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EAST CENTRAL REGION, ACPE

INDIANA, KENTUCKY, MICHIGAN, OHIO & PITTSBURGH, PA.

www.ecr-acpe.org

Mid-January 2002
Frankly Speaking

The House that Dad Built

Looking at the house today, from the outside, it would be hard to see anything outstanding about it. It is an attractive house of native sandstone and wood, a ranch style home situated just below the crest of the ridge on a little spur of mountain between Laurel Ridge and Chestnut Ridge in Pennsylvania. The most attractive thing about this house is not its' appearance but the story of how it got there.

My father, Don, was a pastor all his life. He started before there were pension plans, and never served any "tall steeple" churches. His congregations could never afford to pay him more than enough for the bare necessities for himself and his growing family (eventually there were eight children). Ministering in a denomination that customarily provided parsonages to pastors, rather than housing allowances, Dad was never able to build any kind of equity in homes. What he did do, all through his life, was learn. He taught himself a lot of things—things he considered important to provide for his family, and things that were necessary to serve his struggling churches. Some of these skills were building skills. Most of the churches he served were in need of repair or remodeling, and the houses we lived in needed it even more. He also developed more subtle skills. He learned how to care for people and congregations. He got a reputation for being able to help struggling congregations and congregations in conflict. His ability to deal with people became a trademark of his ministry.

When the congregations Dad served needed their churches repaired, remodeled or even rebuilt, he took an active part. The churches would hire carpenters, masons, roofers, or cement workers, but Dad would get right in with them and help. Soon he was trying his hand at what the craftsmen were doing, and eventually he learned to do it quite well himself. There are wonderful stories of his adventures in learning the various skills of builders. I will share one. He was working with a skilled carpenter in his first congregation, "Pop" Powers. Pop was frustrated by the fact that Dad refused to heed his advice to grasp the hammer properly. Instead of holding it by the end of the handle, giving the head as much leverage as possible, Dad insisted on grasping it in the middle. Finally, one day Pop Powers said, "Give me that hammer, Don." Dad handed over the hammer, and Pop promptly sawed off the last five inches of the handle and handed it back, saying, "You don't use that part anyhow." Dad not only saw the humor, but learned the lesson, and loved to tell the story the rest of his life.

When Dad was in his fifties, he decided to use the skills he had learned to provide a home for his family for the future. He used all the skills he had developed. There was a beautiful piece of property, over three acres, near one of his churches, on a ridge with a breathtaking view of the valley to the east, and the next ridge of the mountains. People told Dad he could not buy it because it was "tied up in a contested estate". But Dad went to work, learning who owned it, and what problems there would be in acquiring it. He soon found he could buy it, and he did.

Dad could not afford lumber to build the house. Again he went to work with his people skills. He learned that one of the coal companies who owned most of the homes in a nearby town wanted to sell some of the more dilapidated homes to get rid of them. They would sell them very reasonably to anyone who would remove them from the property. Dad bought two of them—ugly, unpainted and worn out, but built of sturdy solid framing lumber. We spent the next summer dismantling them and hauling them several miles in two pick-up

trucks that belonged to the local Hardware store. Again, Dad "worked out a deal" with Abe Krantzler to do some work for him in return for the trucks. In the same way Dad obtained the native stone and other things necessary.

Eventually, this gracious stone home took shape on that lovely mountainside property. We used to tease Dad because he used so much stone and concrete—especially in the massive fireplace and chimney. We wondered if he thought it might blow away if he didn't anchor it with all that stone!

That house became the home to which we have returned for over forty years. Dad has been gone for many years, but the house is still in the family. My brother-in-law, Gary and my sister, Margery took it over and raised their family in it. My mother also lives there with them, sheltered by the home that he built and the love of my two sisters, Emma and Margery, and Gary. Gary is a civil engineer and has extensively remodeled and expanded the house. It is now an "industrial strength" home. Dad would approve.

But Dad built another kind of "house" in the process. Our family might be called, "The House of Don." He gave us a heritage. He gave us his unwavering faith, his devotion to God and the church that he loved. He gave us a vision of a way to care for people, and to care for each other. He gave us an example to show that there is always a way to do what is needed. He let us know that we had the genetics of ingenuity to learn and do things. The "House of Don" is more than the stone ranch house on Mt. Hope Road, it is a family of descendants who all owe him a great debt—and we know it.

Collegially,
Frank

ECR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

[Registration and program information for the February 22-23, 2002 regional conference was mailed the first week in January. If you did not receive the information, please contact Joan Lyke (1/800-336-5099 or lykbyl@aol.com)]

"An Uncommon Gathering: Process Education and Group Dynamics"

This is the exciting theme of our annual meeting at Hueston Woods to be held this year on **February 22 & 23, 2002**. How many of us (Clinical Members, Supervisors and SITs) have asked ourselves in our early CPE experiences, "What is this Interpersonal Relationship Group all about, anyway??" Our guest speaker will be the **Rev. Joan Hemenway**, ACPE Supervisor and author of *Inside the Circle*, a book about small group process quickly becoming a classic in CPE circles as well as other educational arenas. Friday morning, Joan will be offering a brief theoretical view of how groups function followed by interaction with those of us attending. After a short break, Joan will continue with us sharing out of her own experiences as a CPE Supervisor of small process groups while calling out from us our experiences and approaches as well. Immediately after lunch, we will break into small groups. **(We are inviting Full Supervisors to come prepared to share a video of his/her group work)**. As the small groups processes the presenter's material, Joan will visit each group briefly and enter the dialogue. A debriefing/summary time will end the afternoon gathering.

I can think of nothing more refreshing than to interact with one another along with Joan Hemenway who has dedicated her most recent years to this passion she has for understanding and supervising small groups in CPE. She brings a rich theoretical background to set the context for our dialogue together and her relaxed, conversational style of leading will only enhance our contribution to and within the groups where we live, play and work.

Our conference would not be complete without Friday evening's banquet. Come to the Fireside Room for the social hour and (back by popular demand) "The ECR Jazz Band" (a.k.a. "The Playing Heads"). It looks like we may have another hayride and bonfire following dinner - grab your coat, hat and gloves for an outing in the cold night air! **Don't miss this opportunity for an uncommon gathering!** - *Kathy Nininger*

The Art of Fishbowl Supervision
(Thursday, February 22, 2002 2:30PM)

(Special Event for SITs, SCs and Supervisors)

The fishbowl will have an inner circle and outer circle. To begin, a designated SIT will present a supervisory encounter with a student or a piece of writing to review. The other SITs will sit in an inner circle and dialogue with the presenter. The Supervisors will be silent observers in the outer circle. The group will work for 30 minutes, at which time the supervisors will be allowed 10 minutes of feedback on the process. Participants will exchange places and the supervisor of the SIT and the SIT will sit in the center of the fishbowl. The supervisor will supervise the SIT focusing on the earlier experience, with attention given to themes and learning issues. After 15 minutes, they will stop. The Supervisors will then dialogue with their peer, offering consultation and feedback on their supervision of the SIT for 20 minutes. At this point, the SITs will then give the Supervisors feedback on their process.

The benefits of this process are many. For the SIT it gives them the opportunity to practice meeting a committee and processing 'in the moment.' The time constraints are also important for the participants have to push through their anxiety as it arises. It also helps them to de-mythologize the "power" of supervisors as SITs see that they, too, can offer constructive feedback to their supervisors. For the Supervisors, it allows time for the peer review and consultation around their supervision 'in the moment.'

Nancy Dietsch, SIT/SC Event Coordinator/Moderator

2002 Center Reports

From the desk of John Peterson: [as e-mailed on January 2, 2002] New Years Greetings! This message is to inform you of several important issues regarding Accreditation.

- Effective January 1, 2002 the new accreditation chair is The Rev. Kim Barnett. Kim and I will be meeting sometime this month so that I can transfer the center records and provide an update of the various pending issues regarding specific centers. Kim's e-mail is <kimb@stowglen.com>. Her telephone number is 330-686-4321, and mailing address is 158 Leighton Lane, Akron, OH. 44319-4077. Between now and the end of January, you may contact either one of us regarding Accreditation issues, except for those which relate to the Annual Reports. I will remain a member of the committee. (I think).
- Annual reports were due JANUARY 15 [checked by postmark]. All centers are required to complete this report. Two important issues regarding this report;
 1. Form was revised in 2001 and was sent to your center by the national office along with the 2002 standards and appeals manual. The revised form has several new questions that must be answered. If you used an older form, you must respond to the new items by addendum.
 2. Annual Reports should have been mailed to me (John Peterson) not to Kim. I am responsible for managing the annual report process for 2002. My address is: Pastoral Care Department, Lutheran Hospital of Indiana, 7950 W. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne, IN. 46804. If your report is brief, it may be faxed to 219-435-7625. My office phone is 219-435-7720.

Pastoral Celebrations:

Ray Dice retired on December 25, from Covenant HealthCare, Saginaw, Michigan after 16 years. We wish Ray all the best in his new status! [new address 3854 Cottage Grove Ct., Saginaw, MI. 48604 <rdice@concentric.net>]

Job Opportunities

- The Cleveland Clinic Foundation, is seeking a CPE Supervisor as Coordinator of CPE. Responsibilities include managing a well-established CPE program, CPE Supervision, providing pastoral care to patients, families, and staff with other administrative functions. Qualifications include, but are not limited to, a M. Div., certification, ordination and ecclesiastical endorsement. Competitive salary and benefits. Send inquiries or resume to: The Rev. Patrick M. Persaud, Pastoral Care, H19, The Cleveland Cleveland Clinic Foundation, 9500 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH. 44195. Phone (216) 444-2518; FAX (216) 445-9678 or E-Mail persaup@ccf.org
- The Cleveland Clinic Foundation has seven positions for the **2002-2003 CPE Residency**, and eight for the **summer 2002 CPE program**. Residency stipend is \$22,000-22,600. Apply by 2/28/02: The Rev. Patrick M. Persaud, Pastoral Care, H19, The Cleveland Clinic Foundation, 9500 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH. 44195. (216) 444-2518; FAX (216) 445-9768.

Calendar of Events

- The Racial Ethnic Multicultural Network presents, The **15TH ANNUAL REM CONFERENCE**, "Make Us Your Instruments: Inclusion and Diversity in Institutions and Systems," **February 6-9, 2001**, Washington Plaza Hotel - Thomas Circle, N.W., Massachusetts Avenue and 14th St., Washington, D.C. 20005. Single or Double \$109/night; Triple or Quad \$119/night (taxes not included). For Reservations call: (202) 842-1300 or (800) 424-1140 No Later than January 6, 2002. Refer to Group #1241 (REM 2002). Additional information available at the ACPE website (www.acpe.edu).
- **February 22-23, 2002, ECR Annual Conference**, Hueston Woods, College Corner, OH.
- **April 24-27, 2002, ACPE Conference**, Hilton Hotel, Pittsburgh, PA.

Information for the February Newsletter must be received by January 30, 2002. Send to: Regional Business Office, 7672 Cottonwood Lane, Dexter, MI. 48130 Telephone: 1/800-336-5099; or E-mail lykbyl@aol.com

Supervisory Education in the Region

Supervisory Candidates

Ruth Alpers
Barbara Bullock
Carrie Cullen
Rhonda Gilligan Gillespie
Gene Hausmann
McGeeney, Robert, Jr.
Jim Mitchell
Jon Paulus
Tim Waits
Pat Shelden-Ward
Yoshiya Togami

Officers of the Region

Frank Ciampa, Director
Mary Altenbaumer, Certification
Kim Barnett, Accreditation/Clinical Members
Alan Bowman, Board of Reps
Urias Beverly, Nominations
Billie Beverly, Secretary
Carl Buxo, REM & Professional Ethics
Larry Gray, Budget & Investment
Carol Green, Board of Reps
Ted Hodge, Chair
Robert Leas, History
Jeannette Lucas, Standards
Kathy Nininger, Chair Elect
Larry Smith, Long Range Planning
Henry Uy, Research

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