

PARCR NEWSLETTER

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April 13th Meeting

Representatives from 17 communities were welcomed to Landis Homes by President Edward Longenecker. After warmly welcoming the delegates and visitors, he led us in prayer. Elma Kreps, PARCR's president, thanked Mr. Longenecker and reminded the members of his constant support of PARCR and long participation as a member of PARCR's Advisory Committee.

During the roll call which followed representatives of a number of communities reported on progress and plans which are underway. Gardens Spot Village told us that 77 new "Carriage" homes have been built and all are sold. Garden Spot now has 800 residents. There are presently 41 in Skilled Nursing, with 12 new beds soon to be added. Brethren Home Community reported that new "Country Homes" are being built. It was also reported that George May, a faithful member of PARCR had died. Another representative spoke about the Wellness Program at Brethren Village and the enlarged Thrift Shop benefiting the residents and the community. From Green Ridge Village it was announced that Parker House, where Presbyterian Homes Inc. began in 1927, and the original building of Green Ridge Village will be demolished because restoration to meet the Building Code standards would be much too expensive. Messiah Village told about an interesting meeting with Senator Santorum concerning Social Security and the proposed plans concerning it. Both residents and visitors from the neighborhood attended. Woodcrest Villa is about to start building a number of addition villas, while Masonic Villages spoke about 102 new cottages planned. Bethany Village also has a demolition project ahead, the tearing down of the old health care center on their east campus. More cottages or villas are planned, the name depending on the price.

Frank Lookingbill, First Vice President and Membership Chairman announced that PARCR now has 25 member communities, and at least 34 Associate Members. The Program Chairman, Charles Astfalk, said that the program for the July meeting will be speakers from Masonic Village reporting on what has been learned through the years of that community's long experience. Elma Kreps announced that our Nominating Committee Chair, Kip Dunlap, has been forced to resign for health reasons. Elma thanked Kip for her loyalty and effective service through the years. The new Chair will be Bill George from Garden Spot Community. George Tjiattas reported on his attendance at an Apprise training meeting and what Apprise is hoping to accomplish. Trained Apprise Counselors would be able to give advice and assistance as residents of retirement communities try to understand the changes in the Medicare program. Any community wishing to participate would need to secure the permission of that community's administration.

Charles Astfalk introduced our speaker, Dr. Robert Bauer. Dr. Bauer is presently a resident at Lebanon Valley Brethren Home. After serving as a doctor in the Navy, Dr. Bauer wanted to establish a family practice in a small community. He and his wife decided to settle in Intercourse, PA where he practiced for 20 years. He later served on the faculty of the Penn State Medical facility at Hershey where his subject was family practice. Later service involved establishing two clinics in North Carolina's Outer Banks and a practice in Palmyra, PA.

Dr. Bauer entertained us with tales of his years among the Amish in Intercourse. He told us about planning to convert the large front room in the house he had bought into a waiting room and office. He told the Real Estate man about his plans and was put in touch with Ben Stotzfus, an Amish carpenter. Ben needed help,

but since the Bauers had just moved to Intercourse and he had no practice at that time, Dr. Bauer said he would help. Ben then said fine, he would be there the next day at four o'clock in the morning!

Mr. Kling, the real estate man, was also the local auctioneer, and he told Dr. Bauer to be at the auction on Saturday morning. There, Auctioneer Kling introduced Dr. Bauer and told all those attending that this was a good man and they should call on him when they needed a doctor. Another interesting story involved his trip in a heavy snow storm to treat Sarah Zook who was expecting a baby. The trip began by car, then he changed to a horse. When the horse was exhausted by the snow drifts, another Amish farmer provided a mule which finally got him to Sarah Zook's home. He arrived in time to deliver a healthy baby. Another patient, Emma Stoltzfus asked his advice after her husband John had died. B. T. Stoltzfus wanted to marry her, but she was questioning what to do. She told him that she had 9 children and B. T. Stoltzfus had 8 children. Every day at lunch she would have 17 mouths to feed!

Dr. Bauer gave us four pearls for life: 1. Pick good genes; 2. Maintain good weight; 3. Exercise regularly; and 4. Don't use tobacco and alcohol only in moderation. He also told us the two things he tried to impress on his students: 1. Don't be afraid to make house calls. You can learn a great deal about a person and his or her relationships at a house call. And, 2. Never stop going to the hospital. The patient may be being treated by a specialist, but the primary physician needs to make sure that the treatment is being done as desired. Also there is much benefit from personal contact with specialists and other doctors.

The prolonged applause which followed Dr. Bauer's talk made clear that his humor and wisdom were much appreciated.

Following a delicious lunch, Elma Kreps called us back together. She reminded the delegates that at the previous meeting we were asked to consider what were the "hot topics" on our campuses. She asked if any one wanted to raise such an issue. It was mentioned that dress code for dinner was being discussed at Masonic Village. Most of those present indicated that this would not be accepted in their communities. Another question which was raised concerned the possibility of having some kind of membership available for persons in communities which will not join PARCR. Some people from some communities where the management seems to be afraid of PARCR have expressed interest in participating in PARCR. The present by-laws require that Associate Members be residents in one of the member communities. This question was referred to the Executive Committee for consideration and recommendation.

The next meeting of PARCR will be on July 13th at the Masonic Village in Elizabethtown.

PANPHA Advocacy Day

On Tuesday, May 10, at 10 a.m., PANPHA will hold an Advocacy Day at which any PANPHA member staff board member or **resident** is invited to come to meet with legislators representing their areas. Meet at reserved tables in the East Wing Rotunda, by the cafeteria. If you would like help in arranging a meeting with your legislator, contact polivy@panpha.org.

News from Our Communities

Bethany Village

The Bethany Village Woodworking Shop is an important amenity at the Village. It was established in 1991, largely as a result of efforts by Maple Wood resident Robert Montgomery. When he came to Bethany, he offered to bring his woodworking tools with him. His inventory included numerous power tools which helped provide the opportunity for Bethany Village to establish a formal workshop area. Some of the items made are for personal use, while others are made for Bethany, and some even made for sale. Recently, members of the group made two sets of doors for one of the sheds used to store garage sale items, and currently lecterns and

communion tables are being made for Chaplain Jim Browning to use. A popular “for sale” item recently has been quilt racks which have been made on order.

A copper class design activity is taught by Earl Conley. Projects that residents do not wish to keep are sold through the regular Bethany Village garage sales.

Bethany recognized and thanked volunteers during National Volunteer Week, April 17th - 23rd. The total hours given in 2004 by volunteers for Bethany is 23,265.30. Very impressive.

The Brethren Home Community

The Harmony Ridge Art Cases will feature art by Mary Lou Garrett. Born and raised in Silver Grove, Kentucky, after the family moved to Covington, Kentucky, a friend took her to meet an art teacher, and introduced her to painting. Later, her husband’s job took them to Texas, where she studied with Grydell Baines, an excellent painter and teacher. Mrs. Garrett is an impressionist painter, and her lovely flowers and landscapes are a real delight.

Green Ridge Village

Members of the Green Ridge Village Red Hat Society have been invited to attend the second annual Presbyterian Homes, Inc. Red Hat Luncheon, which will be held on May 6th at Christ Community Church, near Camp Hill.

Garden Spot Village

The 7th Annual Garden Spot Village Golf Tournament will be held Tuesday, June 21st. This year’s tournament will be held in memory of Leon Horst, an avid golfer and member of the golf tournament committee. Leon died on November 5, 2004, and will be missed by all who were fortunate enough to know him.

Homestead Village

As of the first week in April, 44 villas in the Mews at Homestead Village have been completed and occupied. An additional 18 villas have been reserved, with 30 remaining sites available.

The Homestead Village Chorus began with only 15 members and its first Choral Director, Karl Forssmark. Today the chorus has grown to over 35 members under the direction of Jean Frantz, a graduate of Lebanon Valley College and Westminster Choir College. The chorus presents Christmas and Spring concerts every year as well as performing at other retirement communities. In addition, they sing at church services over the summer months and special event days like Memorial Day.

The Homestead Village Craft Program has really taken off under the leadership of Marge Bundens. Within the first year, she gathered a group of interested residents to help her create a variety of appealing crafts for the annual Homestead Day sale. She also assists with a craft program for residents in the Health Center.

Crafters produce delightful items for Homestead Day and also for a Christmas sale as well. Monies raised at the Homestead Day sale are designated for the Homestead Village Endowment and Gifts Fund. Funds raised at the Christmas sale are used to provide for the future of the craft program.

Masonic Village

The Gentle-men, an a cappella men’s group, donned Dickensian garb, and sang Christmas carols for Masonic Health Care Center residents and kindergartners from the Masonic Village Child Care Center.

The Masonic Village Farm Market will open again on May 2nd. In the meantime a variety of items including fruit butters, preserves, salsa and more can be purchased through their catalog.

The catalog can be viewed on-line at www.pagrandlodge.org/villages/elizabethtown/farmmarketcat.html>.

Penn Hall – Menno Village

The Menno Penn Military Council will hold its 4th Annual Spring Banquet on Friday, May 20th, at 6:30 p.m. in the Village Inn Dining Room on the Menno Village Campus. All Menno Village, Northfield and Penn Hall veterans, their spouses, widows and widowers and guests are invited to attend.

The Northfield Villa construction update reports that construction of the fourteen new villas at Northfield is in high gear. Despite the heavy rain of the early spring, the first two buildings on Laurelton Court have footers completed, and the masons have begun laying foundation block and party walls.

Quincy Retirement Community

Quincy Village recently celebrated its Centenarians. Rhoda Bauer, 108; Debbie Althouse, 100; and Flora Van Sickle, 101, were all present. Not with them was Mildred Honodel, 103. Quincy must be a healthy place to live!

Quincy Village residents, staff, local scouts, Waynesboro Lions Club members and other volunteers spent a Saturday planting 600 trees and shrubs along the banks of the west branch of Antietam Creek, which flows through Quincy Village. This planting was part of an on-going effort, funded by local, state and national organizations to improve water quality in the Chesapeake Bay by controlling fertilizer runoff and erosion along the streams the flow into the bay. Dogwood, chokeberry and arrowood shrubs were planted at the stream's edge to anchor the banks. The oak, ash, sycamore and maple trees planted further back will eventually shade the stream and lower the water temperature.

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