

*FERN LODGE, Inc.*

April 1977



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED  
TO JOIN IN THE ACTIVITIES OF  
THE FERN LODGE

## *Annual Meeting*

Sunday, May 1 at 2:30 p.m.  
FIRST CHURCH of CHRIST SCIENTIST  
1814 B Street in Hayward  
(Child care available)

TO HEAR

Carl J. Welz, C.S.B.  
of San Francisco

“My Father Worketh . . .  
and I Work”

Following the  
**ANNUAL  
MEETING...**

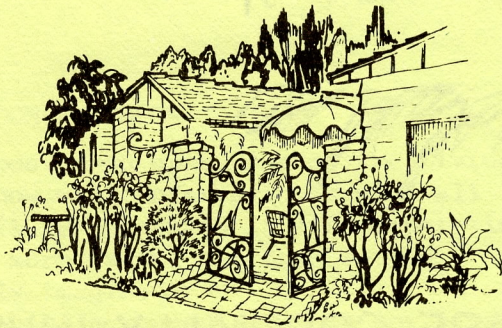
### **REFRESHMENTS**

in  
Fern Lodge's  
Remodeled  
Living Room  
and  
Deck Area



*18457 Madison Avenue, Castro Valley, California, 94546*





# FERN FRIEND NEWSLETTER

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a non-profit Nursing Home for Christian Scientists  
accredited by the Department of Care of The Mother Church

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APRIL 1977

(415) 886-2448

Dear Friends:

We hope you will be able to attend our Annual Meeting and, following it, visit Fern Lodge. (Last year there was an overflow meeting at First Church, Hayward, and approximately 250 visitors came out later to the Lodge.) The expansion program which was in progress last year has been completed and now the living room in the Main Lodge is being enlarged to give needed space and more light.

Fern Lodge is truly a lovely and restful place with a minimum of "institutional" atmosphere. It is situated on a quiet private lane and with the improvements that have been made, is now well equipped to serve its thirty guests.

But more important, it has a staff of loving, dedicated workers who day after day, month after month, are ministering to the needs of the guests and supporting them in their steps Spiritward. Theirs is a holy and unselfed service without which Fern Lodge could not exist and for which we cannot be too grateful.

As you may know, Fern Lodge is the only nursing home in Northern California, accredited by the Department of Care of The Mother Church, where elderly students of Christian Science can come and make an extended stay — even if their funds are exhausted. If it were not for Fern Lodge, most of our guests would be in medical nursing homes!

A large number of our guests are on welfare, and the reimbursement received from the State is insufficient to pay the costs of operation and provide the funds needed to maintain a nursing facility like Fern Lodge.

We therefore greatly appreciate the many donations and bequests received from our friends. Without generous and continuing support from the Field, we would be forced to close!

Sincerely,

FERN LODGE, INC.

By *Herbert Mitchell*

President

President: Herbert H. Mitchell, Berkeley; Vice President: Eugene DeBolt, Danville; Secretary: Hazel Wilson, Hayward; Treasurer: Elizabeth S. Dempsey, Castro Valley; Directors: E. Alfaretta Ballou, Oakland; Arthur W. Brandenburg, Hayward; Bernice Bryan Brown, Berkeley; Frances Griffeth, Walnut Creek; Ronald Macdonald, Oakland; Marion D. Nawman, Piedmont; Robert A. Young, Hayward.



## VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Thankyou to all who helped to enlarge our mailing list. Our communications efforts received a heartening lift when we asked our regulars to add names of Christian Scientists whom they thought would enjoy hearing about Fern Lodge.

If anyone has a change of address, as happens so often these days, will you please drop us a card to let us know? We must now pay 25 cents for each address correction supplied by the Post Office, plus 13 cents to mail another Newsletter.

### NEW FERN FRIENDS CLUBS

Because so many would-be volunteers live too far away to be regular Fern Friend visitors, we are happy to announce the beginning of a series of Fern Friend Clubs. Two or more interested people in any given area, no matter how distant, can (with the blessings of the Department of Care) form support groups to:

1. Do regular metaphysical work.
2. Raise funds for benevolence that is constantly required to make up the difference between the cost of Medi-Cal and private patient care.
3. Raise funds for needed improvements and up-grading, and Christian Science Nurses Training scholarships. Fund-raising activities can include regular bridge parties, luncheons and entertainment (films, fashion shows, cards, etc.) garage sales. You undoubtedly can think of other interesting and novel things to do. You might even like to organize a local Fern Faire similar to the Bay Area-wide one we held in 1972.
4. Supply patients with home-canned fruits, jams and jellies, etc. Transportation of these will be arranged by Fern Lodge.
5. Make table decorations for holidays.
6. Sewing napkins, bibs, pillowslips, etc.

FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE  
FORMATION OF A FERN FRIEND CLUB  
IN YOUR AREA, CALL BOARD MEMBER  
FRANCES GRIFFETH AT 937-8461

LOCAL FERN FRIENDS are needed to support these regular activities:

1. Readers for Sunday morning church services. (Art Brandenburg 538-8990)
2. Readers for 1:00 PM Wednesday Testimony meetings. (Betty Fraser 376-3508)
3. Playing organ for services.
4. Doing errands and shopping for guests.
5. Taking patients for occasional rides for half an hour or so.
6. Helping the trained crafts advisor once a week.

If you wish to participate in these last last three activities, please contact Muriel Chisholm, 538-7215.

### FLEA MARKET SUCCESS !

A cleanout of Fern Lodge's various storage areas at the time of remodeling, netted a 2 1/2 ton truck load of articles for the local flea market, all loaded by Assistant Administrator Bob McVey and dependable Fern Friend Mark Bumgardner. Unloaders Reed Pratt and Ted Harmon were nearly trampled by the rush of buyers who grabbed furniture and beds before they were off the truck!



LEFT: Board Members Arliss Harmon and Betty Dempsey who took on the ebbing and flowing waves of the buying public, and by 6:00 PM, the last unidentified scrap was sold to a local dealer and Fern Lodge had netted \$300.



## AT LAST — UPGRADING THE MAIN HOUSE

### LIVING ROOM AND DECK

The oft-postponed upgrading of the living room is now well underway. As with all things, it is happening in its proper time and in a more useful way than we had previously imagined.

A seldom-used screened porch is now a part of the enlarged room and a brand new, wide Redwood deck area stretches out over the lawn and garden area, making it available for use by the patients and their guests. Pictured to the right are Builder James Keven and Carpenter Robin Pratt. Although their business is primarily in the Santa Rosa area, they were happy to do the work here. Both of these young men are special to Fern Lodgers. Jim is the son of Robert Sperr, who spearheaded the move to interest



Bay Area Christian Scientists in taking over Fern Lodge when Mindell and Bill Cox retired. And Robin is the son of active Fern Friends Beverly and Reed Pratt. How about joining us after our Annual Meeting, May 1, for refreshments on the finished deck?

### FENCING

Mabel and Hugh Kiler, next door good neighbors and 25-year residents, help our Administrator choose planting along the new fencing between their property and ours. The chain-link fence allows better vision to drivers entering Madison from the Fern Lodge grounds. It also allows more space to accomodate a large dump box for garbage. That may not seem exciting, but we're delighted to be rid of the ten garbage cans that lined the drive.



QUARTERLY METAPHYSICAL MEETINGS bring a spiritual perspective to Staff and Board members when the material picture sometimes seems overwhelming. We're grateful to these dedicated Christian Scientists for sharing their thoughts and experiences with us.

Last August, JANE SCHWEITZER, C.S. of Oakland, traced the metaphysical steps that she took in a nine-year search that culminated in a beautiful healing. It appears in the February 10, 1973 Christian Science Sentinel, entitled "What Is Healing All About?"

"A body hast thou prepared," (Hebrews 10:5) inspired MARGARET FOSTER, C.S. of Concord, to speak last November of body and opening the ears to hear and obey God's will, emphasizing that all healing is awakening to our spiritual selfhood. She said, "There is no retirement from spiritual qualities. We progress in unfoldment in the degree of our desires to grow spiritward."

JOHN GRANT, C.S. of Oakland, last month delved into Mary Baker Eddy's account of the court case in which personal sense is the central figure. (Science and Health, 430-442) "A personal sense of responsibility murders and kills joy; a personal sense of sympathy makes a reality of a patient's need," he explained. "Instead, we'd best meet human need when we are least moved by it. Dropping personal sense takes away what is afflictible."