



Penn-Del Tips

The official newsletter of the American Baptist Men of Pennsylvania and Delaware

Visit us on the web at www.abmopad.org

Welcome to our 52nd Annual Retreat and Conference!

A heartfelt welcome to both first-time attendees and those who have returned for another "Mountain-Top Experience".

Your Board of Managers has been hard at work through this past year, attempting to correct past difficulties, and improve your experience of inspiration and fellowship. We believe that the purpose of ABMOPAD and these annual retreats is to make us more effective Christian men in our local congregations. It is not to perpetuate ABMOPAD or the retreats. The real action for Christ should be at your local congregation, and ABMOPAD and the retreats are here to support that action.

Having said that, and knowing that ABMOPAD and the retreats can perform that support function, I ask all of you to turn to page 24 of your program booklet. This is the report of

the Nominating Committee. I am disturbed by the number of dotted lines that end with no name. The majority of those lines represent positions that act as links between the planning function of ABMOPAD and the American Baptist Men in our congregations (Area Vice Presidents). Without those positions, it is difficult to publicize programs and to receive ideas and feedback from the men of the region. Please consider either placing your name on one of those lines, or recommending someone else (with his agreement) to fill the position. Use the nominating sheet found in the center of your program booklet (Orange this year) to perform that service.

I mentioned earlier that your Board of Managers has been hard at work to make this experience important to our Christian growth. We depend on

feedback from you as part of our planning. Four of the workshops this year were developed as a result of the Retreat Evaluation Forms received last year. That is the good news. The bad news is that from over 200 attendees last year, we received only 62 Evaluation Forms. We read them all; both constructive criticism and new ideas. The Retreat Evaluation Form is the white form in the middle of your program booklet. Give us some feedback!

I pray that you will experience a wonderful time of inspiration, fun, and fellowship at this 52nd Annual Retreat, and it is just as important that you carry those experiences, and their results, back to the men in your congregation.

Bob McQue
Executive Vice President
ABMOPAD

Hidden Bible Books Puzzle—Can you find all 16 Books of the Bible?

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a lulu; kept people looking so hard for facts, and for others, it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the name of the books were not capitalized. But the truth finally struck home to numbers of our readers. To others it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help find them. I will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so she can concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax now, for there really are sixteen names of books of the Bible in this paragraph.

Answers tomorrow.

A Warm Welcome to our keynote Speaker Rev. Brett Charsky and to our Special Musician, Richie Shive

We are so blessed to have these men join us this weekend! Make sure you greet these fine gentlemen. Their full bio's are in the Retreat program booklet.

**Please observe Quiet time
between 11:00 P.M. and Devotions!**

**Please be sure to silence your
cell phones and pagers during
sessions.**

Retreat Evaluations

How did we do this year? Was there something you liked? Was there something you would like to change? Do you just have some suggestions for additions or improvements to our retreat? Let us know by filling out your evaluation form. As Bob pointed out in his welcome message, we read ALL of them! Many of the changes we've made over the years have been a direct result of your feedback, so please make sure you fill out your evaluation before you leave.

Prepare The Way For The Lord!

As Paul H. Dunn once said, "You may be on the right track, but if you just sit there, you'll get run over." Simply preparing is not sufficient. We must also walk the way of the Lord. Let's remove the obstacles (our own agendas) and be open to His leading. Our prayer is that each and everyone of us will be inspired to "prepare the way" and then "walk the way". May His blessings be upon us and on our families this weekend as we "prepare the way" while at the retreat and may he grant us the strength to "walk the way" after the retreat ends.

A few housekeeping items . . .

- All men who are participating in any part of the evening or Sunday morning programs need to meet with Bob McQue, Sr. at the side of the stage 15 minutes prior to the session.
- Quiet time begins at 11:00 P.M.—You may stay up late if you wish, but please keep the noise to a minimum so as not to disturb others who may be trying to sleep.
- There will be a Saturday afternoon workshop based on the Disaster Relief efforts in the Gulf Coast states. It begins at 1:30 PM in the Orndorf theater (in the CUB).
- Be careful with your meal cards and room keys. Lost keys will cost you \$40 to replace.
- Remember to have a parking permit tag on your car. These are available at the registration desk.
- The Heiges Field House pool will be open from noon to 5 P.M. on Friday and Saturday.
- The weather report for this weekend is for hot weather with a high UV index. Please make sure you drink plenty of fluids when spending time outside (especially during the recreation period).
- The Etter Health Center across from the Seavers Apartments is open for medical emergencies.
- Above all, please have a good time and come back next year (and bring a friend, too)!

Booster Club Update

As reported in the May Penn-Del tips, Booster Call number 50 is well under way. The call was put out in support of Camp Judson, an American Baptist camping facility in Northwestern Pennsylvania. The board of commissioners at the camp requested funding to make repairs to their salad bar as well as replacing old dining hall chairs that are no longer serviceable. So far we have collected over \$3,500 and have sent \$2,500 on to Camp Judson so they can get started on their repairs. If you have not sent your support for this call or if you are not currently a Booster Club member, you can make a donation this weekend by seeking out a board member.



Layman of the Year Nominations

Be a friend to a friend and nominate a brother in Christ for Layman of the Year. Any layman can be nominated, just look for the requirements outlined in the program book and complete the application found in the back of the book. Place it in the retreat evaluation box at check out area, or mail it to:

Robert R. McQue Sr.
21301 Ann's Choice Way
Warminster, PA 18974

The nomination forms are kept on file for three years, the voting is done by the L.O.Y. committee consisting of the most recent past Honorees.



Please Note—all activities are in the CUB

As we did last year, we will not be using either the Memorial Auditorium or the Dauphin Humanities Center. All workshops, Friday and Saturday evening and Sunday morning sessions will be held in the Cumberland Union Building (the CUB). It's a long way to walk to the other buildings and we'd hate for anyone to make the trip unnecessarily. The main sessions will be held in the CUB multi-purpose room (number 214) which in previous years served as our registration area. Devotions will be held as usual in the "O" theater in the CUB. As a result of this consolidation, shuttle service will not be offered this year.

Newsletter Submissions

The Penn-Del Tips will be available as you enter Reisner Dining Hall on Saturday and Sunday mornings .

If you have something you would like to add to the next morning's edition, please write it down and give it to a board member by 6:00 P.M.