

# The Handshake

As One That Serves

Issue No, 19

Summer Edition

June 1991

## Extra!

## Extra!

## Extra!

*17th Biennial National Convention August 2nd 3rd and 4th, 1991*

### *Plans Nearing Completion*

Your Convention Committee is forging ahead with the final plans for the 17th National Convention to be held in Windsor Ontario.

#### **Work Shops**

Planned for Saturday to bring enlightenment of the word of God and to help delegates to better understand the working of AOTS.

#### **Ladies Program.**

##### **Friday**

A tour of Willistoad Manor, a Tudor style Mansion combining Jacobson and Elizabethan features. Then on to

Coventry Gardens for a summer picnic while enjoying the Peace Fountain and Floating Gardens. Next stop Historic Walkerville followed by a visit to the Eborhard Glass Blowers Studio. The evening meal will be enjoyed outdoors, weather permitting. It will be followed by an old fashioned square dance.

##### **Saturday**

Its the Historic Fort Malden and the Military Museum at Amherstburg followed by a tour of the Black Heritage Museum. This will be followed by a walking tour, for those who wish, of old

Amherstburg with its many craft and antique shops.

#### **Theme Speaker**

Rev. Bob Duthie has formulated an outstanding presentation around the theme "Challenge to Commitment" which will prove to be one of the highlights of the Convention.

The Convention Committee has worked diligently to bring you one of the finest events in AOTS history. *Plan to attend, there's still time to register.*

**See you in Windsor!!!**

## **Fellowship is the Key To AOTS**

By President Bob Lewis



This will be the last time I shall have the privilege of speaking to you through this column as President. Naturally my thought wander through the past two years. It really doesn't seem like two years, but more like six months. But as they say, time flies by when you are having fun.

One of the most inspiring periods was the ten days spent out in

Western Canada just recently. I was able to participate in both the B.C. and Alberta Round-Ups. I met both old and new friends, and can attest to the fact that AOTS fellowship is the best. When it came to having a place to stay overnight there were two nights when I stayed with families I had never previously met, the Pipes of Oak Bay and the Baycroft's of Langley. What a wonderful experience! I also had an enjoyable stay with the families of Norm Carter, John Carswell, Bill Hastings and Fred Holberton, all long standing friends from my years in AOTS fellowship. You can gather from the aforementioned remarks that, quite apart from the great inspiration I received from the planned events, the fellowship experience was of mountain top quality. I want through this writing, to express my appreciation to all those already mentioned and, as well to many other AOTS'ers and wives that served to make my trip a success both for the As-

sociation and myself.

Fellowship for me, is the core of AOTS. It is the fellowship that leads to all the other "good things" that flow from belonging to our good organization. It is for this reason that I urge all who read this article, to plan on attending our Biennial in Windsor this coming August. Come and hear Rev. Bob Duthie speak on "Challenge to Commitment" and meet old fiends, but best of all, make new friends. Come and meet our new President, Lloyd Richards for his installation.

For me the Biennial signals the end of my term as President, but hopefully a door to new avenues of serving. God bless all of you for your support over the past two years.

**FOR THOSE NOT ABLE TO ATTEND THE CONVENTION FOR THE FULL THREE DAYS.**  
**A DAY PLAN**  
**HAS BEEN ARRANGED**  
**Registration, Lunch Dinner**  
**Coffee Break plus all day and evening events for**  
**\$50.00 per day single**  
**\$75.00 per day self & wife**

# The Handshake

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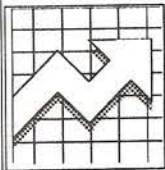
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**Deadlines**  
Nov 30-Jan 30  
May 15-July 30

## Our Purpose

Is to communicate with all levels of the United Church of Canada under the sponsorship of the National Association of AOTS Clubs. We especially wish is to share the inspiration of Service in His name with all Christian men regardless of where and why they gather.



## Circulation Going Up

Close to 3000 copies of this Handshake were mailed out. The 500

increase is directed to non affiliated men's groups with whom we are in contact. We seek to increase Christian Fellowship not membership. We know that the spirit of service will unite us under our leader Jesus Christ.

## Regional Inserts

We kicked off this program with a B.C. regional insert under the editorship of John Carswell. In this issue we will be including one for Alberta and possibly Saskatchewan. A search is being made throughout all the Conferences for an editor to take the responsibility for his region. Until such editors are found, the Handshake Editor will cover for these regions. The handshake will receive all copy and edit it into one or two pages per region. The pages Ontario, Newfound B.C. etc will still be features of the National Handshake. Excerpts from the regional newsletters will be a part of these pages.

John Carswell Chairman  
Bill Hastings Publisher Editor

## Bibles n'Prayers

by Bill Hastings

Contact, however fragile, has been made with a group of young men at Knox United Church in Vancouver B.C. They gather every second Saturday morning for prayer, fellowship and faith sharing. We will keep in touch through the Handshake. The hope is to make them aware of Christians like themselves who wish to share their faith.

## Leadership Prayer Breakfast

John Carswell, Bill Cummings and myself sat down for breakfast with 770 fellow Christians. It was the Annual B.C. Provincial Leadership Prayer Breakfast.

## Head Table

Every level of Government was represented. All of them brought meetings in the spirit of Christianity from their respective levels of government. Some read a scripture lesson applicable to the



address.

## Speaker

Kevin Jenkins(above)

President Canadian Airlines International, spoke in the tradition of past speakers as he witnessed to his life at home and in the work place. This on a before and after basis as to his coming to Christ.

## "Your Journey Through Life".

He described three different Journeys, the Physical, the Intellectual, and the Spiritual. His conclusion was all three were necessary for a balanced life. His analogy of a typical frantic day in life ending in exhaustion could not be altered in the absence of a spiritual life. With constant repetition of this we find our spiritual lives suffering from lack of exercise and input. Your God, your church, and your spiritual life just dry up like plant, without light, water, or nourishment.

## Reaching Toward Fulfillment.

We do not find it because we are not applying ourselves. Each day we must put ourselves in God's hands. Submit ourselves to his guidance. Allow ourselves to be guided by Him..

## Most Things Work

The Fax, the light bulbs, the telephone etc. all work even though we don't understand why, we just know they work.

## So Does the Spiritual Life

By giving and receiving from God. By loving and being loved by a spouse. Although we don't know the exact working of God and Life we will accept it as such.

## Reaching Towards Fulfillment.

Must learn to Include God in our lives - read the bible - open the lines of communication - learn to pray - pray with expectation and belief.

## Change Your Attitude

Prayer and bible reading are a great help. Contributing greater than 50% to the partner in marriage, that's 50% plus.

## Guaranteed to Work

Be a Thermostat, not a thermometer, Move in moderation. Consider the consequences, take care. Rather than being a thermometer and jumping from a-30 to a + 88 in a matter of minutes. Take control of things.

## Appreciate Your Perspective

Decide with your partner your objective in life. Reach out with expectation. Move forward with a positive attitude and desire for excellence. The world is at your finger tips. Go forth in faith with love and a kind heart. It is yours for the taking. God wants it that way.

## Remember Your Three Journeys

As you travel through life include them all in your daily work and play. Don't short change yourself, you deserve more than that.

## An opinion of a servant of the Lord

Amen.

Editor's Note: This was an inspiring talk. We apologize for the disjointed presentation. Much has been lost in the transposition. Truly a religious experience for John, Bill, and myself.

Gordon C. Grier

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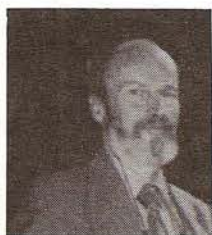
## Picton Reports

The Picton United Church AOTS Men's Club # 822\* reports as follows. We have 16 paid up members for 1991. The proceeds from a Strawberry Social and Yard Sale in the summer of 1990 are being used this year to provide lighting in the church parking lot. We are planning a pancake breakfast April 7, 1991 and a Yard and Cake Sale on May 11, 1991. Monthly meetings are on the fourth Tuesday, with guest speaker and a delicious supper provided by the U.C.W.

Roy Bruce, Treasurer reporting

## Sorry Ontario!

Due to an extensive report out of Toronto Conference (seven pages), which needed exposure, several other club reports have been left out. We had hoped to feature the Ontario Round Up but other than an attendance figure of 109 nothing else was forthcoming. Some Ontario club activities are mentioned on the National. Pages Keep those Club Newsletters coming South Porcupine and Bellville. Hopefully an Ontario News Insert in the next issue. Any volunteer Editors?



**Bob  
Brewster  
Toronto  
Conference  
Reports**

### Tips

For anyone to further the Kingdom of God.

*-witnessing is our responsibility: the Results are God's*

*-Study the Methods of others: Improve Your Own Methods*

*-Speak with assurance and enthusiasm  
-People Respond to gentle persuasion.*

### Belief

" when it comes to "church work" it doesn't pay to beat people over the head to get them to do what you want. They have to want it themselves, all you can do is plant the seeds."

### Progress

Since I assumed the Presidency of the Toronto Conference AOTS a little more than a year ago, I have planted a lot of seeds, talked to a lot of people, and studied many methods. There follows a summary of the goals and some of the results.

#### Toronto Council Conference(TCC)

To improve TCC's attitude towards AOTS- Already better.

Establish formal relationship with TTC . Following its rules of Accountability. Presenting an Annual report. Done.

Report approved - resulting request for clarification of relationship.

Done with some success.

Requested formal written covenant between TCCC and AOTS

If approved, a petition to General Council for inclusion of recognition in the Manual.

#### Toronto Conference Mission in Canada Committee.

AOTS making its voice heard here. AOTS presentation made. Members(Mission Canada Committee) showing interest in AOTS in their jurisdictions.

#### TCC Youth and Young Adult Committee

Presented two cheques, one from Wilmar Heights, one from TC AOTS both for \$100.00 . AOTS Committee pleased to learn that there is one group in the TCC and the church that supports them.

**Toronto Conference AOTS Executive**  
Welcomes new members. Tom Reid ,the new President of Wilmar Heights AOTS. Ray Cockburn, the President of Kingston Road AOTS and Dave Thompson Individual AOTS member representing Toronto West Presbytery.

Executive still considering AOTS and Men's work in the Toronto Conference and Nationally. Expecting major contribution to this subject.

#### Visits-Contacts

To Kingston Rd. and Wilmar Heights AOTS.

Spoke at invitation of Minister to Men of five local churches. Also spoke about AOTS and Men's work at the hosting

Church's Worship Service.

Discussed with other Ministers in Conference re setting up Men's groups.

#### Conclusion

" Yes, Men's work in the Toronto Conference is Alive and Well." R.B.

#### North American Conference Church Men's Staff Louisville Ky.

Jan 8 to 13, 1991

Bob attended the above representing AOTS and the United Church of Canada.

There were 40 men in attendance , 38 Americans and 2 Canadians. The latter included our Bob and Ron Higgins of the Atlantic Conference Canadian Baptist Men.

The speaker was Roy Oswald of the Alban Institute speaking on the Conference Theme, "Masculine Spirituality and The Church's Response." His addresses, covered such subjects as Male/Female Continuum, 4 different types of Men, based on Education and Income, Masculine Spirituality and Male Sexuality.

In between the main presentations, we broke into small groups of 6 and 7 to discuss questions related to the topic which had been presented.

The fellowship , during the group discussions, at the meals, before and after. is hard to describe unless one was there. It can not be explained.

All the AOTS material and the copies of the United Church Observer which he took down were picked up. Men's Work Material from the other denominations was brought back and a Resource List is in preparation. The North American Conference Church Men's Staff will be holding its 1992 meeting in Toronto, Canada next January. The Theme will be " Christian Men in the Work Place."

Help with the arrangements has been offered by the Toronto Conference AOTS. The new Executive of National AOTS is encouraged to Attend.

Bob Brewster Reporting.



**Financial Challenge for Spiritual Growth**

If you believe in the **dream** of a National Christian Men's Fellowship through the National AOTS Mens Clubs organization, then please consider "Second Mile Support" donations. They are not only for organizational maintenance but especially for the monumental task of promoting the **dream**. We, as AOTS, are only about 2500 men strong in Canada ( AOTS= As One That Serves, from Luke 22:27) . But our **dream** is of the Dream that our Lord taught in his prayer, "Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on Earth at it is in Heaven."

For the sake of this **dream** -- the Kingdom of God on earth -- let us seriously consider serving Canada as well as our Lord. Let us put our heart, soul, mind, strength, and pocket book into our National Organization for the sake of Christian Fellowship, Christian Service and spiritual growth among men of the United Church of Canada.

Lloyd Clark Chairman,  
National AOTS Finance Committee

Donations to  
Kenneth Lane  
1110-1305 Ontario St.  
Burlington, Ont.  
L7S 1Y1



**Central Vice President Reports**

First Quarter 1991  
This period has been one of planning and overseeing the Ontario Round Up and the National Convention. The central Vice Pres. acts as chairman of the steering committee of the Round Up. Much of

this year's success was due to the host Conference of Manitou. Gill Reashore of South Porcupine was chairman. I have sat in on many meetings of the planning committee of the Biennial Convention that is being held at Windsor.(See Insert) This Committee chaired by Herb Parker has everything well in hand. Have Meetings once a month with Bob Brewster President of the Toronto Conference who is "an inspiration and compelling force. His work through the Toronto Conference is beginning to show results."

Reg Cooper  
Central Vice President



**Hamilton Happenings**

By Howard Wills

There follows a much shortened report by the AOTS Rep of this Conference. It warrants being reported in its entirety which supports the need of an Ontario Newsletter .

Had breakfast with 15 of a Men's Group of Port Nelson United. Lunched with 40 men of St. Paul's United in January and March. Another breakfast with the Brinkley United men in Feb. Spoke for 15 minutes at all meeting promoting AOTS. Showed video of "Men and the Church" Attended AOTS meetings at St Pauls Oakville AOTS. A Country and Western theme for ladies night. This club provided annual Good Friday Breakfast for the whole Congregation. Clubs at First United, Cambridge and St. James, Rosemount and Kitchener meeting regularly. Niagara Presbytery Men held 1991 Spring Rally on April 17 at Trinity United Churchill United . Full report of this event in next issue.

**Saskatchewan**

The Regina Spring Rally was held on April 3, 1991. 85 Men attended. Host Club was Lakeview. Ross Mc Murtry was the speaker.  
No confirmation yet on Saskatchewan Rep. for the nomiating committee.  
Eldon Jenson reporting

**National Casualty Report.**

Keith McFadden tied up with broken pelvis.  
Clare Bailey heart operation.  
Ernie Stafford heart attack.  
All three are reported to be recovering nicely. Our prayers go out for their continued well being.



**From the Executive Sec's Desk.**

No report on Al Smith's physical well being but he

seems to be in high gear as to his duties as executive Sec. Two items from his desk deserve particular attention. One is a proposal to increase National's field work without increasing the budget. It is a well thought out proposal and is being passed through channels for action. The other is a prayer he shared with us. It is a delightful pause in the middle of the National Notes pages.

Give Us Lord a bit of Sun  
A bit of work a bit of fun  
Give us in all the struggle and sputter  
Our Daily bread and a bit of butter  
Give us our health our keep to make  
And a bit to spare for others sake  
Give us too, a bit of song  
And a tale and a book to help us along  
Give us , Lord, a chance to be  
Our Godly best, brave wise and free  
Our goodly best for ourselves and others  
Till men learn to live like brothers

Anonymous

Have Faith as though everything depends on God  
Then work as though everything depends on you

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## B.C. Report

This is the first report to come out of B.C. over the signature of the new Provincial President Jack Shenton. We have on hand

four pages of enthusiastic reporting The high lights follow..

Upon taking office Jack has covered all the presbyteries with a letter introducing himself, the movement and a plan of action. To date he has had two queries as to club formation and 2 answers from presbyteries.

He has expanded the provincial executive to include representatives on a province wide basis. The new approach will replace the District Councils with regional representation. A full report on the B.C. Round Up which is reported in detail on the B.C. Page and again in the B.C. Newsletter..

Next on his agenda was the Alberta Round Up which he thoroughly enjoyed.

On the return trip he made contact with men in the Shuswap and Okanagan areas and felt his reception to be most encouraging. Upon his return he has sent more letters to more Church men. Jack is throwing his support behind our three major events, the Celebration of Faith. The Round Up and the 1993 Convention. He epitomizes the "New Broom Syndrome." and a welcome change it is.



## London Reports.

Keith Arner states *Steady progress is being made in promoting AOTS in London Conference, with special emphasis on the 17th Biennial Convention in Windsor.*

## Regional gatherings and contacts.

Essex Presbytery . Contacted three clergy regarding their leadership in workshops at convention.

President of University of Windsor agreed to bring greetings at Convention  
Rev Karen Hilfman Millson re form-

ing of new club.

**AOTS meeting** at Gaetz United Church Red Alberta.

**Annual Ladies Night** at Harrow Club. 130 present.

**Harrow Club** initiated 5 new members. 2 members of Anglican Church.

**Presbyteries** of Essex ,Oxford, and Middlesex welcome AOTS Representatives.

## Observer-On-Tape

### Annual Report

Reports growth in 1990 with new subscriptions and cancellations balancing out. **Thanks**

Some have written to cancel while reporting operations that have restored their sight. We continue to enjoy the many cards and notes that are returned with the tapes.

### Our Reader

Alta MacLean ,reads the magazine on to tapes each month. Her unique personality and warm sense of humor does much to ensure the success of this project. Our subscribers look forward to their visit with "Alta" each month.

### Statistics

Currently there are 460 subscriptions with an average of 375 sets being sent out each month. The postage is free with the bags being delivered to the back door of the post office so as not to overload the system with such a large mailing.

### Volunteers .

Barney and Nancy Freeman look after getting the tapes as they are returned. Lew Cole is still in charge of copying. 1990 saw 13,506 tapes handled. This entails unpacking, blanking, copying and packing again for mailing. It is noted that our volunteers commit a substantial amount of time to this service

### Expenses.

Replacing worn mailing packages, tapes, office supplies, and annual donation to Queens Street Church for space ,utilities insurance etc. The treasurers report shows that donations from subscribers and various cover the day to day expenses.

### National Project

This project is conducted by the Queen Street AOTS Club under the chairmanship of Armando Del Gobbo. Subscrip-

tions and donations make it self supporting. Check out the visually handicapped members of your congregation and arrange for tapes to be sent to them.

Orders to

The Observer-On-Tape Project  
C/O AOTS Queen St.  
P.O. Box 1117  
Kingston, Ont.



## Hall of Honour For Jack Thompson

The man from Manitou is honoured by a National Life Membership. Jack has represented this AOTS Conference for Lo! these many years. Well done Jack.



## A Successful Club Part VII

### Including the Youth

These people are our leaders of to-morrow and do need pour encouragement now. Remember our youth are in the training role of life.

Plan on involving them in at least one function each year.. Take them to: The Fire Hall - A para-medic centre - a dairy - a manufacturing plant - or one of many other outings. Explain to them the purpose of the "Block Watch" .

Show how they can be in care of the recycling project. While involved in this activity, gentlemen, be sure and look in the mirror and ask:

*Are my actions appropriate ?  
Will my appearance help our youth ?  
Am I a real guiding factor*

Just be a disciple of our Lord and we are guided. John Carswell



**The 36th Stanhope Men's Conference**  
**Meeting in 1991 on Sept 20-21-22**  
**at Camp Abegweit**  
**Theme - The Road to FAith**  
**Speaker Rev. John Patterson of York United**  
**Chaplin Rev. Lloyd Burrows of Monatgue United**  
**Chairman Planning Committee Donald MacLean**

**New Member In Broken Bones Club ?**

In the fall, of 1990, Mr. Raymond Mole had the misfortune of falling and breaking his wrist. The Men's Club of First United thought they would have some added fun when welcoming Mr. Mole back the first meeting following the accident. They put their heads together and came up with the idea of affording Mr. Mole the honour of being the first member to be invested in the " Broken Bones Club".

Following the delicious meal which was prepared by three of the mem-



bers , Mr. Mole was called forward and addressed first by Mr. William MacEachern. (centre)read the many and varied questions which if answered properly would qualify Mr. Moles entrance to the New Founded order. Following this, the secretary, Dr. Moe Harquail, placed Mr. Mole in an arm sling made of nylon stockings and placed a neckpiece which was actually made from old bones having

been painted and put on a chain. This frolic was then followed with Mr. Charles Dewy presenting Mr. Mole with a Certificate of Membership and a lapel pin thus officially naming him to the order of the Broken Bones Club. .

Mr. Mole after recovering from shock, expressed his pleasure in being the first member of such an distinguished order. He then received congratulations from the other members of the Men's Club in both words and handshakes.

The Mr. Mole of whom we speak in the attached news item, is a good sport and very well thought of by the entire membership. We depend on and look forward to seeing Mr. Mole.or Raymond as he

would rather be referred to; each Sunday morning greeting the congregation and passing out the bulletins. Just as importantly, we depend on him checking to see the lights turned off and the doors locked following services

Moe Harquail, Secretary Reporting  
 First United Church Men's Club  
 Trenton Nova Scotia



Malcom MacDonald to Hall of Honour Malkie and his wife Norma are

seen here "Awaiting for the Mayor"at the 1981 Convention in Halifax. Malkie was recently made a "Life Member of the National AOTS .

He was the AOTS representative for the Maritime Conference for many years and was recently honoured by that region with a plaque commemorating his service. Well done you old Cape Bretoner.

WGH

**In Memory**  
**Of**  
**Willard Proud**

The Handshake has just learned of the sudden death of Willard Proud, age 73, of Cornwall P.E.I. Our deepest sympathies to his family from his many friends across Canada. A well known national figure, Willard was the "Voice of Maritime AOTS."and in particular his beloved Prince Edward Island.



Bob Lewis-National President



Fred Holberton Western Vice-Pres.



John Carswell Member at Large



Ken Martin Past B.C. Pres.



Bill Pike B.C. Secretary



Jack Shenton B.C. President



Roy Jones Convention

### 38th B.C. Round-Up 91 Strictly Upbeat\*

56 men from Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland. met with billeting par excellence and the usual gracious hospitality of the Duncan bunch. The whole event was a resounding success. The theme speaker the Rev. C Mackay asked us to "Love each other as Christ loves us" and to remember that Christ's walk was not an easy one. Amongst other quotes he referred to President Bush's " Need for a kinder and gentler world to Charlie Brown's "I love mankind its the people that I can't stand"

Spiritually charged we heard from the individuals whose photographs surround this article. It

was not a self congratulatory set of statements but rather an analysis of where we are and where are we going? These our leaders for the next few years inspired us with their telling of visitations to men's gatherings and their obvious dedication to their assigned tasks. At no time did they choose to ignore our problems but discussed with us how best to face them. They have increased their communication both within and without AOTS.



Rev C. MacKay Theme Speaker

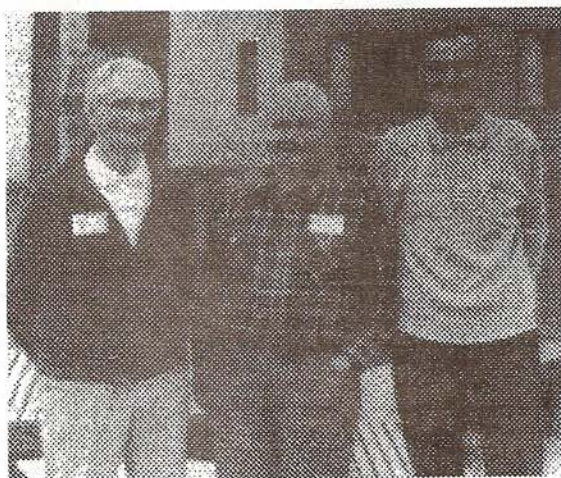


Keith MacDonald Youth



Harry Vogal Song Leader

\*A detailed report for our B.C. readers is in its Newsletter.



### Gordon United Men

These three stalwarts above, John Dexter left, Howard Myers, and "Doc" Pace right have been the backbone of the Gordon United Club of Victoria for 10 these many years. Reports receiving "The Observer on Tape" from Kingston AOTS

and of finding them most Helpful to those who have eyesight problems. They also tell us that by this date they would have made donations to the following organizations:

#### Donations

Church Maintenance, \$500.00, Salvation Army \$50.00. To the "Open Door" association, \$200.00, Assisting a Scout to a Jamboree in Australia, \$100.00 and to the 9 to 10 "Breakfast Club" \$50.00.

#### Scholarships

Student Award, \$100.00. The Handshake is also aware that they have awarded \$500.00 Scholarships to students of the University of Victoria.

*"Well done good and faithful servant, you have been a ruler of a few things and have done well. I will make you a ruler of many things."*

This club is experiencing problems in getting people to stand for office. Pray for these men that they might find strength to carry on God's work

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*-The Finest Carpets Since 1907-*



## Notice

This page will be set aside in each issue of the Hanshake for devotion only. The policy has always been to include as much of our faith as possible within the every day business. If we have erred it has been because of the pressure of space related to subject matter..

Send us your favoured devotional



## A Threat to Unity

### Part I

by Rev Ray Sadler \*

John Fawcett was a highly respected British preacher of a few generations back. As his fame spread, a call came to him from an important pulpit in the city of London. But he had served his small town congregation for many years, he deeply loved his people, and so he thought and prayed long and hard before resigning.

Eventually the day came for his leaving, the packing was all comple. But just as they were preparing to go, the

**"Nor will we go"  
 "Unload the Wagons"  
 "We are Staying"**

whole congregation descended upon the rectory, gathered around their beloved pastor and his family, and begged them to reconsider and remain with them.

Deeply moved by their sincerity, Mrs Fawcett turned to her husband and said, "Oh, John, I can not bear this! I don't know how I can leave!" "Nor do I either, "enjoined the good pastor. "Nor will we go." Unload the wagons and put everything back in its place. "We are staying!"

And that very night John Fawcett sat down in his study, and inspired by the thoughts of that loving congregation, penned the beautiful lines of the hymn:

*Blest be the tie that binds  
 Our hearts in Christian love:  
 The fellowship of kindred minds  
 Is like to that above."*

How wonderful to be part of a

Christian fellowship where that kind of harmony and bonding love are so clearly evident. There are few things in the world to match it! And I must say that here at South Burnaby United Church I have always felt that overriding spirit of love and good will to be very much a part of our fellowship. And, this is not just something that has "just happened by accident, but rather something that you as a congregation have always worked at...so this church might become more nearly a living reflection" of the Lord's own love and caring in the community of South Burnaby. May we never lose that wonderful vision!

Such harmony in the fellowship is not something to be taken for granted but rather should be guarded with care. For as St. Paul knew, and we ourselves understand from our own personal experience - there is always the threat, the differences- sometimes small, but sometimes very big ones- might one day invade our church family, and if not handled with understanding and compassion, those differences have the potential for dividing us right down the middle! And saddest of all, those differences are not always concerned with matters of doctrine that affect the major tenets of our faith. They may have to do with the "middle matters" or judgement calls on issues of morality or social consciousness. That is, areas of the Christian life where equally sincere believers may have honest differences of opinion. And it is here that the blessed "ties that bind" may be blasted and the fellowship broken.

In the 14th chapter of Romans verses 7,8

**"Equally sincere believers may have honest differences of opinion. Here the blessed "ties that bind" may be blasted and fellowship broken"**

St. Paul attempts to deal with just such a problem. First of all, it is important to note that he opens his letter with words of thanksgiving and praise for what God has done in the Roman Church. Romans 1: 7,8). "And you dear friends, are among those God dearly loves.; Let me say first of all that wherever I go I hear you being talked about! For your faith in God is becoming known around the world. I thank God for this good report, and

for each one of you!" Paul goes on to say how he longs to visit the Roman Church, for he believes these people have a very special place - a special role to play- in

*And you, dear friends, are amongst those whom God dearly loves," ! For your faith in God is becoming known around the world.  
 Romans 1:14:7-8*

the coming of the Kingdom. And so, the opening sentences are full of love and joy and encouragement, all of which must have cheered the hearts of those early Christians.

But no church is without its problems. So Paul then tackles an issue which threatens to divide the Church of Rome for which he had such high hopes.

Within the Roman church, there were two camps. There were those who believed that Christ had wiped away the old food regulations and Sabbath laws. Rituals which for centuries had been scrupulously observed by the Orthodox Jews as meticulously laid out in the 11th Chapter of Leviticus.

And so there were those new Christians in Rome who had dragged their past as Jews into this new religious experience. They felt very strongly about retaining the old ways alongside the new. And although it is very difficult for us to imagine today, in Paul's time many believers looked upon food and Sabbath laws as "life and death" issues over which there erupted fierce debate.

Others in their midst-especially among the gentiles - firmly believed that Christ had released them from bondage to the past - that Christ had won final relief from the horrendous array of rules and regulations that had become " religion " for the Jews. And had not Christ himself liberated the Sabbath as a time for worship and rest and creativity when he said to the Pharisees, "*The Sabbath was made for man, not man for Sabbath!*"

\* Ray is the Minister of South Burnaby United in Burnaby B.C.  
 PartII the conclusion of this sermon dated Sunday August 26 1990 will relate "Unity" to the " Issue" of today





## To All Men Who Worship God----From the British Columbia AOTS

*We though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another  
Romans 12:5 (RSV)*

### 38th Round Up

Was opened by Roy Laird President of Duncan AOTS club who extended a warm welcome to NATIONAL President Bob Lewis, Western Vice President Fred Holberton. The total registration was 56 men from clubs on the Island and the Lower Mainland.

#### Devotional

The Rev Gary Goran, Pastor at Duncan United gave the devotional and Challenged us to Love Each Other as Christ Loves us". After lunch prepared by the ladies, Jack Shenton offered words of welcome to all and he included a message from the United Church moderator, Rev. Walter Farquanson.

#### Speaker

Roy Jones introduced Rev. Chauncey MacKay who was the theme speaker. In Roy's words it was a "Bluenoser introducing a Herring Choker." Rev MacKay spoke on "Qualities of Love". and he included that Reverence is the Glory of God. He quoted George Bush in that "we need a kinder and gentler world". He offered a quote from Charlie Brown " I love mankind--its the people I can't stand."

Rev. MacKay continued his message in the evening when he spoke on "Patient Love."



Presenting Attendance Trophies to Bill Somerville&Ken Laird of Duncan (left) are Ken Martin and Jack Shenton (right)

#### Business

During the business Session Bob Lewis gave a report on the National AOTS, its needs and wants. Fred Holberton spoke on the goals of AOTS in Western Canada and although he did not receive many supplies to his questionnaire he was optimistic that more would come in shortly.

Reports were given on the Biennial Convention which is being held in Windsor Aug 2,3,4.

An announcement was made on the Celebration of Faith May 24,25, & 26 and all were encouraged to attend. It is a real retreat and a renewal of fellowship.

Roy Jones reported on the Island Rally to be held at George Pringle Camp on June 2 from 2 to 7:00 pm.

#### Mini Conference

Was held Sunday A.M. with representation from Burnaby, Langley, Esquimalt, Collinwood, Aldergrove, Windsor(Ont., Ogden Alta and Duncan.

Questions were asked such as: Why are we not attracting the young men? Maybe we should ask them! Are we lacking ministerial support? Possibly? Do we need greater outreach in our community. Yes we do.

More PR is needed. We need trained Leaders. Amen!



Attending Sunday A.M. Mini-Conference are Left to right Roy Laird, Roy Jones, Bob Lewis, Ken Martin, Jack Shenton and John Carswell.



On the left we have Bob Lewis, our National President and Fred Holberton, Western Canada Vice President., who received a royal welcome in Duncan. They provided us with words of encouragement that we might continue in hope. Here they are discussing ferry sailing to the Mainland and their frequency. Bob's drivers caused him to miss two Ferries and one supper.

**Eagle Ridge Men's Group of Coquitlum B.C>)**

This. group of men of Eagle Ridge United Church had a dinner meeting on Mar. 19. Gerry Elliott reports that 21 men were present including 2 visitors from South Burnaby United Church, Ken Martin and John Carswell. After a lovely dinner put on by some of the ladies at Eagle Ridge, John Carswell spoke on "The Need of Men in the Church". It was an open session and there was considerable input from many of the men. George Elliott tells us that this group meets once a month and find it most helpful for all.

**South Burnaby AOTS**

Announced much activity this spring. On April 27 they had a Pancake Breakfast and Garage Sale. It is reported over \$1000.00 was raised.

t The folloeing dsy their Club President Trevor Dawson was honoured for 30 years of service as Church Organist and Choir Director.

**Gordon United Men**

Reports receiving "The Observer on Tape" from Kingston AOTS and of finding them most Helpful to those who have eyesight problems. They also tell us that by this date they would have made donations to the following organizations:

**Donations**

Church Maintenance, \$500.00, Salvation Army \$50.00. To the "Open Door" association, \$200.00, Assisting a Scout to a Jamboree in Australia, \$100.00 and to the 9 to 10 "Breakfast Club" \$50.00.

**Scholarships**

Student Award, \$100.00. The Handshake is also aware that they have awarded \$500.00 Scholarships to students of the University of Victoria.

*"Well done good and faithful servant, you have been a ruler of a few things and have done well. I will make you a ruler of many things.*

This club is experiencing problems in getting people to stand for office. Pray for these men that they might find strength to carry on God's work



Above is John Dexter Left, Howard Myers center, and Murdoch Pace right.All Past President's of Gordon United AOTS Club they have served well.