

# Fern Lodge, Inc.

# NewsLetter

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

18457 Madison Avenue, Castro Valley, California 94546 • (415) 886-2448

November, 1979



"They were all with one accord in one place."  
Acts 2:1



"We took sweet counsel together..."  
Ps. 55:14



"...Teach us to pray..." Luke 11:1



"Thou preparest a table before me..."  
Ps. 23:5

## Fern Lodge Continues to Blossom

DEAR FERN FRIENDS:

WE ARE HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE that we now are in phase 1 of a 3-phase reconstruction program in the Main House. This will provide a higher quality of nursing to the ambulatory patients there. Our nurses have joyously taken part in the designing of more satisfactory areas for care in both Main House wings, including a far more suitable bath and shower room. Because living must go on during the construction, we are grateful to have again builder James Keven of Santa Rosa, who is willing to complete the work in stages.

THE TOTAL COST is \$46,000 and once more we are asking for your financial help. A contribution envelope is enclosed to use for this tax deductible gift.

WE CONTINUE TO IMPROVE the lot of our excellent staff with increased wages, a meal plan, expanded paid holidays and a health benefit policy.

MANY INSPIRED NEW SOLUTIONS have been found and applied with compassion to the nursing care of our 31 seasoned Christian Scientists, two thirds of whom are receiving Medi-Cal benefits. Your largess continues in support of them and we are grateful. Our waiting list continues to be long.

TO WIND UP THE YEAR we will conduct another free two-day "Introduction to Christian Science Nursing" during the Christmas holidays, Friday and Saturday, December 28 and 29, and hope that you will consider it for yourself as you read about it in this Newsletter.

WE'RE PLEASED TO TELL YOU we've been approved by the Department of Care to give the nine-month On-the-Job Training for first year student nurses from the Nurses Training School.

OUR MOST SINCERE THANKS for your continued shoulder-to-shoulder support of Fern Lodge's effort to "Blast the Myth of Age."

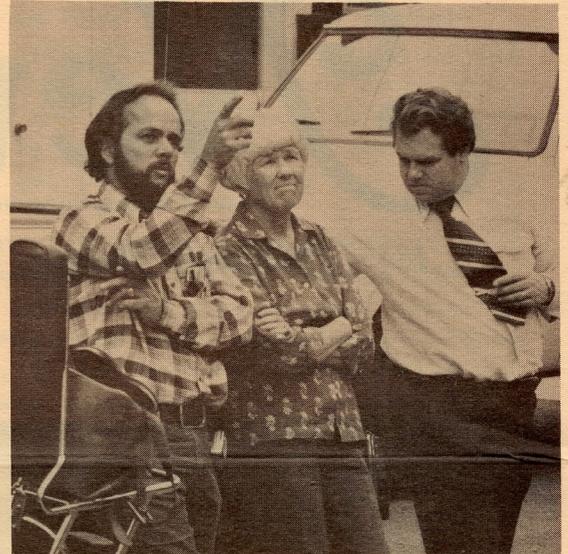
Sincerely,

*Elizabeth S. Dempsey*

Board of Directors

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

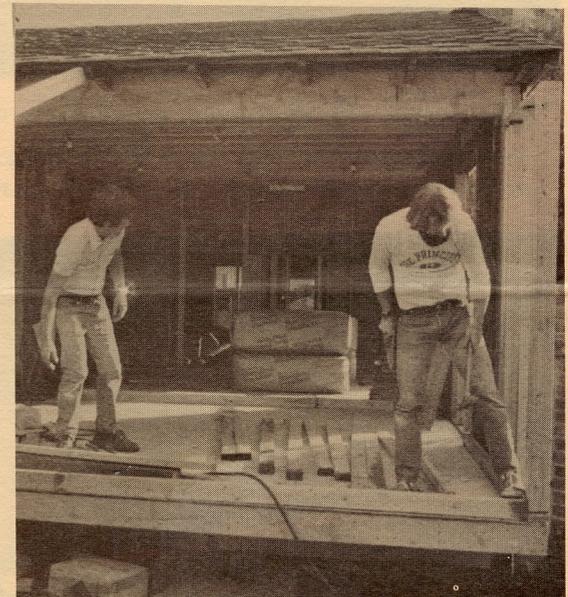
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"Through wisdom is an  
house builded..."

...and by understanding  
it is established."

Prov. 24:3



## Volunteers Needed . . . .

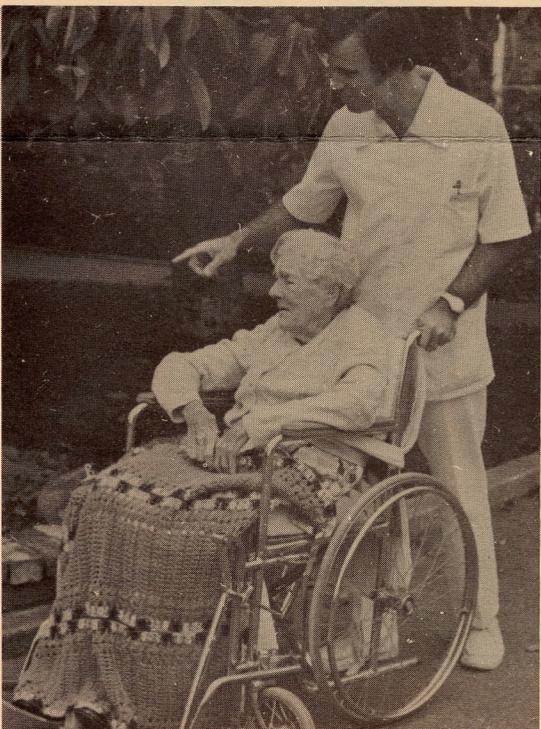


Your regularly scheduled donation of time to these purposes will add interest to a patient's day while, at the same time, giving a nurse extra time for a more demanding situation.

Dining, feeding and tray-carrying periods are noon to 12:30 P.M. and 5:00 to 5:30 P.M.

Reading, walking, visiting and entertaining may be done any afternoon after 1:00 P.M.

If these times fit yours, please call Superintendent of Nurses Camille Lindsay at (415) 886-2448.



## "Blasting The Myth of Age"

This was the theme of Fern Lodge's Annual Meeting, held May 20, 1979, at First Church of Christ, Scientist, Hayward. Here are a few excerpts from the keynote talk by Daniel L. Jensen, C.S.B., of San Francisco.

"Down through the ages, with all too few exceptions, mankind has bowed its head in blind submission to the false laws of time and aging ...often referred to as "laws of nature" or "natural laws." Such a blind acceptance of the concept that anything bearing the description "natural" must be God-originated tends to have us accept it as unavoidable, as "law." These so-called "natural laws" are all based on the foundation of biological "birth," for it all starts here.

So let's look at birth. And what better place to start than with the Bible's three accounts of creation. The first (Genesis 1:27) claims that man is made in the image and likeness of God — totally spiritual. This is, of course, the only true story of creation. The second, written simply as an allegory for the spiritually ignorant tribesman, is in the second chapter of Genesis...I doubt that anyone here really believes that they came from a rib or a pinch of dust.

But what of that third account, the biological "natural" story of creation? (Gen. 4:1) "And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the Lord." This attributes material creation to God, you see. And the whole world, almost everyone in it, learns and accepts this as the true story of man's creation. Then, based on this "law," other so-called "laws" dealing with "nature" are pronounced and accepted, such as laws of inheritance — Mendel's law of material genetics, which were, interestingly enough, propounded in 1866, the very year of Mrs. Eddy's discovery of the divine laws of Christian Science. Isn't that significant — the genuine and the counterfeit? Or we speak of the inexorable effect of "environment and conditioning" — Darwin's law, another so-called material law of nature. And you submit yourself to this "law" whether you want to or not when you pick up the package of "material birth."

If we were to ask which of these stories of creation is true, most Christian Scientists would answer, "Well, of course, the first — for man is spiritual." We say it all the time, don't we? But are we living it, really identifying ourselves with it? I wouldn't want to ask even this nice audience how many are (for

themselves or others) still celebrating — actually celebrating — a day honoring a material origin: something which our Leader referred to as "the foundation of mortal discord!" ...Perhaps the most subtle of all (in denying God as the Creator of man) are Mother's Day and Father's Day. It comes, of course, in the guise of love and gratitude in order to get past our guard.

These wonderful right motives can still be joyously exercised by having "special days" — times of individual recognition, gratitude, and love. For such sweet surprises, held on another day, do not re-establish a false material basis for man (with a Genesis 4:1 origin). Isn't this an even higher sense of love?

Consider the importance that Jesus attached to this. "I am come to destroy the works of birth." (See Christian Science Journal, Dec. 1946, p. 575). He never was much of a compromiser with material birth. Mrs. Eddy puts it so clearly: "God expresses in man the infinite idea forever developing itself, broadening and rising higher and higher from a boundless basis." (Science & Health, 258:13). What a different view of man, this spiritual one! Birthless, and therefore ageless!

But what is age? Where is age located? In body? Of course not. Even the doctors have come to see this in their study of anatomy. Age is only a collection of false, "educated" beliefs; simply images of mortal thought reflected on the retina of human consciousness. These false "mental images" are what the world interprets as "age." Age is never a condition with which we have to deal. There is never a matter body that has to be reconstituted. I want to repeat — age is not a physical condition, but only a mental suggestion that has been accepted and thereby becomes a "belief." All in thought!

We come to see that identifying ourselves as "the image and likeness of God" establishes not only our perfection, harmony, joy, intelligence, divine purpose, strength and freedom — but it establishes our immortality and all that that includes. We see ourselves as birthless, and therefore ageless, deathless, diseaseless and indestructible: as "never born and never dying."

Think of it! We are birthless, ageless, deathless, and we live progressively ascending all the time!"

## Introduction To Nursing Workshop Open to

Want to heal the world? Use your Christian Science as a basis and learn how to apply its healing mission in very specific ways.

A fifth Adventure-in-Learning Workshop at Fern Lodge will introduce you to the field of Christian Science nursing.

There is never a "closed shop" or "over-qualified" or "glutted market" in the Christian Science nursing field.

The Workshop's taste of "living the life that heals" can open to you a whole new career, whatever age or position in life you now hold.

Scheduled for Friday and Saturday, December 28 and 29, 1979, it will be a free two-day experience of instruction by a Graduate Christian Science Nurse. Meals and local housing are provided.

The only prerequisite is membership in The Mother Church, a Branch Church or Branch Church Sunday School upper classes.

See the enclosed application for particulars or call Fern Lodge at (415) 886-2448.

WANT MORE.....?

If your two-day introduction to Christian Science nursing inspires you to seek further experience and instruction, you are eligible, upon its completion, to enroll in Fern Lodge's ten-week nurse-aide program.

The ten week program qualifies you for permanent employment as a nurse-aide at Fern Lodge...or can be used as a stepping-stone to application for nurse's training at Arden Wood in San Francisco.

The first year at Arden Wood includes three months of intensive class work followed by nine months of On-the-Job training at any Department of Care approved care facility. Fern Lodge is one of these.

George Strong, a three-year graduate of Arden Wood is Fern Lodge's On-the-Job trainer. He will conduct the two-day Adventure-in-Learning Workshop and its follow-up ten-week nurse-aide program.



"Blessed is he that  
they that hear..." I



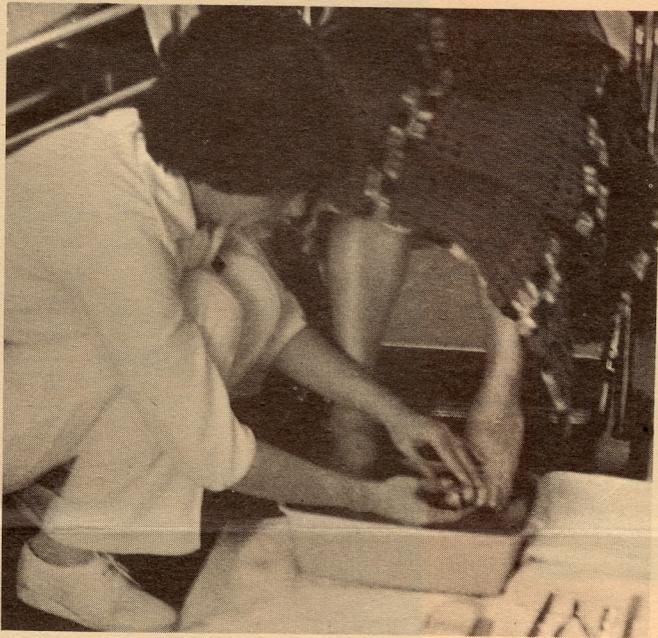
"...and guided them by  
skilfulness of his hand  
Ps. 78:72

"...love of  
Jo





death, and  
ev. 1:3



"If I then...have washed your feet; ye  
also ought to wash one another's feet."  
John 13:14



"Hold up my goings in thy paths,

the  
is."

that my footsteps slip not."  
Ps. 17:5

"That I may come unto you  
with joy...and may with you  
be refreshed." Rom. 15:32

another."  
in 15:17

