmar Heights AOTS.

SCARBOROUGH AOTS GLEE CLUB #772

- For those within reach of their concerts, note the following concert dates:

- Oct. 30 - Trinity United, Breton
- Nov. 16 - Daughters of Scotland, Toronto.
- Nov. 29 - In a Grafton Gage Home.
- Dec. 9 - Wexford Seniors.

ST. ANDREW'S AOTS, MOOSE JAW, SASK. #158 - Bill Taylor's "menu" indicates AOTS doing a lot of maintenance and remodeling at Camp Capernaum. Note this item: "It is recommended that the Club sponsor one delegate to the 13th Biennial in St. John's and pay up to \$1000.00 toward expenses." The "menu" is also promoting Banff Men's Conference, Oct. 14-16/83.

NANTON AOTS, NANTON, ALTA #67

- The Nanton AOTS News Bulletin has been published for 28 years and this information is taken from Volume XXVIII, No. 3 and 4. The annual club visit to Hillhurst AOTS in Calgary took place on March 17th. Speaker at our April meeting was Eva Sager, a local girl who lost her sight in a car accident. Guests at this meeting were Jack Robertson, Alberta AOTS President and Jim Dickie, Western V/P of AOTS.

GOLD SPRINGS AOTS, MILK RIVER, ALTA #735 - A note from Jack Shaw with their club dues to say they appreciate the newsletter and plans are underway to celebrate the 20th anniversary of their AOTS club this fall. Newsletter questionnaire too late to be discussed this spring.

CAMPBELL RIVER, B.C. AOTS

- Rechartered #800, according to Vancouver Island District Council minutes. Original club operated from 1954 to 1965. Have renewed AOTS affiliation in 1983.

DUNCAN, B.C. AOTS #016

- The Cowichan Leader reports on the Duncan AOTS 29th Annual Spring Tea as a colorful and successful event. Don Morton reports a net profit for the

event at \$365.00. In March, 5 men from Duncan took the Island Travelling Gavel to the new AOTS Club at Campbell River. AOTS men took the complete service at Cowichan Lodge on May 25. May 26 saw a big work party go out to help at Camp Pringle. The March 24 meeting had the Junior Choir as supper guests of the club and taking part in the program. Other guests were National President Gordon Hall and Western Vice-President Jim Dickie.

CENTENNIAL AOTS, VICTORIA #362

- March 23 meeting had 31 in attendance to hear Harry Leake give a photographic talk on Trinidad and Barbados. Centennial Club were hosts to the Annual B.C. AOTS Roundup, March 26.

LAKE COWICHAN, B.C. AOTS #317

- May meeting started with dinner at Smitty's Cafe in Duncan, followed by a tour of the large pulp & paper complex at Crofton. Tour Guides were two long time members of Duncan AOTS Club, Ernie Stafford (now B.C. AOTS President) and Jim Reed.

ROSSLAND, B.C. AOTS #84

- We got a two page report from Cliff Davison, club secretary, and it is a good one. Sorry we can't print it all, Cliff. Fund raising confined to a "Fall Harvest Supper" and a "Spring Smorgasbord", netting \$1153.00. An annual complimentary dinner is provided for senior members of the congregation and official board. Most maintenance and repair work around the church is provided by AOTS members. Substantial donations were made: \$200.00 to Camp Koolaree, \$160.00 to Rossland figure-skating team, \$25.00 to school scholarship fund, \$300.00 to Rossland Volunteer Ambulance crew, \$100.00 to AOTS National Hospital Project, \$300.00 to assist families who wish to attend Naramata. AOTS members take the church service at least once a year!

NEW AOTS CLUBS REGISTERED

We offer a warm welcome to our latest affiliates and we hope to be hearing of your activities.

BERMUDA - Grace-Cobb's Hill AOTS Men's Club, April 12/83. Charter presented by President Gordon Hall.

OAKVILLE, ONT. - Trinity AOTS Men's Club. April 28/83, Charter #801

KING'S POINT, NFLD. - Southwest Arm AOTS Men's Club. May 5/83, Charter #802

HARRY'S HARBOUR, NFLD.
- Notredame AOTS Men's Club. June 11/83, Charter #803

ROUNDUPS AND RALLIES

B.C. ANNUAL AOTS ROUNDUP, March 26/83 at Centennial United in Victoria. Theme speaker, National AOTS President, Gordon Hall. "AOTS an Arm of the Church" was the theme. In the afternoon Gord Hall presented an outline of the new National AOTS Project and fielded questions. The third session took the form of a panel discussion on "AOTS an Arm of the Church and More" -- Moderator, Dick Morton. Panelists were Jim Dickie, on "AOTS, A Beacon for all Men"; Bill Hastings, on "AOTS, A Missionary Force"; Ernie Stafford, on "AOTS, the Rock" and "AOTS, the Club." The Banquet speaker was Dr. W.J. Price on "Did You Have a Good Day?" The individual sessions were chaired by Norm Carter, Ernie Stafford and Roy Jones. The banquet M.C. was Tom Murray. This was a very successful and informative event. Ernie Stafford was elected B.C. AOTS President to replace Tom Murray effective July/83.

NIAGARA PRESBYTERY 10TH ANNUAL SPRING RALLY April 20/83, Fenwick United Church. This evening event

was handled by Cliff Hoffman. Guest Speaker was Donald G. Smith. Don used "The Final Score" as the title of his address.

ONTARIO AOTS ROUNDUP, Geneva Park April 22-24/83. Information on this event is sketchy, but from the minutes of the Tri-County AOTS Executive meeting it appears that Lloyd Richards and his committee provided an excellent program.

EDITORIAL

- or Committee Remarks?

We do not have an Editor at the moment. The Communication Committee is editing this Volume 6, No. 3, October 1983. We are being guided by the results of the Questionnaire which a number of you completed. The Survey indicated a number of changes and we hope to implement these as each issue is published. We are also prepared to consider further suggestions.

Some changes you will quickly notice. One you may not be aware of is that we are planning to have this October issue in your hands early in October. It is our hope that subsequent issues will be received at the beginning of the month, that is we will have the February issue in the mail before the end of January.

We will need support of all committees and clubs to do this and the deadline for receipt of material for publishing will be one month before the date of issue.

We are disappointed that we are unable to provide you with highlights of the recent National Convention in St. John's Newfoundland. The retiring Executive Secretary, Al Smith, has said that he does not have the material ready for this publication date -- but has said that the Record of Proceedings will be out soon and will be mailed to all delegates, all clubs and all individual and life members.

The National Association has a committee known as 'The Committee on Revision to the United Church Manual with Respect to Men's Work'. Members of the council received copies of this report and their comments are to be sent to:

Ken Lane
1711 - 1460 Ghent Ave.
Burlington, ON L7S 1X7

The committee is now preparing to contact men's clubs and individuals in AOTS across the Church. Be prepared to make your comments to Ken, and have them in his hands before the end of the year.

Dr. Alan Reynolds was the theme speaker at the 12th National Convention in Calgary in August, 1981. He left with us a challenge and I have been recalling some of his statements. He concluded his addresses with a dream -- "a dream of a church where words of love and words of faith go together, a church where people are both willing to do good things but also speak about their Lord. A church where people recognize and acknowledge something of their weaknesses and sins as human beings, their doubts and lack of faith, and yet where they're willing to stand and say "I am a

Christian!" His dream is of a church that is both open and committed, praying and loving, humble in its faith, acknowledging that we don't have all the answers, but willing to discuss with others the measure of faith it has found, the experience of God's grace it has known."

He concluded his remarks with his own impression and experience that there is a large vacant spot in our church for work specifically among men. Well, what an opportunity for us in our clubs to delve further into Al Reynold's dream so that we might continue In His Service and build foundations upon which the future of our Association, our Church and our Country must be built.

COMING EVENTS

29th Banff Men's Conference Theme Speaker: Clarke MacDonald	Oct. 14-16 Banff Centre, Alberta	Hank Woodland 421 St. Paul St. Kamloops, BC V2C 2J7 604-372-3020
3rd Cape Breton Annual Men's Weekend	Oct. 23-24	Malcolm MacDonald RR 5, Dutch Brook, Sydney, NS B1P 6G7 902-564-9640
Hamilton Conference Men's Fall Rally	Nov. 5	Jim Wark, 68 Elm St. Brantford, ON N3R 4V2 519-759-0468
Toronto Conference AOTS Fall Rally	Nov. 6 Cedar Glen Bolton ON	Ernie Walker 42 Earl Road Scarborough, ON M1M 1G1 416-266-1958
1984 Ontario AOTS Roundup	April 27-29 Geneva Park YMCA Centre Orilla, ON	Ken Lane #1711-1460 Ghent Ave. Burlington, ON L7S 1X7

If your Group is planning a conference, Roundup or Rally we will be glad to publish this information in future issues. Send to:

Dr. Fred Holberton
8208 - 123 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5B 1B6

FEBRUARY 1984

The next issue of the National AOTS NEWSLETTER will be printed in February 1984. All material for this Newsletter must be in the hands of the Committee before December 31, 1983. Mail Materials to:

Dr. Fred Holberton
8208 - 123 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5B 1B6