

## **EAST CENTRAL REGION, ACPE**

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

[www.ecr-acpe.org](http://www.ecr-acpe.org)

September 2003

Frankly Speaking

#### **Looking for Beauty**

There are places where we expect to encounter beauty. A few years ago my wife and I drove from San Francisco to Yosemite. We expected to encounter beauty and we were not disappointed. Driving into the valley among the redwoods, with spectacular waterfalls pouring into the upper valley is only the beginning. To stand in Yosemite Village at the very head of that valley is a mystical experience. Even amid the commercialization that comes with tourists, it is still possible to feel the quiet beauty of this special place. On the way out of the valley the road passes directly under El Capitan, a monstrous stone mountain that stands sentinel and beckons to climbers to scale its flat, sheer vertical face. When we take trips to exotic places: the mountains, the ocean, to tropical islands, we expect to be met with beautiful vistas. But there are moments of beauty that often ambush us in the midst of our everyday lives. Too often, I suspect, we remain preoccupied with what we are doing, and because we do not expect to see beauty in this time and place, we miss it. A couple examples come to my mind.

I was at work a few weeks ago in the early evening when my next appointment took me into the main corridor the hospital. This hallway lies east and west, with the main doors of the hospital situated at the west end of the hall. Two of these entry doors are motorized revolving doors that rotate continuously if there are people moving toward them. As I stepped into this hallway and looked westward, the sun was just setting. As the horizontal beams of the sun struck those revolving doors, it threw flashing shafts of rose-colored light down that long corridor. It was dazzling! It was also hard to see, as you looked down the hall into the blinding light. This is the choice we often have to make: Do we respond in frustration to the blinding effect of the light, or do we marvel at the beauty of the moment? For some reason, at that moment, I was able to see and respond to the beauty.

Some years ago there was a summer evening when I was home alone. It was one of those blue-sky evenings with a few cumulus clouds standing tall in the sky. I noticed one in particular which stood off to the south with its head shining brightly in the evening sun. It occurred to me that it would be fun to get in my airplane and head south and fly around this little cumulus cloud. Soon I was airborne and headed south, climbing. My plan was simple, to aim for about the middle of the vertical reach of the cloud, and pass east of the column, turn west around the "backside" of the cloud, and then fly north around the west side of it and back home. It was bigger than it looked and farther away than I could imagine. In fact, it was enormous! By the time I was circling the cloud, I was sixty miles from the airport and ten thousand feet high! But what an exotic moment that was. The body of that huge cloud was shining in the sun as it stood, looking as solid as stone in the turquoise evening sky. Floating around the body of the cloud were little horizontal wisps of cloud that stretched out in a gauzy softness. For a good part of an hour it was "my cloud." No one else was around. In a few hours it would cease to exist, but at that moment it was real, it was beautiful, and I felt thrilled to be embracing it.

One more story: This summer, my wife, Dinah and I have watched a pair of doves raise their young in our back yard. They nested under the eaves of our sunroom. One day, Dinah walked out onto the deck and noticed that the two baby doves were on the ground underneath the nest. They sat there for several hours, and the parents brought them food and hovered over them. Dinah was becoming anxious, because it would soon be time to let our dogs out into the yard. Thinking that it might be necessary to assist them back into the nest, she stepped out into the yard and began to approach the baby birds. Suddenly, without warning, both the babies flapped their wings and took flight to the nearest tree! Dinah was thrilled. She is a great lover of all things living. She felt she had played some part in launching the career of those two little doves. At her approach, the babies discovered what they might not have known till then—that they could fly, and they were safe. Beauty unexpected.

It is so easy to miss baby birds, clouds that come and go, and fleeting shafts of sunlight. When we are watching and expecting it, we often find beauty in the most unexpected places. Sometimes, those of us who work in hospitals question why we would choose to spend our lives ministering and teaching among the sick, injured, and dying. There is much pain, it is true. Yet when we are open to it, there are rare moments of beauty that dazzle us. We have one chaplain who does a lot of our night duty. Time and again, I hear her say in her morning report to the staff, "... They were just a sweet family to be with." Even when she walks through the tragedies and losses in the middle of the night, she tunes in to the beauty in the character and courage of those with whom she ministers.

All of us have had those moments working with students, or patients, or families, or staff, when the character, courage, compassion, love, or humor of persons in the midst of great extremity can transport us into a place of rare beauty. Often these are fleeting and unrepeatable, but they do exist and we can share in them if we have our eyes and our hearts open.

Collegially,  
**Frank**

### **Pastoral Concern**

Daryl Hanson's wife, **Mary**, was recently released from the hospital after suffering an acute interior wall myocardial infarction caused by coronary artery disease. Please remember to keep Mary in your prayers as she continues her rehab.

### **Celebrations and Transitions**

Welcome back – **Sue Breiner!** Sue was a member of our region until 1994 at Larue Carter Hospital in Indianapolis. She has returned and is now working at the Center for Spiritual Care, Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center, Inc. Sue plans on attending the September conference so be sure to give her a personal welcome!

### **Certification News:**

If you are meeting a committee at Hueston Woods, remember your presenter must receive your materials by September 18, 2003. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me by e-mail [saxtonm@sjrmc.com](mailto:saxtonm@sjrmc.com) or by phone at 574-282-8904 or [mary.burks-price@nortonhealthcare.org](mailto:mary.burks-price@nortonhealthcare.org) by phone 502-629-3152; FAX 502-629-3125

### **Calendar of Events**

- **September 19-20, 2003** – East Central Region, ACPE Fall Meeting – Hueston Woods, College Corner, OH. (Details will be provided as they become available)
- **November 12-15, 2003** – ACPE Annual Conference-Grand Geneva Resort and Spa, Lake Geneva, WI.
- **February 5-7, 2004** – REM – Chicago, IL.
- **February 20-21, 2004** – East Central Region, Annual Meeting – Hueston Woods, College Corner, OH.
- **April 21-25, 2004** – ACPE Leadership Meeting (Board Commissions, Committees) Fairmont Hotel, Dallas, TX.

**Information for the October newsletter must be received by September 26, 2003.** Send to: Regional Business Office, 7672 Cottonwood Lane, Dexter, MI. 48130 Telephone: 1/800-336-5099; or E-mail [lykbyl@aol.com](mailto:lykbyl@aol.com)

Members of the ECR:

September 2, 2003

Have you mailed your registration for the September conference at Hueston Woods? If your name is not on the list below I have not received your registration. If your name is not on the list and you plan to attend the conference please e-mail me or call me [lykbyl@aol.com](mailto:lykbyl@aol.com) or call 1/800-336-5099. Thank you for your quick response.

Ackley, Steve  
Alpers, Ruth  
Altenbaumer, Mary  
Amann, Martha  
August, Steven "Tom"  
Barnett, Lin  
Bonner, Constance  
Brand, Cal  
Brandon, Larry  
Burks-Price, Mary  
Carpenter, Ralph  
Ciampa, Frank  
Culleen, Carrie  
Deighton, Donald  
DeMeritt, Carl  
DeMeritt, Elizabeth  
Farrar, Donna  
Foster, William  
Gilligan-Gillespie, Rhonda  
Green, Carol  
Hanson, Daryl  
Hanson, Mary  
Harris, Donald  
Hart, Charles  
Hoppert, Earl  
Hurst, David  
Impicciche, Frank  
Kennedy, Sharon  
Koch, David  
Kyser, Susan  
Letson, Ann  
Long, Lonnie  
Lyke, Joan  
McCarthy, Maureen  
McGeeney, Bob  
Mitchell, James  
Nininger, Kathy  
Paulus, Jon  
Persenaire, Bob  
Peterson, John  
Reddel, Gene  
Rhyand, Lisa  
Rowatt, Wade  
Saxton, Mike  
Scrivener, Mike  
Shelden Ward, Pat  
Shobe, Carla  
Uken, Bob  
Uy, Henry  
VanDyke, Barbara  
VanHarn, Karl  
Viti, Joe

Viti, Joe  
Woggon, Frank  
Woods, Bonnie

**Regional Associate Supervisors**

Rhonda Gilligan Gillespie  
Lonnie E. Long  
Robert McGeeney, Jr.

**Regional Supervisory Candidates**

Ruth Alpers  
Carrie Cullen  
Donald Harris  
James Mitchell  
Jon Paulus  
Joe Roberts  
Pat Shelden Ward  
Tim Waits

**Officers of the Region**

*Frank Ciampa, Director*

Rhonda Gillespie, Accreditation  
Lin Barnett, Vice Chair  
Urias Beverly, Nominations  
Billie Beverly, REM  
\_\_\_\_\_, Board of Reps  
Larry Brandon, Budget & Investment  
Mary Burks-Price, Co-Chair Certification  
Carl Buxo, Professional Ethics  
Carol Green, Board of Reps  
Earl Hoppert, Long Range Planning & Development  
Robert Leas, History  
BJ Myers-Bradley, Clinical Members  
Kathy Nininger, Chair  
Michael Saxton, Co-Chair Certification  
Karl Van Ham, Standards  
Celia Thurston, Research

ECR/ACPE

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