

Spring 1982

FERN LODGE FOCUS

SPRING '82

COVER PICTURE: See Page 6

Sunday, APRIL 18

you are invited to attend the 1982
ANNUAL MEETING and WORKSHOP
of Fern Lodge

PLACE: First Church of Christ, Scientist, 1701 Franklin Street, Oakland

TOPIC:

"CHRISTLINESS IN NURSING"

PRINCIPAL SPEAKER: JOHN R. PETERSON, CSB

ANNUAL MEETING

Main address by
Mr. Peterson
TIME: 2:00 - 3:30

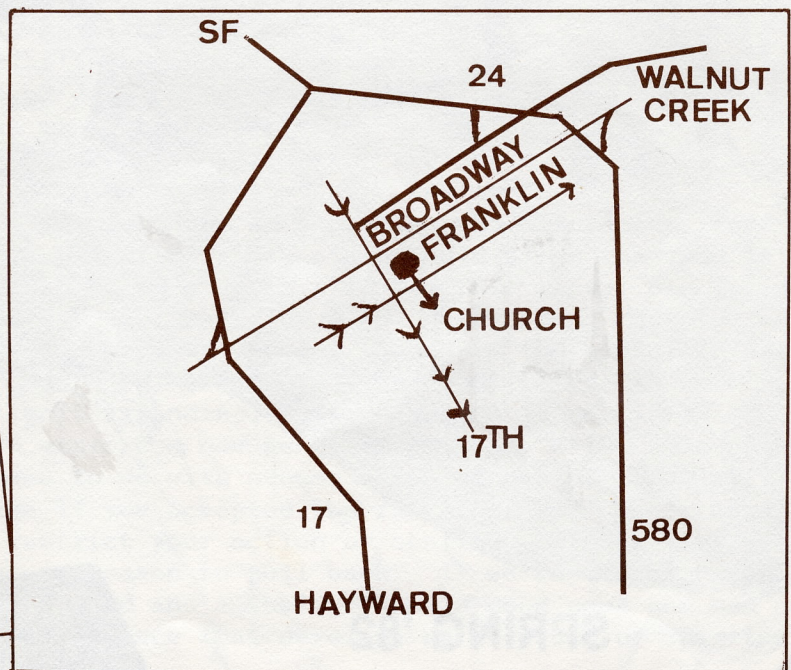
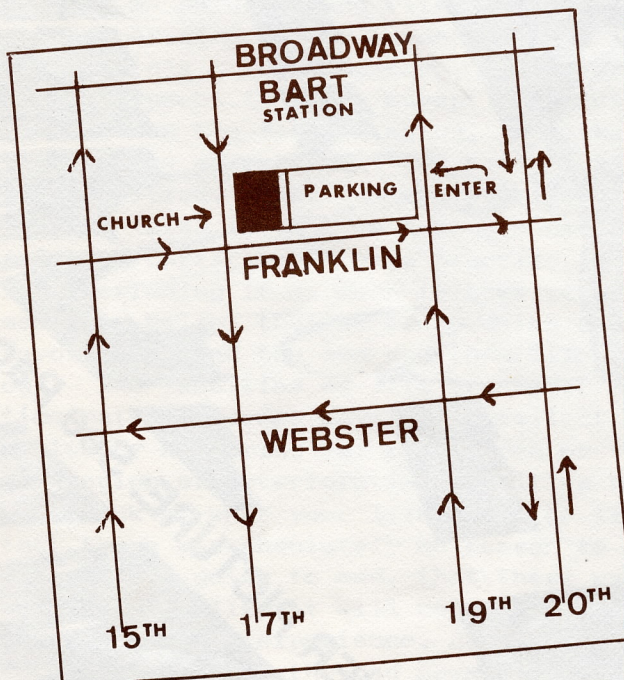
WORKSHOP

based upon specific points of
Mr. Peterson's talk
for those involved in nursing activities.
TIME: 4:00 - 5:30

Child care provided for both sessions.

Parking available FRANKLIN PLAZA GARAGE, adjacent to church.

\$1.00 per car for all afternoon.





JOHN R. PETERSEN, CSB
Annual Meeting Speaker

In the full-time healing ministry of Christian Science since 1946 and a teacher of Christian Science since 1961, Mr. Peterson has been a regular contributor to the periodicals.

Long recognized as an authority on copyright law (a graduate of Northwestern University and the University of Chicago's Kent College of Law), he was for seventeen years General Counsel to The Mother Church and was President of The Mother Church, 1978 - 1979. For the past two years he has traveled as a member of the Christian Science Board of Lectureship.

Mr. Peterson's wife, Beatrice Mills Peterson, a Christian Science practitioner and former First Reader at First Church, Oakland, will accompany him to California from Boston.

No Open House

There will be no Open House at Fern Lodge this year after the Annual Meeting. Even so, we want to encourage everyone to visit Fern Lodge anytime during the year. Fern Lodge is your facility, and we want to share it with you whenever you would like to come by. Our doors are open and our welcome awaits you!

Annual Meeting "Change of Venue"

Longtime friends of Fern Lodge will notice a new format for our Annual Meeting, scheduled for April 18, 1982.

Catalyst for the change in program plan and its location is the number of people expected to hear speaker John R. Peterson's talk on "Christliness in Nursing," and to attend the workshop he has graciously offered to conduct after the meeting for those directly involved in nursing work.

Workshop Following Annual Meeting

All nurses, student nurses, administrators, board members, staff and volunteers of Christian Science nursing facilities, and practitioners, are especially invited to attend a workshop, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m., just following Fern Lodge's Annual Meeting which will end at 3:30.

To be conducted by Annual Meeting speaker John R. Peterson, it is based on a successful similar effort in Florida earlier this year. Mr. Peterson explains that the workshop will be "an in-depth discussion of the practical application of the main points of the Annual Meeting talk, and questions and answers from those present."

As someone here said, "his big thing is love," and anyone familiar with Mr. Peterson's many talks will know the delight he has in conducting workshops (on Love, the Manual, etc.). So, focusing his thoughts now on "Christliness in Nursing" is a treat for us on the West Coast.

Child Care Volunteers Needed During Fern Lodge's Annual Meeting

Sunday School students and volunteers who would enjoy caring for young children at First Church of Christ, Scientist, Oakland, during Fern Lodge's Annual Meeting, please call Fern Lodge, 886-2448, to put your name on the list.

Please indicate for which session you will be available:

1:30 - 3:30 p.m. or 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.
We'll be grateful for your help!

Fern Lodge, Inc.

18457 Madison Avenue, Castro Valley, Ca. 94546-1699 415 886-2448

A Non-Profit Nursing Facility for Christian Scientists Accredited by The First Church of Christ, Scientist, Boston, Massachusetts.

Dear Friends:

March 1982

Projects for spring are already cut out for us: (a) storm drains, catch basins from the hillside and drain pipe installed along the driveway to the lane; (b) excavation of the northerly hillside by the end of Hillside House; and (c) a masonry retaining wall built there to provide space for two additional rooms. All this is the first step of our Master Plan for Fern Lodge improvement. The two rooms are being added to Hillside House because our waiting list indicates more need for the nursing care given in that building than for that given in Creekside House. We are estimating \$100,000 for this first step. Then as we see our way clear financially we will go on to the next step, which includes a living-room area for Hillside House, as recommended by The Mother Church accreditation inspection team last year.

We thank you for your most generous financial support at the close of the year. It was truly encouraging and heart-warming to us. As we've outlined above we still need and look forward to your continued support of Fern Lodge's growth toward greater usefulness to the Christian Science field.

YOU MAY NEED TO KNOW that your contribution is tax-deductible because we are a non-profit tax-exempt nursing facility under both Federal and State law. Your entire gift is utilized for improvement and operation of Fern Lodge and no portion of your contribution has been or will be used for fund-raising expenses.

We've adopted for our newsletter the new name "Focus" as descriptive of our way of sharing. It's a two-way focus — for you to focus in on what we're doing, and for us to focus outward to the needs of the field. Since our October Focus our Administrator-ship has changed hands smoothly from Bob McVey to George Strong (see stories on page 5), and our Superintendent of Nurses, Camille Lindsay, has been pleased with the hiring of a new On-the-Job Training Instructor. It is with gratitude and awe that we announce a full compliment of nurses joyously and cooperatively working on all three shifts. Such bounty is due in large part to our continuing, successful Adventure-in-Learning Nursing Workshops, our full scholarship policy for first year Nurses training, and our traveling slide-show explaining Christian Science Nursing, which has been given at the invitation of 16 churches with 5 more still on our schedule.

You are all lovingly invited to our Annual meeting. With our guest speaker, Mr. Peterson, we encourage all who are concerned with Christian Science Nursing to participate in his workshop which will follow. Remember the meeting begins at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, April 18. After a half-hour break the workshop will begin at 4:00 p.m. This is an innovation for us which we are excited about, and think you will be too.

Sincerely,

Charles J. Arden

Charles Arden,
Board of Directors

President: Charles Arden, Walnut Creek; Vice-President: Betty Dempsey, Castro Valley; Secretary: Hazel Wilson, Hayward; Treasurer: Harriett Eagerblade, Castro Valley; Directors: Raymond Bishop, Walnut Creek; Muriel Chisholm, Castro Valley; Sylvia Cook, Castro Valley; Eugene DeBolt, Danville; Frances Griffeth, Walnut Creek; Robert Griffin, San Leandro; Kathryn Grover, Pleasanton; Alan Jones, Oakland; Joseph Landisman, Berkeley; Ronald Macdonald, Oakland; Jane Schweitzer, Oakland. Newsletter Editor: Arliss Harmon, Hayward.

ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGE



New Administrator

With the resignation of Administrator Robert McVey, Fern Lodge's former Nursing Supervisor/Trainer George Strong stepped into the administrative spot. He brings to the position an excellent business sense coupled with an understanding of the challenges faced by both the nurse and the patient.

Convinced that "there are no separate departments in a Christian Science nursing facility," Mr. Strong says that "nursing is its entire function - that's what everyone here is doing. It broadens our understanding of Christian Science and of the Church."

Early education was at First Church, Hayward Sunday School and public schools in Castro Valley and Pleasanton. Mr. Strong earned a BA degree from the University of California at Santa Barbara and entered the Doctoral Program there in Plant Physiology. Increasingly aware that "this science of life was not the science of real Life," he left to study on his own, finally settling in Morro Bay where he attended the Christian Science church and began to build a house. His desire to "serve Christian Science in a way that makes me learn more about it" led to his return to Castro Valley and to Fern Lodge to train as a nurse-aide. Upon completion, he returned to Morro Bay to finish the house, working nights as a private duty aide. In November of 1975 he entered the three year nurse training program at Arden Wood and, after graduation, returned to Fern Lodge as Supervisor/OJT Trainer and Assistant Superintendent of Nurses.



Robert McVey Leaves

After ten years at Fern Lodge, the past three as Administrator, Robert McVey leaves the position with the gratitude of both staff and Board for his valuable contributions. Built upon his fine reputation at Fern Lodge and with the Dept. of Practitioners and Nursing Activities of The Mother Church, his future will continue to hold many useful activities for the Christian Science movement.

"At present," he says, "I'm taking time to remodel our home, spend more time with our children and to reflect upon the next right step." Whatever direction that takes, our hearts go with him.

Boston Meetings

We're pleased once again to send Mrs. Camille Lindsay to the Superintendent of Nursing Seminar in Boston, May 3-5; and our newly-arrived Mrs. Janet Zeller to the On-the-Job Trainers meeting in Boston, April 5-7.

THE LARGE ENVELOPES IN WHICH YOU RECEIVED OUR EVER GROWING NEWSLETTER IS BUT ONE OF THE MANY SIZES OF ENVELOPES DONATED BY THE THOUSANDS BY AN ACTIVE SUPPORTER OF FERN LODGE. OUR MOST SINCERE THANKS!



CONTINUANCE OF THE FLOCK PROGRAM
SEES SHARED ENJOYMENT AND LEARNING.



THE FIRST WARM DAYS OF SPRING ATTRACT PATIENTS AND
NURSE TO OUTDOORS FOR BIBLE LESSON READING.

SCENES AROUND THE LODGE



STAFF AND BOARD POTLUCK IT, AN IDEAL OPPORTUNITY TO
ENJOY ONE ANOTHER WHILE UNENCUMBERED WITH BUSINESS.



"I HAVE A LOVELY WARM PUPPY HERE -
WHO WANTS TO PET IT?" RALPH THE
CLOWN (IRENE MIZER) IS THE DAUGHTER
OF A LOCAL CHURCH MEMBER.

COVER PICTURE: What delight a
patient finds fingering a melody on
the much-welcomed second organ, a
two-manual Conn Strummer, given to
a grateful Fern Lodge by Volunteer
Betty Wells (her daughter Mary has
done vacation-time aide work for
several years).



IRENE HARRISON



NANCY BEARDEN



JANET LINEER

New Nurses!

IRENE HARRISON is Fern Lodge's latest scholarship beneficiary and is now at Arden Wood for her first year of nurse training.

NANCY BEARDEN has returned to Fern Lodge for On-the-Job-Training after three months of intensive nurse training at Arden Wood. Also a scholarship recipient, she is so enthused about looking forward to a nursing career that she refers to it as "being just three steps away from a box of candy." She and Mrs. Harrison were introduced to nursing by Fern Lodge's traveling slide show (see Board Letter).

TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS WHO WISH TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS - OUR GRATITUDE IS DEEP-FELT.

JANET LINEER finished her first year of On-the-Job-Training at Fern Lodge and is staying on as Nursing Assistant. At first impressed by "the attractiveness and beauty of the rural setting" of Fern Lodge, Mrs. Lineer said she now enjoys "a feeling of home and family...a result of the individualized expressions of love amongst patients, and between staff and patients. Love is a wonderful healing element in any environment."

Sunday Visitors

How about attending Sunday church service at Fern Lodge at 11 AM, then stay as our guest for dinner to bring a bit of fresh conversation and presence to the patients who regularly eat in the dining room? We'd love to have you. Please just phone the day ahead if you are coming.

EXERPTS FROM QUARTERLY METAPHYSICAL TALKS

KATHRYN GROVER, CS: "Thou Art Being Healed"

"Isn't it interesting that when we say we are being healed we often use the expression 'getting better'? Of course we're getting better - morally better and spiritually better. Actually we're getting better at recognizing what we already are - perfect, because God could only create perfection. We are His reflection, and there is nothing as obedient or perfect as a reflection. Christian Scientists expect both healing and progress to take place - and they will as our ideas advance. Learn to insist on advanced ideas every day - take hold of them, and use them, and be excited about them. When you

(Continued on next page)

RONALD BALLARD, CSB: "The Promise of Each Succeeding Year"

"In S&H pp 245:5 to 249:11 are some of the most dynamic and exciting pages that our Leader provides, because they give insights into Mrs. Eddy's sense of what the development of Life is about.

"Is where we are looking for our conceptions of man what we see of him 'between the cradle and the grave,' or are we making an effort to expand our conception of man beyond that time reference? Jesus had a much broader sense about man, 'Before Abraham was, I am.' (John 8:58) Before the human sense of time ever began there was man, you and I, consciously present, aware of our sense of unity

(Continued on next page)

(continued from page 7) - "Thou Art Being Healed"

make spiritual ideas your own you will always have them. What is spiritually true never changes or wears out, never grows old or depleted. As we gain fresh ideas, we 'leave the old for the new.'

"Heal by your consciousness of God. Heal by your spiritual awareness and, as your Leader tells you, 'By the truthful arguments you employ, and especially by the spirit of Truth and Love you entertain...'

"Witness forth God. We cannot take hold on God's responsibility to be God. We must instead reflect, respond - not consider ourselves the originator of ideas, but the emanation or manifestation. See if through your day you are letting God express you - His creation - or detect if you are busy telling God how you would like things done.

Let go. Unfoldment is a gentle process. Be a spiritual idea - be perfectly expressed, complete, whole. You will find that your progress in doing this will be proven in direct ratio to your confidence in God. Progress comes rapidly and healing takes place immediately when we are certain of our spiritual selfhood, and not finding material loopholes through which we slide backwards to human opinions about ourselves.

"Jesus said, 'Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.' We must ask ourselves if we are actually knowing this truth. Are we studying enough? Unfolding new, fresh images of thought? Are we absolute enough? Standing firm in the scientific proof of what we discern? Are we spiritual enough? Does our study lead to prayer? This is an important point. Never neglect your study, but always allow your study time enough to become prayer - because only these one-to-one moments, alone with God, are where healing takes place. Study leads to them, but prayer accomplishes the fact.

"We don't need a change in either man or God, only in viewpoint and expectancy. Can we honestly say, 'I expect healing now, today? When summoned to Peter's wife's mother, do you think Jesus said, 'Yes, I'll be glad to work on this, call me back tomorrow'? No. The healing was immediate - and so must ours be. The Christ is yours to express - and with Christ, and because of Christ, and through Christ 'thou art being healed.'"



(continued from page 7) - "The Promise of Each Succeeding Year"

with God. Gain the sense of man's spiritual pre-existence as God's child. There was never a point when God existed that man did not exist, when man wasn't conscious of his expression of God's being. Cherish this. Let go of the elements of material sense and experience fetterless being, being without limitation.

"The phrasing of our Leader's words is sometimes just completely joyous. Here's a lovely phrase, 'the everlasting grandeur and immortality of development.' If we accept the fact of development about our being rather than the fact of aging, then that means that every year brings to light a new aspect about our being...simply flowing forth from the ideas of completion. That is 'the promise of each succeeding year.' The important thing is that we have a sense of development, an expanding and disclosing from within. A lot of Christian Science practice is mental discipline, taking hold of an idea and loving and cherishing it so much that we refuse to be moved from it. Use this mental discipline to meet the belief that we are growing old, a belief based upon the silly image that the earth revolves around the sun and then life is supposed to change...aging is the belief in astrology. The faculties of life are never measured by calendars. We ought to get to work anytime material sense says our intellect isn't expanding, that we are no longer interested, no longer hungering for a new idea or to explore a new sense of things. A lot of problems with aging or deteriorating faculties have to do with accumulation of mental impurity. Can you think of what your life would be like if you accepted the fact that Life was eternal and that there was absolutely no reason to restrict your action or confine your activity because life wasn't going to end, that there was no reason to pull back? If we can focus on spiritual individuality it will determine the outward and actual. There's good news and bad news about the human experience, but a human experience that develops as a result of spiritual focus, eliminates the bad news."

