



Special Retreat Issue
Sunday August 3, 2003

PENN-DEL TIPS

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

Visit us on the web at www.abmopad.org

Rise and Rejoice!

This is the Day that the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Let's look at what happened Saturday.

Though it was early, we had a full house for devotions with Rev. David Waldo. David spoke to us from Malachi and our theme verse. We were reminded of the passion that God has for us as His children and how we need to have that same passion for Him and for each other.

Following breakfast, we broke for our workshops. There were many wonderful workshops offered. Here are some quotes offered about the workshops:

- "Greater than excellent!"
- "Lot's of great material. We could go for two more hours on this subject."
- "We had a great time"
- "Well prepared with lots of ideas."

Our Youth Program was held during the workshop period. We had a variety of activities ranging from looking at cars to a candy-eating contest. Life lessons were given throughout the program. Ask any youth about the anger lesson with the Alka-Seltzer.

After lunch, we had a time of recreation, where we were free to do what we liked or participate in an organized sport. 25 players and 1 official score keeper came out to play softball. Nice grand slam by Ray Mannon of First Baptist Church, Landsdale. Tom Rowland and Bob Vagnoni won the pairs horseshoe competition. Although it was held Friday, the awards for the 12th annual golf tournament were given on Saturday night. Congratulations to all of our winners! If you have any suggestions for an organized recreation activity or suggestions for making the existing activities better, please see Larry Rigotti.

At the Saturday Evening Meeting, the slate of officers noted in your program was elected to our board. This included the vacant South East Area Vice President, which was filled by Bob McQue Sr. There are still four vacancies on the board. If you are interested or know somebody who is, please contact John Anderson or any other member of the board. As we move forward with our newly elected board, please pray for wisdom and guidance for each of the board members.

The attendance awards were as follows:

- Founder's Award (churches under 175 members) – Fassett Baptist
- President's Award (most first year registrations) – A tie between Central Baptist of Wilmington, DE and Upper Merion Baptist – 6 First Year Attendees
- Past President's Award (most total registrations) – Hatboro Baptist – 24 attendees

Our total number of attendees this year was 228, with 48 First Year, 24 Pastors and 14 Youth all representing 65 Churches.

Congratulations to Frederick A. Robbins, who is our 43rd Layman of the Year. At his award presentation, Fred praised God and thanked his family for the support that allowed him to grow so that others could grow. The arrival of Fred's immediate family as well as his extended Church family was splendid. The love shown was only possible because of the wonderful love of our glorious God! "We love because God first loved us." 1 John 4:19

The Good News Gospel Singers were both inspiring and entertaining. They presented rousing songs and tight harmonies ranging their style from Bluegrass Gospel to Patriotic.

Our newly elected president, John Anderson presented a powerful testimony. He spoke of

what the Lord Jesus has done for him. Not only did Jesus die for him, but he also saved and healed his wife and son on more than one occasion. Although John had wandered from God during his time in the Army, the Lord waited for him, as is told in Isaiah 30:18 – “And yet the Lord is waiting to be merciful to you. He is ready to take pity on you because he always does what is right. Happy are those who put their trust in the Lord.”

Rev. Tim Schwartz presented part two of his series – Being Men of Integrity. He told us that as Christians in this post-modern world, we have lost our voice because we have lost our integrity. We’ve lost our integrity because:

1. We’ve been living a Sunday morning faith – we only proclaim the Lord’s name on Sunday morning and don’t let it extend to our daily lives
2. We constantly sacrifice the permanent on the altar of the immediate
3. We have connected the Gospel too closely with the American dream diluting and even wiping out our international witness

In order to regain our integrity, we must do the following:

1. Remember who you are when things are not going your way
2. Remember who and whose you are when nobody is looking
3. Stand firm when all else are falling away
4. Stay focused when all the powers around you are trying to distract you

We have to stand on that wall with Jesus. If you don’t stand for something, you’ll fall for anything. Stand for Jesus – no matter what!

Next stop: Being Men of Influence

Check-out Instructions

If you are in the Stone Ridge Commons apartments, you MUST check out of your room and return your key to the registration area by 9:30 am. DO NOT drop your key in any “key return” box in the apartments. All keys must be accounted for at the registration area. If you are in Mowrey Hall, you can check out of your

room after lunch. Linens go in the baskets on the first floor of Stone Ridge Commons or in the recreation room of Mowrey Hall.

Bible Book Names Puzzle

Here are the answers from yesterday’s puzzle:

This is [a mos1]t re[mark2]able puzzle. Someone found it in the seat pocket on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolu[lu, ke3]eping himself occupied for hours. One man from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his [john4]boat. Roy Clark studied it while playing his ban[jo. El5]aine Victs mentioned it in her column once. One woman [judges6] the [job7] to be so involving; s[he brews8] a cup of tea to help calm her nerv[es. Ther9]e will be some names that are really easy to spot . . . that’s a f[act. S10]ome people will soon find themselves in a [jam; es11]pecially since the book names are not necessarily capitalized. The t[ruth12] is, f[rom ans13]wers we get; we are forced to admi[t it us14] ually takes a minister or scholar to see some of the[m at the w15]orst. Something in our [genes is16] responsible for the difficulty we have. T[hose a17]ble to find all of them will hear great [lamentations18] from those who have to be shown. One [revelation19] may help, books like [Timothy20] and [Samuel21] may occur without their [numbers22]. And punctuation or spaces in the middle are nor[mal. A chi23]pper attitude will help you com[pete. R24]emember, there are 25 books of the Bible lur[king s25]omewhere in this paragraph. Greater love hath no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Penn-Del Tips on the Web

If you missed any of the previous mailings or if you would like reprints of this weekend’s newsletters, you can find them on the web at www.abmopad.org.

Don’t forget to come to our 50th Retreat!

Why not put the 50th retreat on your calendar right now? It will be held at Shippensburg University on August 6-8, 2004. It would be truly great if we could increase our numbers!

God invested his Son in you – Have you shown any interest? You can support the Booster club by signing up in the registration area or by downloading the form from our website.