

# The Worldwide News

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## AC marks 40-year history, 447 graduate

### Chancellor gives address in Big Sandy

By Kenneth Tate  
BIG SANDY — Chancellor Joseph W. Tkach addressed 174 graduates at commencement exercises May 20 in the Ambassador College Field House here.

*Kenneth Tate is head of the Journalism Department at Big Sandy Ambassador College.*

"Today you stand on the threshold of the greatest opportunities of your lives," Mr. Tkach told graduates. He likened them to the "salt of the earth — that special ingredient which adds zest and zing to life itself."

The chancellor arrived here at about 11:30 a.m. on the Church's G-III aircraft. Accompanying him were Joseph Locke, vice president of the Ambassador Foundation for international projects; Ellen Escat, administrative assistant; Michael Rasmussen, aide; Dwight Viehe, director of Food Services in Pasadena; the Church's television crew (John Halford, on-site director, engineer Steve Bergstrom and cameraman Gary Werings); and Mr. Halford's wife, Patricia. The Halfords' daughter, Rebekah, was among the graduates.

Serving as Mr. Tkach's G-III flight crew were Captain Ken Hopke, co-captain Lawrence Dietrich, maintenance supervisor Dean Mohr and steward Jay Brothers.

The graduation ceremony began at 2 p.m. Evangelist Roderick Meredith greeted faculty, students and guests at his first commencement as deputy chancellor of the Big Sandy campus. Dr. Meredith's daughter, Rebecca, also graduated.

After the greeting, Kevin Brownlee, sophomore class president from Middleburg, Fla., gave a speech ti-



AMBASSADORS GRADUATE — Left, Chancellor Joseph W. Tkach presents a diploma to Steven Andreas at graduation on the Big Sandy campus May 20. Right, Pasadena graduates exit the Ambassador Auditorium after commencement exercises May 22. [Photos by Eric Krantz and Charles Feldbush]

led "The Challenge of Life." After the speech Dr. Meredith presented Mr. Brownlee with the Watson Wise award for leadership and academic achievement, a \$1,000 scholarship. Mr. Wise, a Tyler, Tex., businessman and former delegate to the United Nations, donated a continuing scholarship to the college in 1977.

The Ambassador Chorale, directed by Roger Bryant, sang "The

Road Not Taken" and "Sing Unto God," accompanied by sophomore David Bilowus on piano.

Mr. Tkach then addressed the graduates, telling them they were in college during the "golden years of the work." He urged them to take advantage of the education they have been given and use it to become the "salt of the earth."

The chancellor said he was "extremely pleased with the

scholastic accomplishments" of the graduating class.

After the chancellor's address Dr. Meredith conferred the degrees. Graduates received diplomas from Mr. Tkach and were congratulated by Dr. Meredith, Donald Ward, academic dean, and Richard Thompson, dean of students.

After the ceremony Mr. Tkach met with college faculty and administration before leaving at 6 p.m.

### 40 countries represented in Pasadena

By Kerri Miles

PASADENA — "This is your day, a day of great rejoicing," Chancellor Joseph W. Tkach told 273 graduates at Ambassador College's 37th commencement exercises May 22 in the Ambassador Auditorium.

"If I had a hat on, I would take it off in honor of your achievements," Mr. Tkach said.

The ceremony began at 3 p.m. After the invocation and welcome by Deputy Chancellor Raymond F. McNair, Roger Widmer, student body president from West Lafayette, Ind., gave a speech titled "The Dream That Will Never Die."

Mr. Widmer likened the pioneering spirit of the early Americans to the pioneering spirit of Ambassador College through its 40-year history.

The Ambassador Chorale, directed by John D. Schroeder, sang "On Great Lone Hills" and "Battle Hymn of the Republic" before Mr. Tkach's address.

Mr. Tkach told graduates, who represented 40 countries, "In facing life's tasks and the challenges that we're going to be confronted with head-on, we need to, as a family, be united in love and harmony."

Mr. Tkach said something is lacking in the world's education.

"To put it simply, mankind has thrown away the basic textbook of true education... the Bible... Humanity then fired the administrator — God Himself — and rewrote the curriculum, which is God's laws. And finally, man rejected the one teacher — Jesus Christ — capable of teaching a course of instruction that would educate man in the way of peace, success and happiness."

"Ambassador College was established on God's revealed knowledge," he said.

Mr. Tkach told the graduates that a leader leads by doing, not by title. He urged them to make things happen.

Mr. Tkach quoted Matthew 5:13, "'You are the salt of the earth.'

"He didn't say you're the sugar or you're the pepper. He says you are... the sodium chloride."

Mr. Tkach said that individually the two components of salt are deadly poisons, but that when combined, they are a life-preserving agent. "You are that life-preserving agent that adds the zest and the zing and the flavor to life because your life is dedicated on the laws of God."

The chancellor announced the first recipients of the Herbert W. Armstrong Achievement Award, a cash award to be presented annually to graduating seniors who exemplify the pursuit of excellence. He presented the awards to Nigel Bearman, Jeffrey Broadnax, Lisa Derstine and Christina Kuo.

Mr. McNair then conferred the degrees, Gregory Albrecht, dean of students read the name of each graduate and Mr. Tkach presented the diplomas.

A photograph of Mr. Tkach with Miss Derstine and Miss Kuo appeared on the front page of the May 23 Pasadena Star-News.

### Mr. Tkach speaks in a 'loving and personal way'

## Houston: feeling closer to family

By Jeff E. Zhorne

PASADENA — More than 1,900 brethren from Texas and Louisiana assembled in Houston, Tex., May 30 to hear Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach speak "in a loving and personal way" about the need to unify and get the job done, said Kenneth Giese, pastor of the Houston West and Victoria, Tex., churches.

"When he says, 'We've got a job to do,' the brethren know he means business, and they know we'll get it done with God's help and their full support," said Dennis Van Deventer, pastor of the Pasadena Imperial P.M. church, who, with his 6-year-old daughter, Ginger, accompanied Mr. Tkach on the Church's Gulfstream III jet.

Mr. Van Deventer pastored the Houston West and Victoria churches from January, 1983, to June, 1985.

"I can't think of anything that could have contributed more to a spirit of unity among God's people," said David Johnson, pastor of the Houston East church. "The members here in southeast Texas will long remember that God's apostle really cares about them."

The G-III touched down at Houston's Hobby Airport at 3 p.m., May 29. Mr. Giese and his wife, Katherine, greeted the traveling party, and their sons, Matthew, Mark and Michael, gave Mr. Tkach a cowboy hat.

Mr. Tkach was accompanied by Dean May, director of the Church's Fleet & Transportation Department; Ellen Escat, the pastor general's administrative assistant; Gene Hogberg, Plain Truth world

news editor; his wife, Barbara; Jerry Patillo, who works in the Church's Micro Systems Department; his wife, Donna, an administrative assistant to evangelist Leroy Neff; and Esther Apperson, a secretary for Pasadena Church Offices.

Captain Ken Hopke, co-captain Lawrence Dietrich and steward Jay Brothers served as Mr. Tkach's G-III crew.

At Sabbath services the next day in the Astro Village Hotel, brethren attended from the Lake Charles,

La., and Beaumont, Victoria and Houston North, East and West, Tex., churches.

"The thing that stands out in my mind is the cooperation and zeal that the brethren show in preparing for Mr. Tkach's visit," said Mrs. Patillo.

After special Sabbath music by a combined choir singing "Onward Ye Peoples," Mr. Tkach spoke for almost two hours at a high-energy level, Mr. Van Deventer said.

"His enthusiastic intensity never

(See HOUSTON, page 3)

## PERSONAL FROM

*Joseph W. Tkach*

Dear brethren:

In this issue's "Personal" I'd like to have a special heart-to-heart talk with each of you as my spiritual family in Christ.

Reflecting the age in which we live, I believe too many in the Church of God have brought with them into the Church a much too careless approach to the use of alcohol. Some few, who may not actually be alcoholics, nevertheless allow themselves to be what the Bible calls *drunkards*.

We need to realize that unless we are constantly vigilant, alcohol can flow just as freely and

carelessly at some gatherings of members of the Church as it does in the general society.

Drunkenness is a sin. It quenches the Spirit of God. It is so easy, it seems, for some men today to adopt the *wrong* and spiritually *dangerous* thinking common in this godless age that beer guzzling, and "holding your liquor," are somehow "manly." They are "manly" all right! Certainly *not* godly! "There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death" (Proverbs 14:12, New King James throughout).

If you are one who has been thinking that way, *wake up!* It's time to get your thinking straightened out!

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## INSIDE

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# EC membership for Europe's neutral states?

PASADENA — The economic impact of the powerful European Community is now so great that other nations on its periphery are being forced to come to terms with it.

This is especially true of the remaining members of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) — Austria, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Finland and Switzerland (ex-members the United Kingdom and Portugal have already left EFTA for the EC). Unlike the Community, EFTA has no pretensions of achieving political unification.

EFTA officials met with their counterparts from the EC to hammer out closer cooperative agreements. The May 20 *Guardian* of Britain reported the substance of their meeting:

"The EEC and the six members of the European Free Trade Association seem set on a path which will end in a single West European economic and political organisation in the 1990s."

The fear of being left on the outside looking in is forcing a sobering reevaluation of EC membership on the part of Europe's remaining neutral states — even Switzerland.

In Switzerland and Sweden, continued *The Guardian*, "many businessmen are convinced that, if EFTA is to have a real voice in shaping the West European economy of the 1990s, full EEC membership is essential." And in Austria, a group

of employers recommended Community membership.

It has long been felt that the Soviet Union would not permit neutral Austria to link up with the EC. But Moscow has signaled that it might not necessarily oppose Austria's membership. This would fit in with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's encouragement of closer ties between the two halves of Europe.

The prospects of a much larger economic bloc in Western Europe and closer relations between it and Eastern Europe are nudging the Swiss away from their almost sacrosanct neutrality policy.

"EFTA appears to be a shrinking organization," commented one Swiss official, "and we Swiss will be concerned that we are not left alone as the other EFTA countries decide their future lies with the Community."

"Switzerland cannot continue to be on the borderline of Europe," added Swiss official Leon Schlumpf. "We are in the middle of the heart of Europe, and we have to take the consequences of that."

In an even more significant statement, Swiss President Alphonse Egli declared, "Our neutrality is not incompatible with the Treaty of Rome."

In Austria, citizens of that small but geographically pivotal republic in the heart of Europe are being forced to reexamine their past in the light of the increasingly grave political dilemma they confront today.

The crisis surrounds President Kurt Waldheim. Dr. Waldheim is accused of war crimes committed while he was in the German military forces during World War II. Though nothing has been proven about his war record, the charges are serious enough to make him a pariah among his counterparts around the world, effectively isolat-

returned to Austria for the first time since 1919 and was mobbed by crowds of wellwishers when she attended mass at a village church.

"A powerful personality, despite her years, the empress, who never formally abdicated her titles or claims, holds the key to Austria's present dilemma. She is a woman of high morals and ascetic discipline

## WORLDWATCH

By Gene H. Hogberg



ing the nation at the highest political level.

As a result, a consensus is building in Austria that the restoration of the Habsburg line — but this time as a modern constitutional monarchy — might not be a bad idea.

*The Times* of London reported on this remarkable development in its May 14 issue: "For the first time in decades, the political benefits of the Habsburgs is a subject of serious conversation among Austrians."

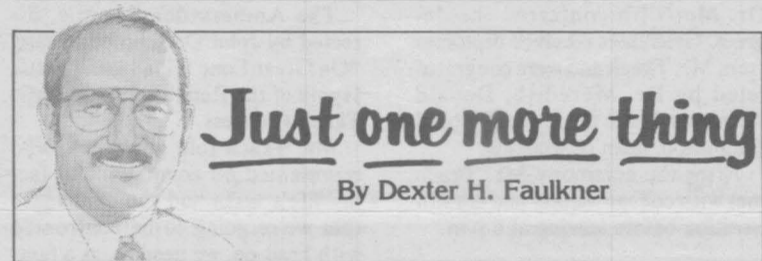
*The Times* concluded that the Habsburgs just might make themselves available to help restore Austria's damaged position.

The author, Richard Bassett, wrote: "Charles's widow, the Empress Zita, now in her 96th year ...

who would make an ideal figurehead for any democracy.

"After her demise [the emperor's son] Otto, an experienced politician ... could be entrusted to assume the responsibilities of head of state."

According to the *Times* article, "making itself a hereditary and constitutional archduchy (the title of empire would doubtless be



## Just one more thing

By Dexter H. Faulkner

### The growing season

May is an important month for gardeners. It's when you realize the bulbs you chose and bought in the fall, planted in late October and paid for in February, expecting them to bloom in April — haven't.

I love springtime. I enjoy the growing season. When I am able to work my hands into the soil, my whole personality and attitude change. Maybe I missed my calling — maybe I should have remained a farm boy.

Some may remember the story Herbert W. Armstrong used to tell about the young man who, while working in the field one day, saw a cloud forming the letters PC in the sky. He interpreted this as a message from God that he should preach Christ.

After a long, frustrating struggle in Bible school, he relayed the experience to a wise old speech instructor who interpreted the sign to the young man: "Son, that cloud formation didn't mean for you to preach Christ. It meant for you to plant corn!"

#### Seeds for growth

Seed, of course, is the important first ingredient in a garden's success. Once it is in our hands, it's up to us to protect and plant it, care for the plants that come from it and harvest the crop that results.

The truth is, though, that we're producing, protecting, planting, nurturing and harvesting "seed" all year round in our Christian lives. If we think of our talents, our time, our relationships and any other resources we have in our Christian lives as seed — to be cared for and fed — we can easily see how our actions and attitudes affect our ultimate harvest.

Remembering to save and protect some of our precious seed for

the future is as essential in Christian growth as it is in gardening. We've all heard the stories of famines that came from foolish people eating their seed grain instead of saving it for the next year's planting.

This can happen in our lives, too, if we are not careful. If we place no value on talents, time and physical and spiritual relationships — our seed for the future — they are soon lost.

How do we let those important resources slip through our fingers? We lose valuable friends through neglect and lack of appreciation. We let other assets disappear when we give our attention to less important physical items while major spiritual ones go down the drain. We lose our time and energy through wheel spinning, indecision and failure to set priorities.

Like seed grain, once gone, spiritual resources are lost forever.

#### Don't be wasteful

How can we avoid wasting our spiritual seed?

● First, find what's valuable to your Christian growth and label it "important seed grain." That way, five or 10 years hence you won't have to say, "I didn't mean to eat (or neglect) it." You will know where your valued resources lie and will protect them, not squander them, as the years go by.

In other words, examine yourself, define your weaknesses and strengths. Set yourself some goals for working on your problems. Keep yourself in mental, physical and spiritual shape.

● Next, plant your seed. Planting is a hopeful act, so you'll need optimism. Be positive! Be happy and confident!

The "doers of the word" are great planters. They look for good envi-

ronments, people and other resources in which to invest their time and energy and commit themselves to making those investments grow physically and spiritually.

The farmer is careful in the selection and evaluation of the seed, as well as in the choice of a place to sow it. "When he has leveled its surface, does he not sow the black cummin and scatter the cummin, plant the wheat in rows, the barley in the appointed place, and the spelt in its place?" (Isaiah 28:25, New King James).

He does not scatter his valuable seed indiscriminately or choose its location haphazardly. The most valuable crop is allotted the most fertile ground. Seeds of lesser value occupy odd corners.

Is God less discriminating in the experiences with which He entrusts us? He is selective about both soil and seed. He controls the timing. Sometimes He denies, sometimes He delays, but He is "wonderful in counsel and excellent in guidance" (verse 29, NKJ). He allows sorrow to intermingle with joy and adversity with prosperity, but He always has a harvest in view.

● The third step is nurturing it. You can't walk away and let your investment be crowded out by ugly weeds such as bad attitudes, negativity and lack of attention. Here, you need to call on God's help through Bible study and prayer, and counsel from God's ministry. Accept change eagerly and quickly.

● The final step is the big payoff, the harvest. Many a city slicker can plant and grow, but being poised and ready to harvest at the right time comes from experience.

Maturity and balance help us to delay gratification — the eating of our seed grain.

Wisdom given from God allows us to plant, nurture and bring our "seeds" to harvest, time and time again.

Let's not forget to "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall ... reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not" (Galatians 6:7-9).

## European Diary

By John Ross Schroeder



### Train to Berlin offers glimpse of two Germanys

WEST BERLIN, West Germany — From Hook of Holland to Berlin. What an interesting journey! Every day a daylight express train travels to the divided city from Holland.

*John Ross Schroeder traveled to Eastern Europe on behalf of Editorial Services. In this issue and next, we publish some of his personal impressions of the trip.*

The *Mitropa* dining car is operated under East German management. (One must pass through the German Democratic Republic to reach West Berlin by rail or road.) The lunch options are narrow. It's rump steak or nothing. But it's delicious.

Pastoral scenes continue clean and neatly arranged throughout Holland and West Germany. All is pleasant to the eye. That is until you hit the East bloc. Helmstedt is the last West German station. The next town is in East Germany. The train crosses the fenced border.

#### Time warp

Immediately one is conscious of a time warp. Suddenly buildings are shabby and colorless. Railway equipment is neglected and outdated. Even the fields seem awkwardly arranged. It is as if time stopped 40 years ago.

An air of anxiety also enters one's awareness. I am anxious about a transit visa and people in uniforms. Fortunately, the papers are in order. Nonetheless, I'm relieved when I leave East Germany and cross the border into West Berlin.

But people are more important than transit details. So I recap the journey in human terms. First a crippled young man comes into my compartment not far from Hannover — the most important stop in West Germany. Too bad. No luck on conversation. His English seems limited.

A little later an eightyish silver-

haired woman joins our traveling party to Berlin. My fortunes change. Her English is pretty fair. She was an interpreter for the Allies after World War II.

The more this grandmotherly woman talks, the more impressed I become. She is a walking encyclopedia of German culture. She traveled widely. I can broach no subject that she cannot converse on at length.

The silver-haired woman is an impartor of knowledge. She opens avenues of thought about the Berlin question that never occurred to me. She quotes Johann von Goethe — the great German poet. She explains the German way of life.

But the disabled young man is not neglected. He knows English much better than I first thought. But it takes the older, wiser woman to draw him out. She cleverly and naturally brings the younger person into our animated conversation. They begin to help each other with English expressions.

#### Senior Church members

This experience reminds me of how much help I have received from senior members in God's Church. Their knowledge is vast. They have lived longer. Their cumulative experience is exceedingly valuable. Young people take heed.

As we approach journey's end I hand *Plain Truth* business cards to my two traveling companions.

I briefly explain that we have a German edition — *Klar & Wahr*. Such is the sole extent of my "preaching." Soon we detrain at West Berlin Zoo station. We say our good-byes. And as I walk through the station lobby I spot the German-language edition of *The Plain Truth* on a newsstand. I am enthused and immediately take a snapshot to mark the occasion. Also I can't resist removing a copy for myself.

Perhaps one day soon my two new friends will pick up copies and make the connection.

# PERSONAL

(Continued from page 1)

Do people of God need a keg of beer to empty every time they get together? Is a well-supplied bar *necessary* in order to have fun? It is easy, brethren, in this upside-down society we have grown up in, to begin to place our values squarely where they do not belong.

If you are one who spends most of your time with people "in" or not in the Church who are big drinkers, your spiritual well-being may depend on your ability to change your habits — and your crowd.

In Psalm 1:1 we are told, "Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful."

Yet when a small group gets together, thinking that a case or two of beer (for example) must be standard supplies, they are walking in the counsel of the ungodly. When a party focuses on and emphasizes alcohol, and the "good host" sees to it that everybody's glass is always full, those present are walking in the counsel of the ungodly. They are listening to and following the advice and way of *this world* — the way of Satan the devil!

They are also standing in the way or path of sinners, that is, they are living the same way sinners do who *do not know God*, and who have *not been called* by Him nor given His Holy Spirit! And the usual *result* is to sit in the seat of the scornful — to begin faultfinding, criticizing, running down and bad-mouthing others.

Inhibitions are down because most present are in one stage or another of intoxication. Foul language flows out freely. Thoughts and discussions (and often actions) turn to subjects that are totally contrary to God, His law and His way. Jesus is certainly not present. In effect the door is bolted to *keep Him out!* And true Christians should not be present either!

Brethren, we have been called

to an incorruptible, eternal inheritance. God is remaking our character to be like His own. He has revealed to us through His Spirit the true purpose and meaning of life — what the future has in store. We are *no longer living in the ignorance of our former lives!* Our conduct and attitude should reflect that!

We belong to God. We have been redeemed with the precious blood of Jesus Christ Himself. And He has commanded us, "Be holy, for I am holy" (I Peter 1:16).

Our lives should reflect a deep, enduring *respect and honor* for God and for His instruction to us through His Word. He has called us to walk in *newness of life*, new men or women — forsaking our former ways and habits, and living afresh as those who are fully devoted and committed to our Master, Jesus Christ.

Dear brethren, it *grieves* our Father in heaven to see any of His children continuing in the same loose, characterless, corrupt ways out of which He has called them.

Before conversion, we were deceived, living as we pleased, just like the deceived society around us. Now we are no longer deceived. But some of us seem to be *asleep*.

Let's heed the warning of the apostle Paul: "And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in licentiousness and lewdness, not in strife and envy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts" (Romans 13:11-14).

And let's keep in mind another principle. The apostle Paul said in I Corinthians 6:12, "All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any."

Just because God allows Christians to enjoy alcohol in *moderation* does not mean that alcohol is for *everyone!* It does not mean there is something wrong with or "self-righteous" about a brother or sister who *rarely* drinks or *does not drink at all!* And I say it is a *shame* for one member to push or pressure another to have "another drink," or even the *first* drink.

It is one thing to be hospitable and offer a beverage. It is *quite another* to push alcohol at someone. A Christian should *never* insist that a guest accept an alcoholic beverage. And any host that is truly concerned about the welfare of his guest will also have nonalcoholic beverages available if he is going to be serving beverages at all.

Brethren, these principles are simply a matter of Christian *love*. Why should a guest *ever* have to feel awkward or embarrassed in the home of a Christian simply because he or she would rather *not* have an alcoholic beverage? Yet it *can* happen, especially if the host or server likes to abuse alcohol himself and wants to extend his own lack of character to others.

You don't have to look very far to find that alcohol is the most widely used and abused drug in the world. Consequently many of those God calls into His Church are called out of alcohol abuse. They are striving daily to overcome their alcohol-related

problems. The last thing such an individual needs is to be pushed into accepting a drink when he or she has already politely refused one. (Yet, of course, the final responsibility to refuse alcohol lies with the one who has the problem.)

If you are able to enjoy alcohol in moderation as God intended, that's wonderful. But in so doing *be concerned* about the welfare of others who may not be able to do the same. And let's make *sure* that any who are hosts in the Church of God provide a godly, peaceful environment for their guests — one in which Jesus would enjoy the fellowship and activities if He were present. After all, He *should* be present through His Spirit in us!

One final word, brethren. God's Church produces a very fine brochure called *Conquering Alcohol Abuse*. I feel it is important that *all* God's people read this brochure.

God's Church is not immune from the problems that beset society. The only difference is that those called of God are *forgiven* of sin upon repentance, and are genuinely *striving*, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to overcome. Since abuse of alcohol is such a universal problem in this age, I am going to give all our members and Youth Opportunities United members the *special assignment* to read this brochure. One copy is being mailed to each member household and should arrive

soon. Also, brethren, I feel that for the majority of our local dances and socials it is simply *unnecessary* for alcoholic beverages to be made available. Now I know some may feel that a social or dance won't be any fun unless alcohol is served. But what I am telling you is that fun does not need to come out of a bottle!

As God's people we should set the pace in demonstrating that Christian fun and fellowship revolve around *love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and self-control* — not around alcohol. God's Church *must* set a right example. In this day of staggering alcohol abuse, we must not even give the appearance of evil.

Therefore, for the majority of our church-sponsored dances and socials we should plan to leave the alcohol at home.

Brethren, let's realize the glorious calling God has given us and the great Work yet ahead! Let's allow *nothing* to bog us down or turn us away from the wonderful future God has in store!

Pray for one another. Thank you, deeply, for your prayers and words of encouragement for me, also. God has begotten each of us *into His own family* through His Spirit in us, and we are bound together in unity through His love.

With deep Christian love,  
Joseph W. Tkach

## Houston

(Continued from page 1)

abates. He incorporates a lot of himself and his personal background into a highly motivating, obviously inspired message of determination, courage, hope and love, leaving the audience fired with the certain knowledge that they can and will succeed with God's help," continued Mr. Van Deventer.

Brethren then gave the pastor general a pewter sculpture depicting a Western stagecoach pulled by three teams of horses and titled "Flat Out for Red River Station."

"The intensity and determination of the drivers and the coach epitomize the intensity and determination of Mr. Tkach — flat out for the Kingdom of God," Mr. Giese said.

Ministers presented him with a Texas-shaped lapel pin with a diamond marking Houston. Afterward Mr. Tkach met and shook hands with the brethren.

Mr. Tkach "quickly strode to a hallway, where he stood without a break for another two hours personally greeting the entire audience . . . smiling, shaking hands and giving individual attention, comments and encouragement to each person," Mr. Van Deventer said.

"Some people who are normally shut-ins came to services," said Imogene Ogwyn, wife of John Ogwyn, Houston North pastor. "We got wheelchairs for them and arranged their rides, so they could meet Mr. Tkach. They really appreciated that."

Mike and Diane Webb, members who attend the Longview, Tex., church, traveled more than four hours to hear Mr. Tkach. During the war in Vietnam, while serving in the O Division, which was started by Gen. George Patton in World War II, Mr. Webb was blinded.

"I introduced Ellen Escat to them, and on my telling her about them, Ellen took them to the head of the line that was waiting to shake hands with Mr. Tkach," Mr. Patillo related.

Mr. Webb told Mr. Tkach: "I wish I could have served under Gen. Patton. It would be like serving under you, serving under the best."

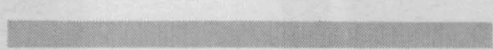
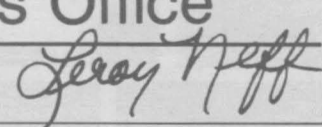
Later in the afternoon Mr. Tkach spoke to about 100 ministers and their wives in the Forum Rooms of the hotel.

He talked about unity, family and effective management of the resources God has given His work, Mr. Giese said.

Mr. Hogberg called the elders, deacons and deaconesses in the Houston area "a testimony to God's organization. What would the Church be without the sacrifices of these servants?"

The pastor general was then host to a buffet dinner for the group.

"Mr. Tkach went around to each table, personally greeting each person in attendance, before once again addressing the entire group," Mr.

Report from   
the Treasurer's Office  


PASADENA — Year-to-date income is 9.2 percent more than last year. However, May income was only 1.1 percent more than May, 1986.

This downward trend in income has brought concern. You may remember that the first week in January was way above expectations. This apparently resulted from the change in the U.S. tax law. Some contributors sent money in 1986 that they would have sent in 1987. We received quite a bit of it in the first week of the new year. Even though this produced a good January, it took away from funds that otherwise would be received later in 1987. Since January the income trend has been slightly downward.

Office Facilities Building contributions were not included in our operating budget for the year. If they are excluded from the income, the income was minus 1.9 percent for May and a 5.7 percent increase for the year to date. This is below our income budget for operations of 6 percent for this year.

The expenses so far are still below budget, but not as far below as a month ago. This month the expenses were about 3 percent under budget. The gap between income and expenses is narrowing. Last month I reported they were 4.6 percent under budget.

The purchase of the Office Facilities Building is proceeding on schedule. The owner was notified of our intent according to the terms of the contract. They are now in the process of having the property appraised. This should be completed in a month or two.

If their outside appraisal and ours are within a specified tolerance, the figure will be divided midway and become the purchase price. If they are out of tolerance, the appraisers will select a third appraiser. The third appraisal will be averaged with the others to determine the purchase price.

We hope and pray that the downward trend will be reversed in June. Your earnest prayers for this need will be appreciated and should result in an encouraging report next month.

Van Deventer recounted.

"He has the trait found in all great leaders — the ability to make each person feel important and essential," he added. The pastor general "has an abundance of this essential quality of leadership and an unwavering determination to the point of sacrifice."

"Mr. Tkach recognizes that level of determination as his 'reasonable service' (Romans 12:1). In this way he emulates his boss — Jesus Christ."

"You could almost feel the warmth," said Edward Mauzey, Beaumont and Lake Charles pastor.

Comments by area members ranged from "I am still mentally clapping" and "he was a leader from the word go" to "he promoted a sense of unity in the Houston area," "he makes me feel closer to our Family" and "his visit gives me a sense of urgency to get the work done."

Before returning to Pasadena the next day, Mr. Tkach and his party toured the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Space Center, the San Jacinto Monument and the battleship *Texas*.



TEXAS GIFT — John Ogwyn (left), pastor of the Houston, Tex., North church, presents a pewter sculpture of horses pulling a stagecoach to Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach May 30. [Photo by David Malcomson]

### The Worldwide News

CIRCULATION 61,500

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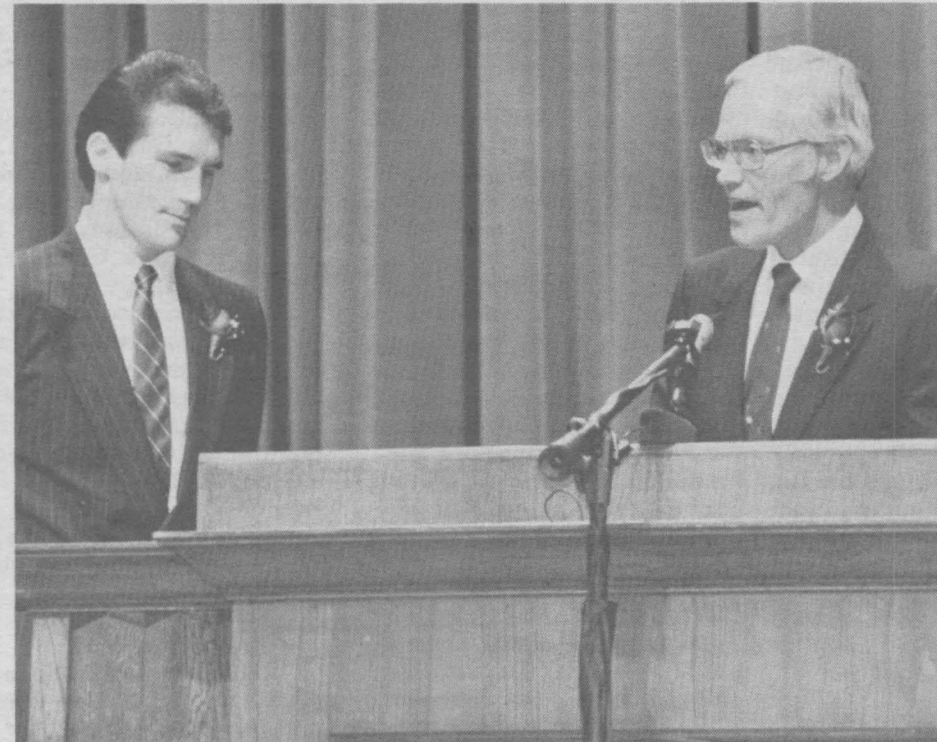
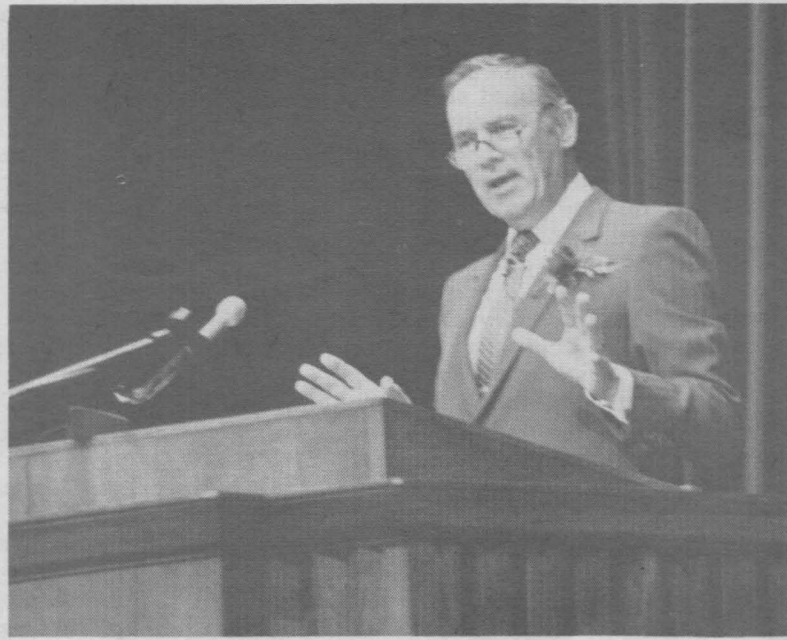
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# Ambassadors to the world

**1987 GRADUATION** — Clockwise (from above right) PASADENA: Chancellor Joseph W. Tkach presents the Herbert W. Armstrong Achievement Award to Christina Kuo, Lisa Derstine, Jeffrey Broadnax and Nigel Bearman; the Ambassador Chorale, directed by John D. Schroeder, sings before Mr. Tkach's address; Mr. Tkach presents a diploma to a graduate; Hilton Lawson congratulates his daughter, Michele, of Bringhurst, Ind., after graduation; Abraham Mathiu of Kenya receives congratulations; Faron Blakeman of Greensburg, Ky., and his fiancée, Teri Pfister of Bryan, Ohio, pause for a photo outside the Auditorium. BIG SANDY: Mr. Tkach talks with students and graduates after the ceremony; Mr. Tkach talks with Big Sandy college administrators; graduates receive congratulations from a Big Sandy member; evangelist Roderick C. Meredith, Big Sandy deputy chancellor,

presents Kevin Brownlee, sophomore class president from Middleburg, Fla., with the Watson Wise award; chorale members, accompanied by graduate David Bilowus, sing before Mr. Tkach's address; Mr. Tkach speaks to graduates and guests at the graduation ceremony in the Ambassador College Field House Auditorium. Below (left to right) BIG SANDY: Marlene Myers of Houston, Tex., exits the ceremony with her diploma; Carrie Gharagouhian of Spokane, Wash., receives congratulations. PASADENA: Martin Brandenberger of Fort Wayne, Ind., and his fiancée, Caroline Glass of South Boston, Va., congratulate each other; Student Body President Roger Widmer of West Lafayette, Ind., gives the discourse. [Photos by Charles Feldbush, Hal Finch, Kerri Miles, Michael Rasmussen, Kenneth Tate and Warren Watson]

BIG SANDY

PASADENA







# NEWS OF PEOPLE, PLACES & EVENTS IN THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

## UPDATE

**PASADENA** — The Feast site in Ahungalla, Sri Lanka, has been changed to the Kosgoda Beach Resort, about 72 kilometers (44½ miles) south of Colombo. Expected attendance at the site is 150. Services will be in English.

The weather at Feast time is usually sunny with early morning and late evening showers. Temperatures average about 21 degrees Celsius (70 degrees Fahrenheit).

Overseas visitors will stay at the resort, and accommodations will be arranged by the Australian Office. Prices for a room range from 425 Sri Lankan rupees (about US\$15) a day for a standard single room to 850 rupees (US\$30) a day for a double duplex cottage. The rate for children 7 years old or younger is 220 rupees (US\$7.85) a day. These prices include all meals. Prices are approximate and are based on one U.S. dollar equal to 28 rupees. One Australian dollar equals 20 rupees.

Applications to attend this site should be mailed to the Australian Office, Box 202, Burleigh Heads, Queensland, 4220, Australia.

★ ★ ★

**PASADENA** — The Feast in Mombasa, Kenya, has reached capacity, and no further transfers can be accepted, according to the Festival Office here.

★ ★ ★

**PASADENA** — *The Plain Truth* got some unexpected advertising during a WABC New York talk show in April, according to evangelist **David Hulme**, director of Communications & Public Affairs.

The host was discussing the televangelist situation, and a caller pointed out that *The World Tomorrow* does not solicit contributions. The host inaccurately said that the Church seeks contributions after it sends free literature.

The talk show host then broke for an update on traffic conditions from a helicopter pilot.

The helicopter reporter told the talk show host that he'd subscribed to *The Plain Truth* for about two years and that he had never been asked for money.

★ ★ ★

**PASADENA** — Eight hundred twenty-three new people attended *La Pura Verdad* (Spanish *Plain Truth*) lectures in five countries in March, April and May, according to the Spanish Department.

**Mario Seiglie**, pastor of the Santiago and Temuco, Chile, churches, gave lectures March 21, 22, 28 and 29 in Santiago with 448 new people in attendance.

"This group consisted of a much larger proportion of educated people... This was the first time we

haven't had any weird or bizarre-acting people," Mr. Seiglie said.

About 200 people filled out cards saying that they would like to attend future Bible studies. Of those, 54 are still attending follow-up Bible studies and six are attending Sabbath services regularly.

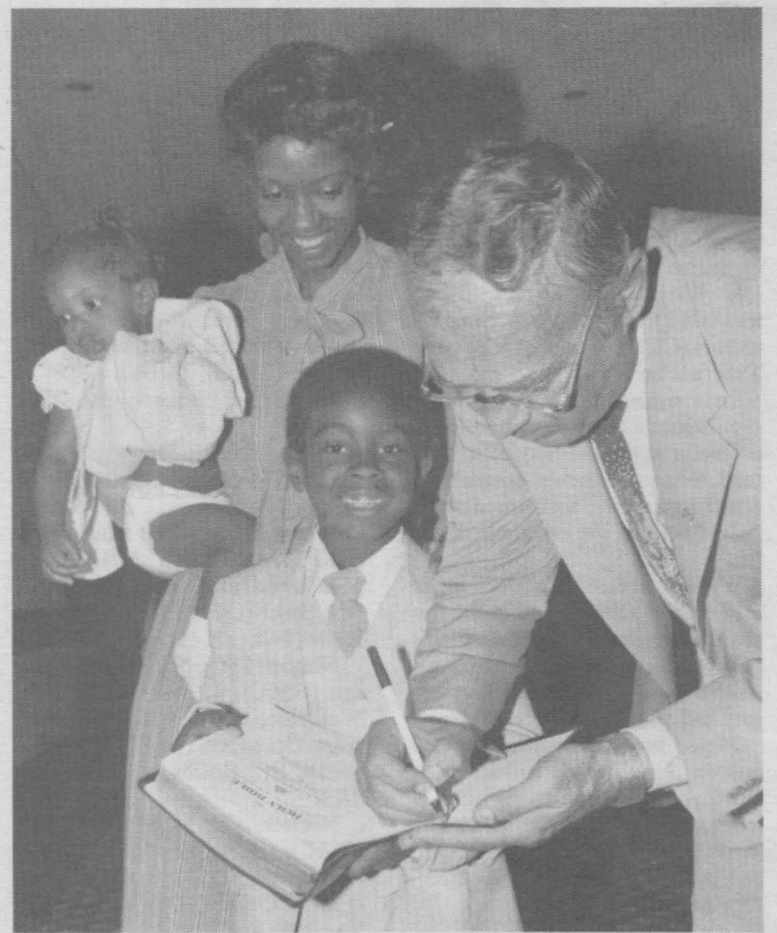
In Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, 3,700 miles north of Santiago, **Pablo Gonzalez**, pastor of the San Juan, Puerto Rico, church, conducted a lecture March 22 for 225 new people (12.1 percent of those invited).

Mr. Gonzalez conducts monthly meetings in the capital city for 25 to 30 people. He expects another 25 to 30 to attend these meetings because of the lecture.

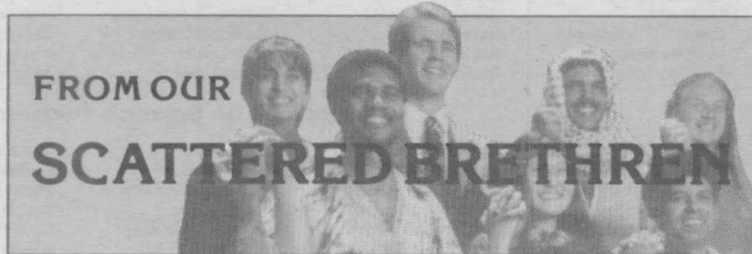
Mr. Gonzalez also conducted a lecture in San Juan April 26. About 150 PV subscribers attended, and 80 expressed interest in attending further meetings.

In Panama City, Panama, **Mauricio Perez**, pastor of the San Jose, Costa Rica, church, gave a lecture April 26. Twenty-four new people attended. Some spent several hours asking questions.

**Alberto Sousa**, pastor of the Ezeiza and Buenos Aires, Argentina, and Salto, Uruguay, churches, conducted lectures in Buenos Aires May 9 and 10. He presented the subjects, "Who Are We and What Do We Believe?" and "There's a New World Order Coming," to 160 new people.



'SIGN RIGHT HERE' — Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach autographs the Bible of Charles Taylor, son of Denise Taylor (behind), a member who attends the Houston, Tex., East church, after Sabbath services in Houston May 30. Mrs. Taylor's daughter is Katrina. [Photo by David Malcomson]



## FROM OUR SCATTERED BRETHREN

"That also he should gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad." (John 11:52)

**PASADENA** — John Jewell, pastor of the churches in Northern Ireland, reported the following.

Steven Cargill, one of the young men here, had a nasty experience. He was asked to help out with the cows one evening at a neighbor's farm. He had just started working when he and two neighbors were approached by masked men, armed with revolvers and knives, looking for money and more weapons.

They tied up the three men, took two of them away and proceeded to beat them viciously. Our young man was not beaten but had a knife to his throat, which cut him.

He was asked, "Are you a Catholic or Protestant?" Steven replied, "Hard to say with a knife at your throat."

His calmness and soft answer was met with a chuckle and a reply of "Guess that's right."

The three were then shut in a cupboard and found later. Steven was unharmed, except for a nicked throat. The other two neighbors were beaten. God truly protects our young people.

### Bout with tetanus

While working in a fish-breeding pond at his home in the Philippines March 2, Pedro Ortiguero, pastor of the Urdaneta and Lingayen churches, contracted tetanus from a bamboo splinter.

Mr. Ortiguero was unaware that anything was wrong for some time. But when the problem was diagnosed, he was considered in a serious condition, according to the Philippine Office.

"His jaws had already locked and he was suffering from the muscular spasms associated with this often-deadly disease," the Philippine Office said.

"The medical staff who attended to him in the hospital were astonished that someone in whom the illness had so far advanced was able to recover. They had predicted his death."

March 21 Mr. Ortiguero wrote to brethren at Sabbath services: "Thank-you brethren, for your prayers. I am feeling better. Had it not been for my colds, I would be home by now."

The office reported that, although still weak, Mr. Ortiguero hoped to resume his duties soon and requests continued prayers for his strength.

Mr. Ortiguero, 71, was the first minister in the Philippines and conducted many baptizing tours in the early 1960s.

### New church in Ghana

Likpe-Mate, Ghana, was officially made a church earlier this year with an attendance averaging more than 100, reported David Stirk, business manager for East and West Africa in the British Office.

"The brethren had a meaningful and spiritual first-ever Passover," with Solomon Ayitey, a local church elder in Accra, traveling there to conduct the Passover and the first day of Unleavened Bread.

"In spite of severe financial difficulties, many of the Likpe-Mate brethren (mainly subsistence farmers) sacrificed to travel to Accra to see and hear God's apostle speak to the churches in Ghana" April 18, Mr. Stirk said.

"Somehow... *Plain Truth* subscribers in the capital city, Accra, seemed to have heard of Mr. [Joseph W.] Tkach's visit," Mr. Stirk continued.

"Some found out the meeting place and came to hear Mr. Tkach speak to us. The excitement is still in the air, and the effect of the visit will continue to be felt for a long time yet."

### Malawi report

"March was a very encouraging month. We now have an average of 120 people attending Bible study in four locations," Kenneth Buck, associate pastor of the Blantyre,

Malawi, church, reported.

Also in March, members in the central and northern regions of Malawi began meeting on the Sabbath each week to listen to sermon tapes from Blantyre. "As we acquire more tapes, it will be possible to feed these regions with sermons only one week after originally delivered," Mr. Buck said.

"Members are very enthusiastic over these developments and are showing a greater commitment and involvement."

### Accident claims life

Theresa Caspa, a member in Cameroon, died in an auto accident April 23.

Her husband, Daniel, is left with eight children, ranging from 2 to 19 in Limbe, Cameroon, according to Mr. Stirk.

We would all like to send sincere condolences to Mr. Caspa and his children, Mr. Stirk wrote. "The Church has offered all the help that it can give in this difficult and heartrending situation."

### English teachers in Martinique

Mr. Tkach inaugurated a project that will involve Ambassador College students in the French West Indies, reported evangelist Dibar Apartian, regional director for French-speaking areas.

Kurt Hoyer, a 1987 graduate, will teach English for one year to our brethren in Martinique. "Mr. Hoyer knows the French language well, and he participated last year in the SEP camp at Morhange, France," Mr. Apartian said.

"Mr. Tkach [approved] this project after his trip to Martinique early this year," said the regional director.

### Middle East

Services during the Spring Feast were conducted in the Middle East by Richard Frankel, pastor of the Washington, D.C., and Front Royal, Va., churches.

Accompanied by his wife, Joyce, Mr. Frankel also made preparations for the Feast of Tabernacles in Amman, Jordan.

Mr. Frankel conducted the Passover for Ambassador students serving on Ambassador Foundation projects in Jordan. Eighteen were present.

The Frankels celebrated the Night to Be Much Observed with 22 in attendance. At services on the first Holy Day, Mr. Frankel gave sermons in the morning and after-

noon to 20 brethren assembled in Amman.

The next day the Frankels and the students toured Israel, and he made plans for the post-Feast tour there. On the weekly Sabbath, April 18, services were conducted for 22 people.

Thirty-three attended services on the last Holy Day in the home of Raymond and Rhonda Clore in Jerusalem. Mr. Clore, a local church elder, works at the U.S. Consulate in East Jerusalem.

Paul Suckling, director of Church Administration in the British Office, said that several requests for visits have been received from Middle Eastern countries.

"These requests have come from people who are eager to talk to a minister," Mr. Suckling said. A visiting tour is planned for later this year.

In the Middle East the *Good News* list is 3,400, an increase of almost 45 percent since March, 1986.

"Quite remarkably, the number of Bible Correspondence Course students has multiplied fivefold over the same period," the office reported. Compared to a year ago, the *Youth 87* list is up 147 percent.

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## Music

(Continued from page 7)

Idaho, 83401.

**Tucson, Ariz.:** William Samuelson (SMC), (DIR), 5028 48th Ave. NE, Seattle, Wash., 98105; Hernan Herrera (instrumental ensemble), c/o Worldwide Church of God, Mail Processing Center, Pasadena, Calif., 91123.

**Tulsa, Okla.:** Phil Hartman (SMC), (DIR), Box 471492, Tulsa, Okla., 74147-1492.

**Vail, Colo.:** John Schroeder Jr. (SMC), (DIR), Ambassador College, 300 W. Green St., Pasadena, Calif., 91129.

**Wisconsin Dells, Wis.:** David Kroll (SMC), (DIR), 6865 N. Burbank, Milwaukee, Wis., 53224; Ronald Shields (CCD), 872 Hancock Ct., Oconomowoc, Wis., 53066.

### Canadian sites

**Charlottetown, P.E.I.:** Gary Moore (SMC), 30 Mountainview Dr., Comp. 106 SS1, Fredericton, N.B., E3B 5M7; Laurence Stanley (DIR), Hancock, Maine, 04640; Betty Kost (CCD), 100 Regal Rd., Dartmouth, N.S., B2W 4H6.

**La Malbaie, Que.:** Charles Mayer (SMC), (DIR), 105 Maisonneuve, Apt. 101, Dollard-des-Ormeaux, Que., H9B 1K5.

**Penticton, B.C.:** Robert Millman (SMC), Box 1656, Westlock, Alta., T0G 2L0; Jim Brandenburg (DIR), 3559 Morley Trail NW, Calgary, Alta., T2M 4H5; Jerry Ozipko (CCD), 12223 87th St., Edmonton, Alta., T5B 3N9.

**Regina, Sask.:** Dennis Lawrence (SMC), 254 Circlebrook Dr., Yorkton, Sask., S3N 2S9; Scott Friesen (DIR), 773 7th St. E., Prince Albert, Sask., S6V 0S9.

**Victoria, B.C.:** David Cheperdak (SMC), 103-365 Ginger Dr., New Westminster, B.C., V3L 5L5; Joseph Cheperdak (DIR), 32-70 Cooper Rd., Victoria, B.C., V9A 4K2.