

WEIMAR INSTITUTE BULLETIN

BOX A, WEIMAR, CALIFORNIA 95736

VOL. 5 NO. 5 MAY 1981

Educational Advisory Council Holds Fourth Annual Meeting

The Educational Advisory Council for Weimar Institute recently held its fourth annual meeting. Under discussion were the needs of Weimar College and the proposed boarding academy.

Verlin Leer, academy principal, indicated that twenty-four students would be accepted for the school year 1981-82. The curriculum will be built around the work/study program already so effective for the college. Facilities are taking shape with the projection of at least one of the school homes to be completed for the start of school. Ideally, twelve students will occupy each home; but for the time being half of them will be housed in a dorm.

Weimar anticipates a good year for the academy as God continues to lead in developing the needed facilities and programs. Applications are now being accepted. Anyone interested should submit theirs immediately.

A council of four subcommittees formed and met together regarding the needs and continuing development of Weimar College. Each concentrated on a specific area. They were as follows: Personnel — under the direction of Dr. Edwin Walter. Finance — under the direction of Dr. Floyd Rittenhouse. Facilities — under the direction of Dr. Thomas S. Geraty. Instruction/Curriculum — under the direction of Dr. Howard Hardcastle.

These committees offered suggestions which would affect various aspects of Institute life. Regarding personnel, it was suggested that further efforts be made towards obtaining General Conference approval for the Institute to hire more ordained ministers — a need arising from Weimar's three distinct organizational entities: (1) the college, (2) the NEWSTART program, and (3) the academy.

Need was also expressed for a detailed job description of needed faculty to be developed and sent to various interested personnel in North America who understand

Weimar's unique needs and who could possibly suggest suitable applicants.

One final area explored by this subcommittee was the need for a greater coordination between the Outreach Program and various academic departments.

The subcommittee on finance advised that the Board of Directors needs to form a committee to explore the possibility of recruiting an experienced development officer.

OTHER REPORTS:

Mrs. Betty Gerbozy and Mrs. Dorothy Moore reported on the Home School curriculum services presently being offered by Weimar Institute.

Mr. Corliss VanderMei gave an update on the college library. Along these lines, the Advisory Committee recommended that a specific library acquisition policy be established to meet the unique goals of Weimar Institute.

Dr. John Sipkins gave a report on the work-education program. It was recommended that similar work reports and records sheets, such as the college now has, be incorporated into the elementary and academy program. It was also suggested that the Board of Directors expand the Educational Advisory Council to include qualified elementary and secondary educational advisors.

Included in the overall discussion was the possibility of having available to students one and two-year undergraduate programs. At this time it was recommended to defer the development of such a program since this would only add to an increased number of lower-division students. An alternative suggestion was that there be more summer seminars of various lengths — mainly for enrichment purposes.

In addition, the college was encouraged to nurture relationships with key individuals in state legislature and other state circles.



Board members of Weimar's Educational Advisory Council meet to discuss various needs and aspects of the college and academy.

Board Approves Budgets and Plans

At its semi-annual meeting last April, the Weimar Institute Board of Directors voted solid approval of the 1981-82 operating and capital budgets, and the five-year master plan for the development of the College.

Beginning with the Friday evening vespers program, the well-attended Board session was keyed by students' testimonies to the impact of Weimar College on their lives. The enthusiastic reports set the tone for the balance of the weekend meetings.

Board members and administrators met the next day to discuss at some length the spiritual principles and biblical truths which undergird the Institute's purposes and operation.

The formal business session opened Sunday morning with the giving of reports by various Institute departments. Mel Horning, Production Head of the Agriculture Department, announced the gift of two 8400 square-foot greenhouses — complete with heating systems — provided by Mr. Fred Baybarz of Lodi. Horning also noted the extremely valuable assistance of the Lassen Foundation in providing soils analysis equipment and farming equipment.

Upon the recommendation of the Educational Advisory Council, which had spent the previous Sunday examining the five-year master plan for the College, this plan was received with favor by the Board. This plan envisions an

eventual maximum enrollment of 180 students, approached in intervals of 20 new students per year until 1985. It also calls for considerable development of the campus, primarily focused on student housing, industries development and library and chapel expansion.

In other business, Institute Controller Salim Hasbani presented the results of Weimar's first full external audit. Prepared by Jerry D. Jolly, CPA, it concluded with an expressed opinion of approval for our accounting methods. Hasbani also presented the financial report for the first 8 months of the current fiscal year, and the Board voted appreciation for the excellent

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FROM OUR PRESIDENT

A question which comes to us more and more frequently from prospective students as well as others interested in Weimar is "do you plan to seek accreditation?" Although this question has been asked from time to time during the past several years, it did not seem to have immediate relevance until we had the full four-year curriculum in operation. Now, as we look toward graduating our first students from Weimar College in June, it seems appropriate to address the question.

It is clear from the questions which are asked that some of you have strong convictions that we should plan to become accredited as soon as possible. It is also clear others believe just as strongly that a decision to seek accreditation would be somewhat akin to apostasy. While we recognize that some of these different convictions held without a thorough understanding of what accreditation involves, we also recognize that there are good reasons in support of both views. Since it is our desire to make every decision on the basis of principle, the Weimar Institute Board at its April 5 meeting set up a task force to investigate and study the issues relating to accreditation. Their findings along with any recommendations will be presented to the Board at its October meeting.

One phase of their study will be to evaluate the several types of accreditation that might be available to us. There are a number of different accreditation bodies which could have relevance to Weimar College including: Western Association of Schools and Colleges, the State of California, American Association of Bible Colleges, and the Seventh-day Adventist Board of Regents.

As the various accrediting organizations are investigated, it will be important to carefully itemize the perceived advantages and disadvantages of each. The most important area for us to consider is the extent to which each group attempts to influence philosophy. An accreditation procedure which only renders an opinion regarding how well we are accomplishing the goals inherent in our philosophy could be viewed differently from one which seeks to bring about uniformity among institutions by imposing their standards.

We need to make clear, even before the task force takes up its work, that we believe Weimar College to be founded upon principles given to the Seventh-day Adventist Church by God. To the extent that we correctly understand and apply His principles, to that extent the educational program will be superior. For that reason, those principles are not negotiable. However, there might be some value to have an objective group help us evaluate how well those principles are being applied.

Since we know that there are strong opinions both for and against accreditation, we want to be sure that we make a decision based upon the best information available. If you have a conviction one way or the other, please share it with us — along with the basis for your conviction. This is not intended to be an opinion poll where we tally the responses and accept the majority view. We do not believe that God's principles are based on majority opinion — they are based upon His truth. We do, however, believe that "Without counsel plans go wrong, but with many advisors they succeed." (Proverbs 15:22 RSV).

Whether or not you choose to write us on this matter, we do ask you to join us in praying that we will clearly discern God's will. When the Board has made the decision, we will attempt to explain the factors which were considered and to indicate the principles which seem to apply.

Robert L. Fillman

Robert L. Fillman,

"I Smoked Non-Stop for 50 Years!"

By Violet Davis

February NEW START Class as told to Aileen Ludington, M.D.

The phone rang, and I crossed the room to answer it. But before I could pick it up I went into a paroxysm of coughing. When I finally did pick it up, I was so out of breath I could hardly talk. Later that afternoon the same thing happened again when I tried to walk to the bathroom. I coughed until I nearly passed out.

I was thoroughly frightened now. I had been smoking heavily for 50 years, and I knew it was hurting me. But it had never been this bad. Just before Christmas I had caught a cold, which seemed to go into pneumonia. I was so sick and short of breath that my doctor hospitalized me. I didn't go home until after New Years. But I wasn't much better. Just a few steps would bring on coughing that would leave me weak and gasping for breath. Sometimes I couldn't talk for several minutes. I called my sister and told her that if she ever picked up the phone and could hear nothing except me gasping for breath, to call the fire department immediately.

I wondered what to do. I had tried many times to quit, with no success. I went through two Seventh-day Adventist 5-day plans. I attended the Schick program which cost me \$600.00. One time I disposed of all my cigarettes and drove to a remote mountain cabin to stay for a week. On the second day I hiked out to a service station for a fresh supply! I was a hopeless case for sure.

I saw a short segment about Weimar Health Institute on the TV news one night. I began to wonder if that place could help me. My doctor encouraged me to investigate.

I was too late for the January program, but was accepted into the February NEWSTART class. This worried me, because I felt I just couldn't make it another month. I didn't think I could live that long. I was short of breath all of the time, and the coughing spells would nearly finish me.

I began to put my affairs in order. I arranged for my grandson to take over the house. I wanted to be prepared in case I didn't make it.

But finally the day came. I had thrown my entire supply of cigarettes into the fireplace the night before, and had managed to sleep through the night. I drove to Weimar, totally determined that this would be it. I knew it was my last chance. If I blew it again, it would soon be curtains for me.

From the moment I arrived at Weimar, things seemed different. The people were gentle, kind, and friendly. One of the first things they did was put me on the treadmill. I



Violet Davis

was sure I would last only a few steps, but I walked through three stages. I couldn't believe it! Was that clean air working its magic already?

I knew this was an Adventist place, so was prepared to endure their religious indoctrination. But it wasn't like that at all. I was invited to the devotional programs, but only when I felt like it. Most of the other guests weren't Adventists either, but we soon felt very comfortable around each other, and with the Weimar staff. Actually, I liked it when they prayed with me. I am a Christian myself, and raised my children that way.

The food was a bit of a shock at first. But after three weeks I'm beginning to like it. I'm certainly feeling better, and have more energy than I've had in years.

The first few days were the hardest. I was introduced to hydrotherapy treatments. I received a treatment each night at first, and also during the day if I needed it. They were very relaxing, and helped me sleep. Speaking of sleep, I can't believe what's happening. At home I never even think of bed till after the 11 p.m. news. Here I can't get to bed fast enough, and at 8:30 no less!

I started on the walking program right away and, in-

credibly, soon was able to average 3 to 5 miles daily. I found that taking a walk in the fresh air was the best way to handle my craving for a cigarette. After the picnic last week, I decided to walk back. It was seven miles, and I had covered six of them when they sent a car to pick me up. They were worried about me, but I was fine. I could have done the whole thing without any trouble.

My family can't believe the change in me. My sister and my niece both quit smoking this week. They said if I can do it, they can too!

I would like to move out of smoggy Sacramento. I am also thinking about going back to work. I've been a pharmacist and operated a drug store most of my life. I retired from that seven years ago. But actually, what I really want to do first is travel. Last year I made a trip to New Orleans, but coughed so badly I couldn't leave the hotel room. I went on one tour, and sat in the tour bus the whole time.

But things are different now. I feel like my life has been given back to me. I'm thinking of all kinds of things that I want to do.

If my sister and niece have trouble getting off their cigarettes, I'll sure send them to Weimar! I love this place. I've been very happy here.

"United with Christ in God, we shall reveal to the world that as God chose His Son to be His representative on the earth, even so has Christ chosen us to represent His character. Everyone who has genuine faith in Christ Jesus will represent Him in character." **Medical Ministry, 23.**

We Serve A Living God!

By Susan Claridge
Student, Weimar College

In today's modern society of fast foods and self sufficiency, people are less frequently stopping to talk to God in prayer. Their excuse is often the over-used and abused cliché that their prayers go no higher than the ceiling. In reality, it may be that their concept of God is lacking.

Our God is a living God. And He is just as available today as He was in the days of Old Testament history. In fact, Christ invites people to test God's willingness to hear their petitions. "Ask," He bids, "and it shall be given you." Matt. 7:7

We at Weimar Institute believe God and are taking Him at His word. Students and staff alike are finding exciting and practical answers to even the most humble prayers.

Consider Salim Hasbani, Weimar's comptroller. A dire need had arisen. A bill for \$3600 from Weimar's major food supplier was due in one week, but there were no funds to cover the payment. Mr. Hasbani prayed, knowing that God has promised to supply all our needs. It was a tense week, but he was not discouraged. On Thursday a car which had been donated to the Institute sold for the amount of...that's right, \$3600!

Oh, you say, God answers prayers like that, all right. Does he have time for simple, childlike prayers? Should you bother him with little needs? Staff member, Veronica Morrish will tell you, He most certainly does!

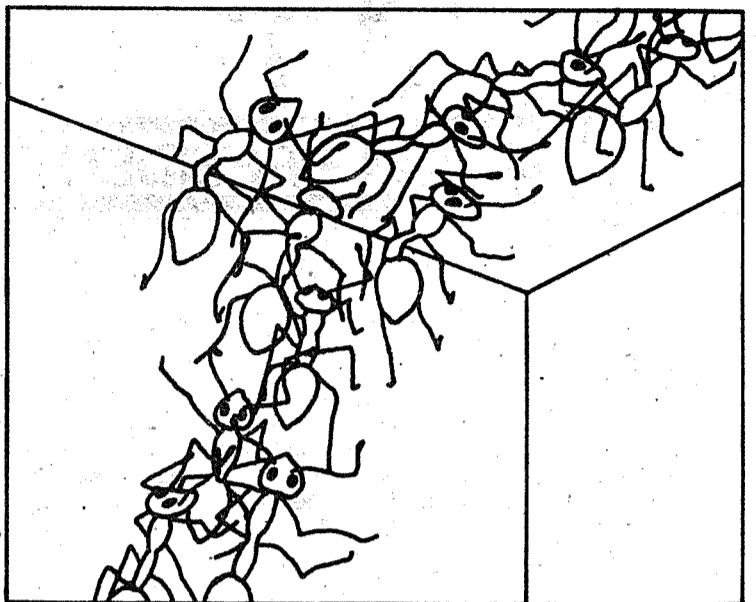
Recently, a friend baked a cake at Mrs. Morrish's home and left it there to cool overnight. Just before retiring Mrs. Morrish looked in on the cake. To her dismay she dis-

covered the kitchen swarming with ants! What could she do? She did what has come to be a very natural thing for her to do; she prayed, "I don't know how You're going to handle this, Lord," she said. "But I'm resting in You." With that she went to bed, assured that God cares about even the little things of life. In the morning she peeked into the kitchen. There was not an ant in sight.

There are some people who believe that God answers only big prayers and the prayers of important people. Try to convince Weimar College student, Laura Mayer — she'd more quickly believe that there were elephants on the campus before she'd accept that assumption.

Not long ago, Laura went to Pacific Union College to take the Allied Health Professionals Exam, a prerequisite

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WEIMAR INSTITUTE

Weimar Institute is a multi-phased ministry whose keynote is SERVICE. Working in harmony with the basic tenets of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, the Institute is comprised of physicians, educators and other laymen. Our primary goal is to uplift God's character as the One who restores His image in His people on earth. Weimar Institute ministers to the physical, the mental and the spiritual aspects of humanity. Relying solely upon the free gift of the righteousness of God revealed in the Person of Jesus Christ, the Institute openly confesses that no function of its ministry can detract from the reality of that One Source of salvation. Rather, we desire that His righteousness shall become more believable to others because of this service to which we ourselves have been called. (2 Tim. 1:9, Eph. 2:9-10)

ADMINISTRATION

Robert L. Fillman President
Kent Dickinson Business Administrator
Dick Winn Secretary
John Sipkens Director of Labor

NEWTART HEALTH CENTER

Henri Wiebe M.D. Acting Medical Director

WEIMAR COLLEGE

Colin Standish, PhD. Dean of the College

RETREAT MINISTRY

Dick Winn Chaplain/Director

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WEIMAR INSTITUTE BULLETIN

Pat Payne Editor
Veronica Morrish Assistant Editor

Weimar Institute is a non-profit organization operating under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Tax deductible receipts will be issued for cash donations and in acknowledgement of material gifts. The Institute may be named to receive a bequest by will. The appropriate designation should be: Weimar Institute, Weimar, California 95736. Deferred gifts by wills or trusts will be gratefully received.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday: 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.
Friday: 8:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M.
Sabbath and Sunday: Closed
Telephone: Business line (916) 637-4111 or 878-7222

VISITORS

Due to the rapid growth of the "Weimar family" we have extremely limited guest facilities. PLEASE, if you plan to visit Weimar overnight, make advance reservations. Otherwise, we cannot guarantee accommodations. Thank you for this consideration.

We do not conduct Sabbath services at Weimar Institute. If you plan to join us for Sabbath meals, please make prior arrangements for meal tickets.

A casual walk through the campus? Most anytime you want. A meeting with the President or other staff members — please write or phone ahead to confirm an appointment.

It's A Dream Come True

By Susan Claridge

After an enjoyable eleven-day vacation from classes, once again the Weimar campus is alive with the flurry of time schedules and appointments to be met for another quarter. But something is different!

The students have broader smiles (is it possible?) and higher spirits. The trudge through winter quarter is over, and there has been a leap into spring. An abiding ambition to keep going seems to have united with thoughts of another school year ending in Summer is just around the corner.

Even more exciting than smiles and high spirits are the faces of seven new students on campus, making the total enrollment number 76 for Spring quarter.

One new student, Bea Tabony, from Boulder City, Nevada, is particularly special to the Weimar campus. For her, coming to Weimar is like stepping into a new world.

Having raised a family of three children (and already a grandmother of eight), Bea's life seemed pretty well set. Her occupation as a real estate broker for the Boulder, Henderson and Las Vegas areas the past six years proved to be successful financially; but she found that \$\$\$\$ don't always mean happiness. Life was no longer fulfilling. Though she belonged to no particular church, Bea believed that there is a God. She began to pray, and God began to answer.

One evening while taking her usual walk which led past the building site of a new Sev-

enth-day Adventist church, she saw that the church was completed and people were going in. Having nothing better to do, she went in too. Once inside, Bea says she met "the nicest people" who invited her to the evangelistic meetings being held there.

She attended, but had to come to Northern California before completing the series.

Once in California, Bea and a friend decided to visit the Adventist church in Auburn. Providentially, the church was holding a cooking school (Continued on Page 6)



Bea Tabony and Betsy Stimpel

"Please sign me up"



Have you ever wondered what happens behind the scenes in the process of preparing the BULLETIN you are now holding in your hands? If you have, here's the fascinating story. Between the time you make a request for your name to be placed on the mailing list and the time you actually receive the paper, an intricate beeline of activity is constantly going on.

1. Marjorie Dickinson alphabetizes, catalogues and key-punches names on our office machines.

2. From this compilation, a computer print-out is run off for record-keeping purposes. In addition to this approximately 16,000 labels for the U. S. and Canada, plus some 800 for foreign countries, are prepared each month.

3. Team work is of vital importance as staff coordinate their ideas and efforts in working out the details in preparing articles for the paper. Here student assistant, Susan Claridge confers with Veronica Morrish regarding one of such details.

4. Many changes have been made in the BULLETIN since its first edition. There is a continual comparison between past publications and present ones — with an eye toward positive growth and current reader interest.

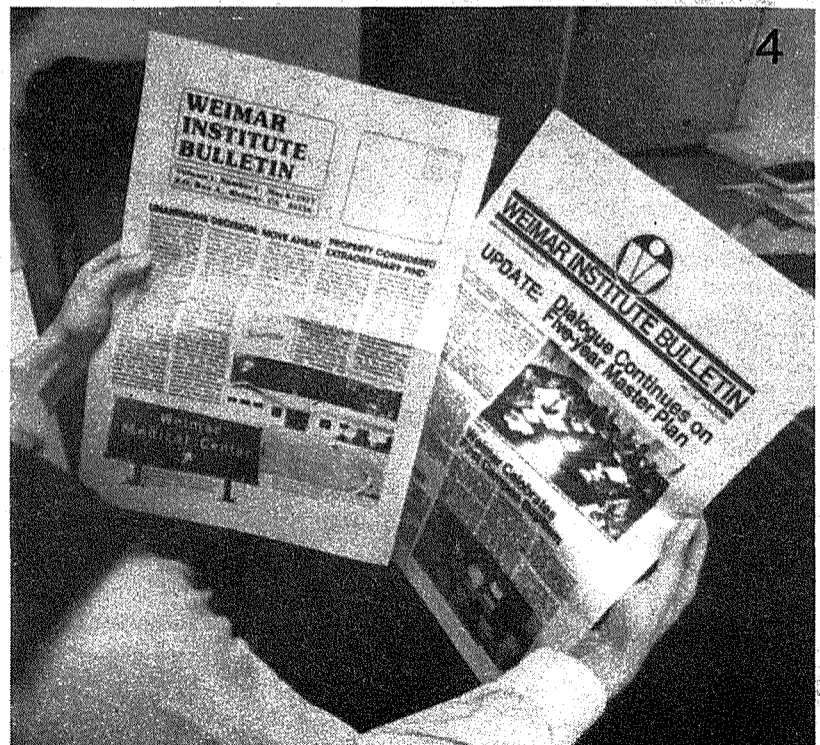
5. Many hours are put into photography and the final layout by photographer/artist Sheryl Clark.

6. The "finished project" is finally taken to the Auburn Journal to be run on their huge Webb press. Publisher Bill Pfaff and his able assistants, Wayne and Ruth make sure that the BULLETIN is printed with professional accuracy.

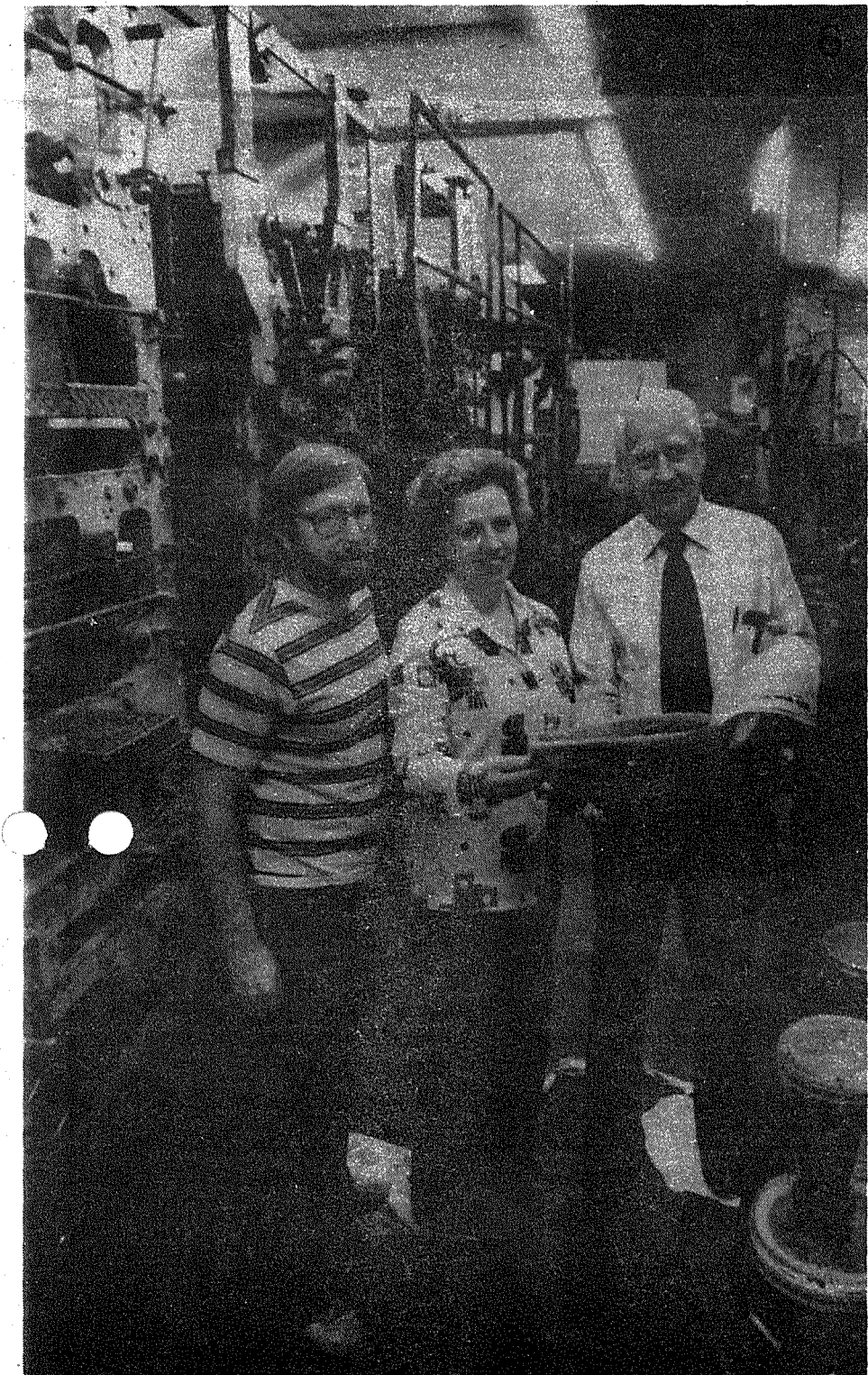
7. The paper comes back from the Journal, and then it's "mailing bee" time in the cafeteria. It's a time when as much of the Weimar family as can possibly make it assemble to sort and affix labels (by hand) to each BULLETIN that is mailed out.

8. "Would you believe this mound of mail is composed of Weimar BULLETINS (over 500 pounds worth)!" exclaims Editor, Pat Payne.

9. The final step involves carting the bags down to the post office for mail processing by Postmaster Betty Lugena and her staff. Is it worth all this effort? Yes, your monthly patronage and readership demands our personalized service.



... for the BULLETIN!"



Seven Said Yes to God

"I love Jesus and want to be baptized!" Simply and convincingly, Rachel Gerbozy expressed her desire to publicly declare her commitment to Christ.

On a recent Sabbath af-

ternoon, Rachel and six other young friends entered the baptismal tank together to celebrate one of the most significant occasions of their lives. For ten weeks prior to that event, they had met for

two hours each week with Weimar Chaplain Dick Winn (whose own daughter was among the seven!) to study, discuss and ask questions regarding the Christian life.

Students of the Weimar El-

ementary School, the girls were bundles of joy and anticipation as they awaited the hour of the public declaration of their desire to serve God. For them, Sabbath must have seemed like one of the longest days of their lives.

It was an exceptionally special occasion for one of the girls. Having been baptized before, at the age of nine, she had come to realize that Christ had really meant virtually nothing to her. She had been baptized because her best friend was, and she thought it was the thing to do.

After coming to Weimar with her family and experiencing the warmth of real Christian fellowship, she

began to see in God something that she had not understood before. Consequently, she made up her mind to be rebaptized, and happily took her place among the seven.

One who witnessed the event later reflected, "It was so inspiring to see the love of Jesus radiate from their faces as they spoke of what He meant to them. I know they mean it."

And as one of the mothers expressed, it was deeply satisfying to see her daughter given wholeheartedly, by her own choice, to the service of God.

For everyone present, nothing could have been more rewarding.



Elizabeth Hasbani, Cassie Payne, Rachel Gerbozy, Karla Hamman, Julie Winn, Rosalie Boettcher, Jorjean Hasbani.

Living God

(Continued from Page 3)
to the physical therapy classes offered at Loma Linda University. She had been sent the ticket which would allow her to take the test. About half way to P.U.C. on Friday afternoon, Laura was struck with a devastating realization. She had left the ticket at Weimar! It was getting late, and she had already gone too far to turn back. What else could she do? She stopped the car, and with her traveling companions, she prayed.

Immediately, a Bible text came to her mind. "Keep peace, for in stillness and in quiet, there lies your strength." Isa. 30:15. Laura felt her panic recede. She was sure that God would work out everything according to His will.

Dream

(Continued from Page 3)
at the time, which interested her enough to attend. That is how she found out about Weimar Institute.

She decided to come to Weimar for a visit and lunch. There she met Betsy Stimpel, one of our college students. Betsy showed Bea around and told her all about the place. She was consequently so impressed that this was where she would like to be to learn more about health, that she checked into coming as a student of Weimar College. She later sent in an application, was accepted, and now is here as a student, to the bewilderment of her co-

Arriving at the college, Laura did some phoning. Sure enough, she was allowed to take the test as scheduled.

Our God is like a loving Father. He cares about our lives in every particular. Listen to the words of inspiration: "Keep your wants, your joys, your sorrows, your cares, and your fears, before God. You cannot burden Him; you cannot weary Him. He who numbers the hairs of your head is not indifferent to the wants of His children. 'The Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.' (James 5:11) His heart of love is touched by our sorrows, and even by our utterance of them. Take to Him everything that perplexes the mind. Nothing is too great for Him to bear, for He holds up worlds, He rules over all the affairs of the uni-

workers!

Bea lives in the dormitory right along with all the other girls and doesn't seem to mind a bit. She loves people and wants to share the love she has found here with others out in the community who are looking for satisfaction in life.

Best of all, Bea appreciates a well-rounded lifestyle of work, study, exercise and outreach. She thinks it's significant that the staff, along with the students, all share responsibilities — even in the kitchen!

For Bea Tabony, being at Weimar is "a dream come true."

verse. Nothing that in any way concerns our peace is too small for Him to notice..." Steps to Christ, page 100.

Yes, we serve a living God! May His name be praised in our lives now and forevermore.

Plans

(Continued from Page 1)
accounting represented in the report.

These reports set the stage for the approval of both the operating budget and the capital budget, as presented by Business Manager Kent Dickinson. The capital budget, of course, was contingent upon "funds being available."

Both a cost-of-living salary increase, and the beginnings of a modest retirement plan, were voted by the Board for Institute employees. And a policy for assisting staff children who need to attend colleges other than Weimar's was also voted.

In personal actions, the current slate of Board officers, and the current team of Institute administrators, were both reappointed to serve another year. The four Board members whose terms of office expired this year were all asked to serve for another five year term. Chico attorney Larry Baumbach was added to the Board. And a Ministerial Advisory Committee, under the interim leadership of Dr. Floyd Rittenhouse, was empowered to provide supporting counsel to the spiritual ministries aspects of the Institute's programs.

As the eight-hour session drew to a close, several members commented that it was probably the most optimistic Board session the Institute had conducted. "The morning reports were so full of God's blessings," said one member, "that it gave us the faith to vote the budgets and requests in the afternoon."

NEWSTART Alumni Corner

Dear Alumni,

Greetings to each of you! It has been such a privilege for me to have worked in the NEWSTART program for the past 14 months; and I marvel as I reflect on the wide variety of people God has brought to the program in that time. Every one of you has come with that uniquely special flavor of your individual background, occupation, personality characteristics and life goals. Yet all of you had one thing in common: a desire for better health, and a new beginning.

So you arrived with that desire, and then received a month packed with information and instruction on what was needful to bring about the end goal of ultimate health. Do you remember being overwhelmed by all you were learning, especially as you contemplated implementing these changes into your lifestyle? The month ended and you then were on your own without the support you felt from your fellow guests as well as the Weimar staff.

Perhaps some of you found sufficient motivation to exercise consistently and to stay on a natural diet. But, perhaps there are those who have experienced what you felt to be failure, who got discouraged and "threw the baby out with the bath water," as the saying goes. If the latter sounds familiar, may it be a consolation that you are not alone. Failures, in whatever capacity or degree, are unfortunately a reality and have to be met with the realization that "all is not lost."

One key principle of dealing with failure is illustrated beautifully in God's word: "Rejoice not over me, O my enemy; when I fall, I shall rise..." Micah 7:8 (RSV). To lie down and be discouraged is always the temptation, and we seem to enjoy the luxury of basking in a season of despair and doubts as to whether or not it is possible to maintain these healthful habits. To face these moments redemptively, one must recognize the fact that being in a downfall does not mean remaining in this state forever. A sudden failure is no reason for being discouraged and giving up on the path to good health. The means to good health are often progressive rather than instantaneous.

So it would do you well to meet the momentary failures with an instant return to healthful ways, not allowing yourself to mope or regret.

Another key principle in dealing with your failure, is to make choices only for today, forgetting the past and not being overwhelmed by the future. Don't make big promises like: "I'll never do it again!" This might only bring on a bigger dose of discouragement if you find yourself repeating the same mistake. Instead, make your choice to live healthfully for that one day alone, and continue that each day.

I firmly believe that our God is lovingly desirous of sharing His power with each of you in enabling you to live healthfully, and to consistently maintain good habits. As He said to the apostle Paul in 2 Cor. 12:9 (RSV): "My grace is sufficient for you; for my power is made perfect in weakness." He is saying this to us, too.

Courage and strength to all of you,

In Christian Love,
Allison Jones

We Invite You...

We, the members of the first Senior Class of Weimar College, gratefully and joyfully invite you to join us in a commencement of Thanksgiving, study, song, and dedication, as we accept the challenge of service in the work of God.

Services will begin Friday evening at 7:00, June 12, and extend through the Sabbath, concluding at sundown, June 13, 1981.

We pray that you can be with us.

Class of '81

I WANT TO HELP!

Here is my gift of \$_____

- to help cancel Weimar's mortgage debt.
 toward Weimar's monthly operational expenses.
 to be placed in Weimar College's Worthy Student Fund.
 other.....

PLEASE SIGN ME UP FOR...

- the Weimar Institute Bulletin.
 I am already receiving the Bulletin.
 recipe book: FROM THE WEIMAR KITCHEN (\$5⁰⁰)

PLEASE SEND ME...

- information regarding Weimar's NEWSTART Health Center.
 Weimar College Student Application.
 Other.....

NAME.....
 ADDRESS.....
 CITY..... STATE..... ZIP.....

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SEND TO: Weimar Institute • P.O. Box A • Weimar, CA 95736

New Testament Stories Relived

Withered Hand or Shriveled Heart?*

By Veronica Morrish

All classes of people were gathered there to worship at the synagogue in Capernaum that Sabbath day. Scribes and Pharisees with their punctilious attention to religious forms, but having a need deep down inside that rites and penance could not satisfy. Publicans and sinners standing on the periphery seemingly content with the sensual and the earthly, but with aching hearts of distrust and fear. Also, the distressed and heart-burdened whose hopes were blighted and who, with earthly "joys", were seeking to quiet the true longings of their souls.

And then there were two other men. The first came to worship like everyone else. But he had a visible problem — a withered hand — something he could not conceal and about which he was probably embarrassed. The second also came to worship, but in a different sense. He was possessed with a freedom that the other worshippers had never witnessed before. The kind of freedom which sprang from a heart full of love for (and a settled security in) His Heavenly Father. Freedom from any bias that would make Him on the one hand, scornful of one with an external deformity or, on the other, critical of those with internal, corroding pride. His name was Jesus.

"And the scribes and Pharisees watched Him to see whether He would heal on the Sabbath day; that they might find an accusation against Him."¹ The scribes and Pharisees — such meticulous guardians of the law; rigid, arrogant sticklers to the traditions of the church fathers — they stood up to pass self-righteous judgment on the Creator of the very laws they claimed to keep.

How ridiculous! you say. But perhaps on closer examination of our own deeper motives we ourselves might be led to see that our callous, shriveled hearts, like theirs, have long since ceased to throb in humane compassion for those in apparent need. And how oft we cloak this lack of human sympathy in the garb of a million sanctimonious excuses! We refuse help to a needy soul because it's "the wrong day"; refuse to disturb our "divinely" ordained schedule to give of ourselves to others because it goes against our organized religious stereotypes. So we, like those New Testament teachers, not only refrain from doing good ourselves, but become cynically critical of those who dare to do so.

In contrast, Jesus, exercising the freedom of heaven-born love, quite unshackled by the chains of human traditions and modalities, looked with compassion on the suffering one and said: "Stand

forth."² Then, as if in parenthetical rebuke, yet, by the same token, opening up an avenue for them to admit their own need for healing, He turned to the Pharisees and asked: "Is it lawful on the Sabbath day to do good or to do harm? to save life? or to kill. But they were silent."³ A benumbing silence that grew out of hearts that no longer "feel". Hearts that were shriveled because they were bent on condemning rather than redeeming, on cutting off rather than restoring, on destroying rather than building up. Is it any wonder then that they could go out from His presence to "counsel with the Herodians against Him, how they might destroy Him!"⁴

It was in the face of this painful silence that Jesus "looked around at them ... grieved at their hardness of heart, and said to the man, 'Stretch out your hand!' He stretched it out, and his hand was restored"⁵.

As I reflected on this story a few days ago, I can vividly see that many of us fit squarely into the category of the man with the withered hand. It is obvious to us and to others that we have a need that shows — be it physical, spiritual or material. I also see some of us like the scribes and Pharisees — aloof, externally pious and critical of those in need, of those who attempt to supply these needs in what we call unorthodox ways.

And I see Jesus. Longing to create a new kind of people. People who will be completely free of internal corrosion as well as external deformity. People who, instead of keeping the focus on themselves because they feel either obviously deficient or proudly self-sufficient, will place the emphasis on a God who is fully capable and abundantly willing to heal both withered hands and shriveled hearts. All to His glory and the vindication of His character.

*Based on Mark 3:1-6 and Luke 6:6-11 (RSV)

1Luke 6:7
 2Mark 3:3
 3Mark 3:4
 4Mark 3:6
 5Mark 3:5

Is There A Future?

Can schools like Weimar College really provide for the future? Greg Harper says, "yes!" One of the first students to graduate from Weimar, he recently received a call as a ministerial task-force worker.

Graduating with a Metropolitan Ministries major, Greg had to face the question of what the future would hold for him. He sent out many letters and resumes to various conferences. With each letter went up a sincere prayer in the knowledge that God would provide according to His will, but also acknowledging the undeniable fact that there are

more pastoral graduates than job openings.

Letters began to return, each one portraying little or no hope for his immediate future employment. Then the answer came — a call to work for the Nevada/Utah Conference as a ministerial task-force worker in Westwood, California, in Lassen County. God had answered his prayers.

Greg feels that there are several reasons he received the call. Undoubtedly the Lord has blessed. And there was the faith that other people had in him, along with their prayers, support and en-

couragement. Also, having spent the past two and one-half years as a member, layman, and eventually elder of the Truckee church in the same conference, besides spending a summer as a task-force associate pastor there, Greg has had ample opportunity to experience this kind of ministry firsthand.

Greg's appointment will begin full time after graduation. But he is already working with the members in Westwood. "I just love the people and the area," says Greg, who believes that the Lord has really opened a beautiful door.

Jeremiah 33:3

Call to me
and I will
answer you,
and will tell you
great and hidden
things which
you have
not known.

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FROM OUR CHAPLAIN

The Gift or The Giver

Imagine you are pressing through the crowds on a congested city street. Suddenly you are stopped by the impish grin of a street urchin, standing squarely in front of you, his grubby hand pushing a piece of paper toward your face. "Here," he says, "Take it. Put your name on it and it's yours."

Too startled to do otherwise, you reach for the worn piece of paper and observe that it is a proper bank check made payable in the sum of one million dollars. You notice that all the required electronic numbers, bank codes, printed account names, and all the rest seem to be in order, except that the "Pay to" line has been left empty.

"It's my account," urges the scruffy little kid. "Put your name on the line, and the money's all yours!" And he scurries off through the crowd, leaving you staring at the piece of paper in your hand.

Would you be excited about this sudden flush of good fortune? Would you walk into your bank — and with a straight face — hand it to your favorite teller, complete with deposit slip? What is more, would you proceed immediately to the local Mercedes dealer, select a fully-equipped 350 SEC Coupe, and write a check for it in full — without the faintest tinge of fear that they'd send the troops after you for passing a bad check?

If not, why not? Isn't the gift worth getting excited about? Or isn't there an intuitive awareness that the gift is only as good as the giver whom you know can stand behind it?

The Scriptures record that when Jesus ascended to heaven, He "gave gifts to men."¹ In contrast to our imagined story, His gifts are not cheap jokes, designed to expose our gullibility. Every one of Jesus' gifts is as solid, as genuine, as He is as a

Person. They are gifts (pardon the pun) that you can bank on!

But painfully similar to our imagined scenario, Satan has put full effort into portraying Jesus as a street-side huckster, peddling promises worth no more than the paper on which they are written. And countless millions have tossed aside gifts of infinite worth — not even putting their name on them, much less putting their weight on them — because they've not trusted the Giver.

And so when God wanted to tell the world about His eagerness to forgive sinners, He sent Jesus to live among those sinners a believable life of loving forgiveness. And when Jesus stood in their midst and announced, "God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life,"² the people said, "I can believe He would do just that; that's the kind of Person I've seen Jesus to be!"

A time of terrible crisis is coming upon the world, when Satan will push every Christian right up against the wall with the accusation, "God

can't forgive you! Look at all the things you've done in the past. Look at your present unlikeness to Him. You are beyond forgiveness!" The Christian's security at that point will not be found in clutching a worn piece of paper on which is written a promissory note of forgiveness. His security will be found in knowing the Forgive, in remembering the evidence of Calvary, in recognizing that it is God's very nature to forgive the undeserving.

In the same way, God has offered to all the gift of deliverance from the control of sinful values and drives in our lives. And again the enemy has charged that God hasn't

the resources to back up that gift. Believing the lie, far too many have never even "written a check" on that gift. Watching each other's lives of failure, they confirm with each other their suspicion that God's "Victory Account" is indeed overdrawn.

Could we but know the Giver as He has revealed Himself to us, we would be ready to "cash in" every one of His gifts. No wonder Jesus said, "And this is life eternal, that they might know Thee, the only true God, and (His greatest Gift) Jesus Christ whom Thou has sent."³

¹Ephesians 4:8

²John 3:16

³John 17:3, emphasis supplied

Let your heart break for the longing it has for God, for the living God. The life of Christ has shown what humanity can do by being partaker of the divine nature. All that Christ received from God we too may have. Then ask and receive. With the persevering faith of Jacob, with the unyielding persistence of Elijah, claim for yourself all that God has promised.

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