

Is anything too hard for the Lord?

Genesis 18:14

will be our Annual Meeting address given by
Edwin Leever, C.S., of Sacramento, CA.

The talk will be given at Fern Lodge
under a sun canopy with seating for 300 people.

Sunday afternoon September 17, 1989
from 2:00 to 4:30 p.m.

The program will begin at 3:00 p.m.
Tours and refreshments will be available
before and after. Child Care will be provided.

Come in, thou blessed of the Lord;
wherefore standest thou with out?
for I have prepared the house,
and room for the camels. Genesis 24:31
(a place for you to park, directions on back)

From The Board

Our policy of offering Christian Science nursing care has always brought with it a financial challenge. Many of our applicants also need Medi-Cal assistance to stay at Fern Lodge. Every patient who receives Medi-Cal assistance must also receive \$1,700 in benevolence from Fern Lodge each month.

In recent months, the proportion of our patients who require Medi-Cal support has risen to over 75%. This means our monthly benevolence need now totals almost \$30,000. Our Benevolence Endowment Fund stands at \$28,000, so interest from this Fund does not yet provide much income. Our research indicates that we are providing Christian Science nursing care at a daily cost well below that of most similar facilities in the country; we are operating as efficiently as seems possible. To press forward with our open-admission policy and to look to the day we can extend benevolence to those who can receive nursing care in their own homes, we ask for your renewed financial support.

In February and June, the *Fern Lodge Focus* showed how we see benevolence — that selfless giving is the active manifestation of God's love for His children expressed by His

children. We shared the concept of the "circle of giving:" the understanding that philanthropy immediately blesses both giver and receiver, and that love, joy, and spirituality accompany each individual's gift.

We are surrounded by evidence of the tender care with which God watches over us. We are grateful to witness healing and spiritual growth among those who come to us for Christian Science nursing. And, thanks to many generous contributions, we have been able to purchase furnishings and occupy the new wing to our facility. We have named this wing "Treeside" —for the long row of cypress trees behind the building — to harmonize with our "Hillside" and "Creekside" buildings.

We know that the care expressed by our nurses at Fern Lodge springs from God, divine Love. And we rest assured that God is right here and now providing *all* of the spiritual resources required to support and sustain His work. We look for continued unfoldment in meeting our financial challenges, too. The letter on the facing page from one of our volunteers shows the heart-warming commitment of one who knows and values Fern Lodge.

Board of Directors: Betty Ames, Piedmont; Ray Bishop, Walnut Creek;
Mary Farnum, Walnut Creek; Audrey Patterson, Oakland; Judyth Prono, Livermore;
Robert Williams, San Francisco; Hazel Wilson, Hayward; Wilbur Wood, Oakland
Administrator: George Strong Director of Nursing: Patricia Alvarez

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

Today I was informed that Fern Lodge is experiencing a dire need in meeting legitimate expenses. Upon hearing this I felt a sense of urgency to help now.

As I sat there thinking, I remembered how I have been guilty of putting aside the Fern Lodge donation envelope sent to me, thinking I would wait until my financial situation looked better. I thought, "With vacation time coming up and home improvements going on, this isn't a good time for me to give," so I put the envelope away. As I reflected on these thoughts I had been thinking I could see how I was limiting my own supply. By being cautious about being generous to a vital, needed service which Fern Lodge provides, I was admitting that I would run out of supply and that there was not enough to spread around right now. Later — and we know how later sometimes doesn't come.

How ridiculous! As Christian Scientists nowness is our business. Now are we the sons of God, not later when things appear better.

I plainly could see that the real need at hand was to give myself a metaphysical treatment to let loose a fear of lack. I was led to read an article from a past *Sentinel* entitled, "Losing a Fear of Lack," which I have enclosed. This article says it all. The Mother Church must have sensed an urgent need to share the thought of "giving" to the entire Field be-

cause the whole *Sentinel*, entitled "Generosity — When do you think you should begin," focuses on giving (*Christian Science Sentinel*, April 24, 1989). As we look around the world, the fear of lack cries out for attention. If we are not diligent in denying lack and affirming God's abundant supply, we too will be drawn in to the acceptance of approving lack as a real situation in our lives as well as in the rest of the world.

Real prayer, as Jesus taught, is in demonstration. If we really have faith and believe what we are affirming, the next step is in doing. I got out my checkbook and wrote out a check larger than I had originally thought of giving. And do you know what? I feel so rich. It is just as Jesus said, "Give, and it shall be given unto you."

I love Fern Lodge and love visiting and contributing my time whenever I can. The good work done there is so much needed. Whenever I visit and hear the folks there speak of their gratitude to have a place like Fern Lodge to lovingly care for them, my heart just warms with love and gratitude for the needed work the entire staff performs.

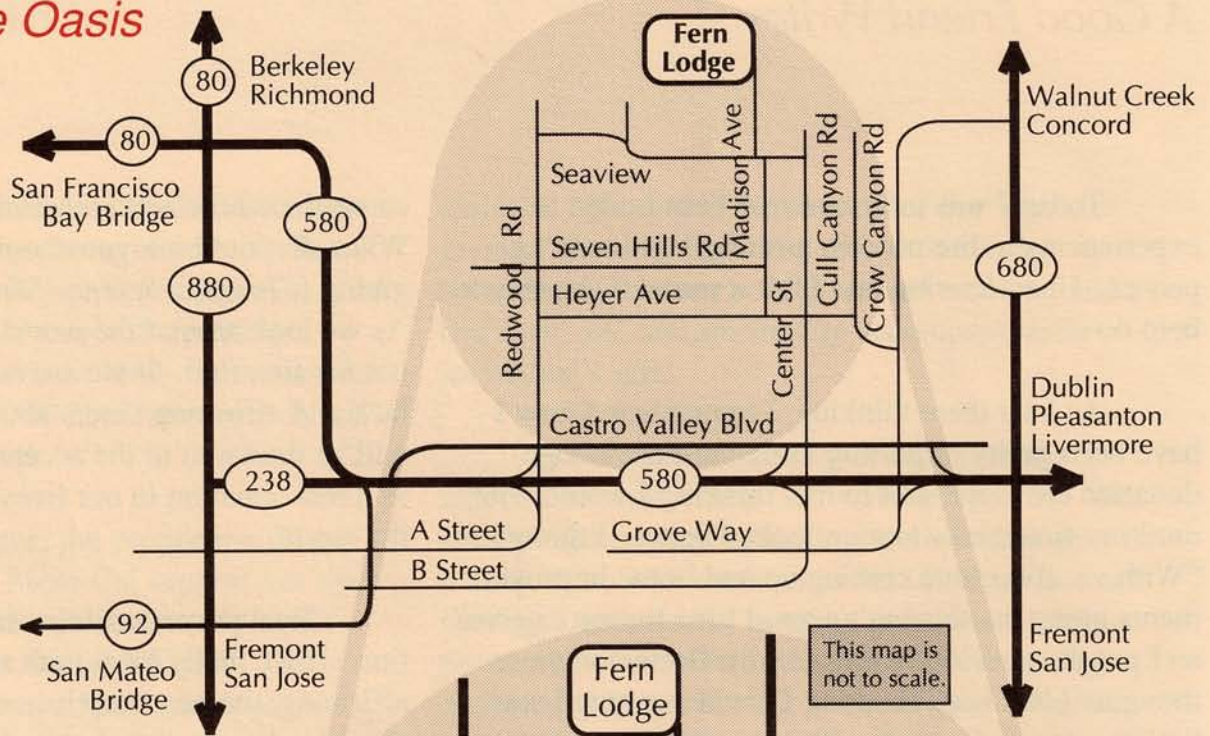
We must all be paid for our labors. I am heartened to know that my financial gift will contribute to the labors of love constantly being performed at Fern Lodge.

Thank you all.

Lovingly,

JoAnn Goitia

Directions to the Oasis



Where do I park my camel?

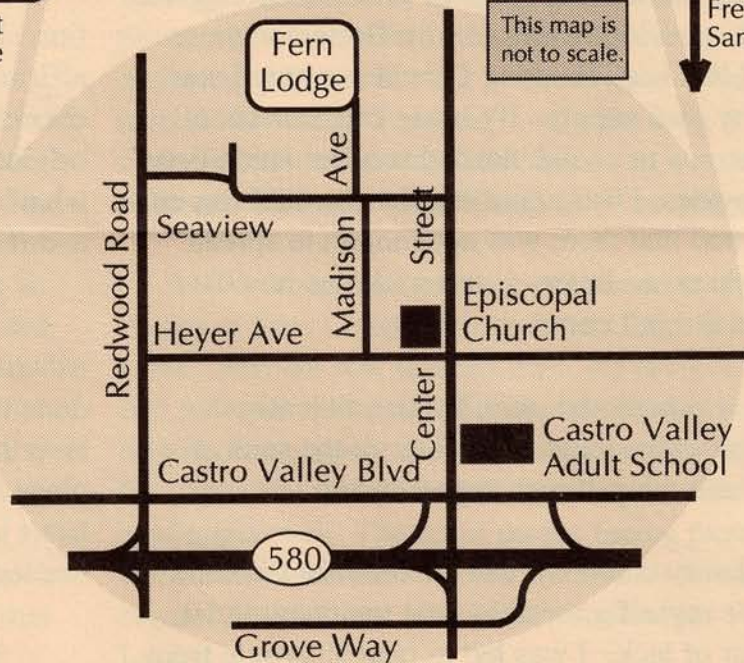
Because of limited parking at Fern Lodge a van shuttle service will whisk you from your camel to our tent seating at Fern Lodge and back again after your visit.

Please arrive early so you don't miss any of the program.

Parking Locations:

Castro Valley Adult School — Corner of Center Street and Paradise Knoll

Episcopal Church — Corner of Center Street and Heyer Avenue



Edwin Leever — Some Background

Mr. Leever has been a Journal-listed practitioner for the last 25 years. He also served for ten years on the Board of Lectureship from 1977 to 1987. Mr. Leever has written several articles for the periodicals. They have been published since 1963. He is looking forward to speaking to us on September 17th.