

A MONTHLY
PUBLICATION OF
RESIDENTS AND
ADMINISTRATION



NEWS

November 2008

'60TH ANNUAL PILGRIM FESTIVAL = FRIDAY & SATURDAY, NOV 14 & 15

Fifty-nine years ago a group of Pilgrim Place residents thought it would be a good idea to invite the Claremont community to come for "tea and a tour" and let them see and know what Pilgrim Place was all about. Some of the folks had been working on crafts and thought these could be displayed and, perhaps, even sold!

The tour included visiting homes of residents, as well as campus buildings. Lots of "goodies" were prepared and the event was so successful it was decided to repeat it the next year. Thus, THE FESTIVAL was born.

November 14 and 15 will mark the 60th annual Pilgrim Place Festival. Each year it has grown. New things are added; others are put to rest. But the basic purpose remains largely the same: to invite the wider community in. Sometimes we become so engaged in increasing the income that we forget the "why." So, keep in mind that we are hosting a big welcome to our community.

Each Festival is different and this one will be more so. Whether or not the construction fence around the Norton Garden expansion is up, we Pilgrims will be called upon many times to interpret what's happening. The attitude we display in these explanations will play a large role in how our visitors react.

One thing we've tried to do in relocating booth spaces is to group types of activities. For instance, Pilgrim crafts will be on Mayflower from the information booth toward Harrison. Children's activities will start inside the 8th Street Mayflower gate and continue down Alden Road. Even though there will be "You Are Here" maps near each campus entrance, it will be helpful if you have one of the small maps (available at the information stand and each gate) with you to show visitors where booths and activities are located.

Pilgrim Bucks may be purchased in the office using your credit card. These Bucks are usable at any booth or activity and Residents may buy them from 9:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. on either Festival day.

The Festival is one of the primary "glues" that keep our unique community together. New relationships are formed throughout the year as we work in various areas. The income produced (over \$60,000 has come in during the year) goes a long way in making it possible for each of us to live on despite financial circumstances. So, let us welcome our guests with smiles and joy worthy of the glad good news we share.

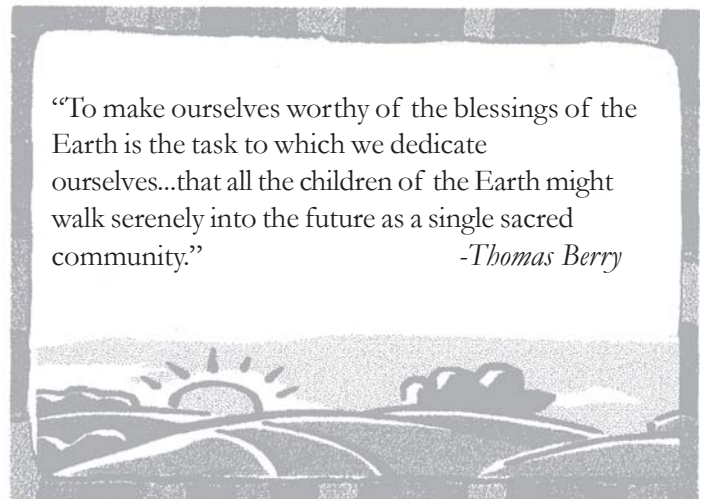
Have a great time!

-Byron Light, Chair

FESTIVAL PREVIEW

On Saturday, November 8 at 7:00 p.m. in Decker Hall, Scooby Club will host the popular "Festival Show & Tell." Various Festival booth operators will display and describe a few of their selected creations and products before they all get sold, hopefully the first Festival hour. Pilgrims who are too busy with their own responsibilities get to enjoy the efforts of their friends. The video projector will display live close-ups of what is described. There will be no selling at this event. For an extra hoot, some "Vintage Clothing" may be modeled. Participating booths should pre-reserve a space and time slot with Donna Danielson or Gene Boutilier.

"To make ourselves worthy of the blessings of the Earth is the task to which we dedicate ourselves...that all the children of the Earth might walk serenely into the future as a single sacred community."
-Thomas Berry



IN MEMORY OF BESSIE CLAPP

Bill Cunitz recently gave residents a detailed update on the Administration Building /Norton Garden Apartments project, including plans for a high construction fence to be in place before Festival begins. When power point projections of architectural drawings indicated that the proposed fence would completely remove the Clapp Memorial Green from view—from the street and from homes nearby—one of the residents decided that a nightly vigil on the Green was now in order. That night, she and another resident met on the Green with cell phones in hand and called other nearby neighbors to invite them to the Green to celebrate the gift of Bessie Clapp (see article below) and to enjoy the gift as long as time remains. The following night, and every night since, residents have gathered on Clapp Memorial Green, sharing refreshments and spirited fellowship in gratitude for Bessie Clapp. The vigil has been, literally, a “grass roots” movement, one friend inviting another—with the understanding that anyone in the community is welcome to stop by—residents and staff alike. One of the underlying principles of the movement is that it be un-official, without committees, without announcements or publicity, and without an agenda. The vigil lasts from 5:00 to 6:00 nightly; final vigil will be held Thursday, October 30.

NOTES FROM ARCHIVES

“Bessie Clapp, who died in 1984, left Pilgrim Place all her personal property, which filled two moving vans. It was catalogued, priced and sold by residents to benefit the Festival (and the Residents’ Health & Support Program). In addition, Pilgrim Place’s share of her estate was almost \$90,000.

Bessie and her husband Charles came to Claremont in 1957 and lived at Claremont Manor. Charles made his living in agriculture in the Visalia area, growing acres of grapes. Business flourished.

The bequest was a memorial to Charles and Bessie, made tangible in the naming of a significant area on the grounds—the “The Green” park and recreation area now known as “Clapp Green.” Other important projects made possible from this estate were Pitzer North landscaping, Pitzer South H/AC, and Abernethy public address system.

Charles and Bessie Clapp are symbols of the love and devotion which helped Pilgrim Place come into existence and will continue to nurture it through the years to come.”

-Worth George, Director’s Dialogue, 1985

[Worth George was Executive Director of Pilgrim Place, 1973-1998]

MySpace.mod

Advent is coming a month early this year, it seems. Usually we have passed by the excitement of Festival and the joy of Thanksgiving before we focus liturgically on the darkness of our world and the expectant, hopeful waiting of the people of God for light and redemption.

At the time of the writing of this column, the community seems to be in full waiting mode and sharply aware of the darkness. After the shock of the stock market cascade, we are waiting to see how our investments and pensions will fare and what resources can be found for those who live on the economic edge around the world. We are waiting for news on peace negotiations that struggle along. As citizens we are waiting for a significant election and wondering how its outcome will change our lives and fortunes, the social climate of our nation, and the life of the global community. Here at home we are waiting for the word on when the construction will begin and how it will affect our daily routine.

Pilgrims don’t just wait, however. We go on working with hope, guided by a vision of the better world for which we are waiting. There’s urgent work to be done with the homeless and hungry at the Beta Center, with the campaigns and the polls, with the schoolchildren and international students who need tutoring, with Habitat for Humanity. And of course with Festival!

Festival always seems to me a small miracle. Our modest community, bolstered by over a thousand townspeople who cheerfully volunteer to help year after year, hosts visitors by the thousands, sharing something of the wonderful life of our community, having fun with our neighbors, and also replenishing the funds needed to be sure all of us can pay our bills. It takes a special kind of solidarity for us all to work throughout the year, and especially through those two extraordinarily intense days of Festival, never knowing by name those whom our work will benefit. We do know that we must stand together when anyone in the community has hard times. This year as economic worries rise, the miracle of Festival is all the more a powerful symbol of solidarity and a glimpse of the better world for which we wait and hope.

So though we seem to be thrust this year too early into waiting in the darkness of Advent, let’s savor the miracle of Festival even when we’re tired and our feet hurt. Let’s remember the Advent hope in the midst of our waiting. And let’s celebrate a joyful Thanksgiving surrounded richly by friends, aware of so many blessings even when our world seems “out of joint.”

- Jane Douglass,

Moderator of Town Meeting

Considerations from the CEO

What Color is Our Parachute?

I remember the first time I picked up Richard Bolle's and John Nelson's **WHAT COLOR IS YOUR PARACHUTE?** It was 1986 and I was feeling stuck with my career choices and needed a resource to do some serious life/work-planning. As one of the best-selling books of its kind over the next three decades, it's obvious that I wasn't alone in my searching.

I experienced a sense of déjà-vu when I discovered that the book had been adapted and updated for my baby-boom generation to help us consider how to move from work-planning to retirement-planning. Thumbing through its pages, I was intrigued to discover that many of the author's retirement perspectives were actually modeled on the culture of Pilgrim Place! Let me explain.

Bolle and Nelson contend that the original idea of retirement was created for people who were worn-out cogs of the industrial revolution. Most of them weren't in the greatest physical shape when they retired, and they probably weren't going to live that much longer anyway. So, retirement was based purely on the notion of leisure. But things are very different now, in case you haven't noticed. As we get to the latter part of our careers in the 21st Century, we may be burned out, but probably not worn out. I don't care how tired you are, leisure is not a valid prescription for the next 25-30 years! Today, one's retirement date is more of a mid-point and not a finish line. Retirement planning needs instead to focus on what we're retiring to....rather than what we're retiring from.

This is where Pilgrim Place comes in. Few communities celebrate the notion of *retiring to something* as effectively. We're a lifestyle destination, not a fall-back option to address a medical or family crisis. It's reflected in the vitality and dramatically lower age (69) of our entering residents.

Most demonstrate a vigor that encourages community members of all ages to continue embracing new experiences, opportunities and avocations. Such engagement or positive challenge is truly the path to well-being at Pilgrim Place. It's the kind of fulfillment or wellness that comes from work we love, whether it's paid or unpaid, that goes beyond simple leisure activities. When meaning or purpose is added to the mix, being in service to something greater than ourselves, lives are transformed. Even in retirement....especially in retirement! Pilgrim Place gives people a chance to consider their lives in a fully integrated way, blending skill, purpose and meaning.

As we live into this tumultuous new century, Pilgrim Place's model for "retirement" has become our distinctive niche in an increasingly complex set of options for those approaching this phase of life. *Retiring to something at Pilgrim Place* offers extraordinary value even in challenging financial times such as these and a magnificent context for unfurling our collective parachutes. - Bill Cunitz

President/CEO

A LIFE-TIME OF STEADY INCOME

Charitable gift annuities are a good option if you are looking to supplement your income with fixed payments for the remainder of your life. You will also receive immediate savings on income taxes. And an additional benefit of the annual annuity payment is that a portion of it is tax-free. A planned gift is a sound investment for retirement income!

If you want to know more about the benefits of a charitable gift annuity and the potential income you would receive, call the development office (909) 399-5511 and ask for Joyce or Susan.

RESIDENTS' ANNUAL GIVING

Cash received:	\$164,045.75
Pledges outstanding:	\$38,180.50
Total:	\$202,226.25

Units contributing: 155 and 7 who have made pledges and have not paid, for a total of 162.

NEWER RESIDENT ORIENTATION

The fourth session of the Newer Resident Orientation Program will be held Thursday, November 6, 4:00-5:30 p.m. in the Jeanne Biane Room at the Health Services Center. This program will focus on wellness opportunities and levels of care available to Pilgrim Place residents. Leadership includes Margaret Porter, Tom Carlin, Judy Garcia, Yolanda Resurreccion, Liz Kelly, and Sharon Berry. To assist in room arrangements, participants are asked to RSVP by Monday, November 3 to Janet Cromwell at 909-399-5504 or jcromwell@pilgrimplace.org.

PATIENT ADVOCATES PROGRAM EXPORTED

Each Monday afternoon from September 22 to October 27, Donna Ambrogi and John Denham trained eighteen persons to be "patient advocates" at Mt. San Antonio Gardens. Incorporating new experiential training sessions, the six-sessions program was sponsored by Pilgrim Place Resourcing Services and The Gardens Residents' Health Services Committee. Three residents from here took part.

Assisting John and Donna were several of our experienced patient advocates: Teresa Wilson, Judy Wallace, Barbara Troxell, Eleanor Loeliger, Carolyn Francis, Joan Forsberg, Wally Brownlee, Gail Duggan, Suzanne Brown, Emilie Ballard, and Ruth Auld.

Pilgrim Place's patient advocates assist many persons in independent and assisted living to use doctors and other medical services more carefully and comprehensively. To get an advocate to assist you, or to find out about being trained as an advocate, contact Donna Ambrogi. To find out more about Pilgrim Place Resourcing Services, contact Janet or Ron Evans.

-John Denham

NEWPORT HARBOR CHRISTMAS • \$79

Here is a beloved holiday tradition with a brand new twist! On Wednesday, December 17, about 2:20 p.m. after our mid-day meal and a bit of a rest, we will depart for the Newport Beach Christmas Boat Parade. *But* before we join the parade we will watch the sun set at the historic Pavilion at the Fun Zone on the Balboa Peninsula. The Pavilion's Haborside Restaurant offers us a choice of three entrees—Orange Coconut Crusted Salmon, Yankee Pot Roast, or Artichoke Chicken (there is also a vegetarian option that can be made especially for you with advance notice). After that memorable dinner, we will step outside the Pavilion and onto our tour boat. We will cruise the calm waters alongside hundreds of gaily lit pleasure boats and gawk at the exquisite waterfront homes all decked out for the holidays. All this and home by 8:30 p.m. with visions of sugarplums dancing in our eyes!

-Jeanne Halverson & Dale Morgan

About Pilgrims

Jim Robinson delivers a lecture, "The Nag Hammadi Story in Fotos," in the Library of Institute for Antiquity and Christianity on Thursday, November 6. This is a public presentation of 60 fotos of Nag Hammadi manuscript story, from discovery in 1945 to final publication in 1977.

Bill Moremen performed the wedding of **Sylvia Shen's** son Kairos, at famous MIT chapel in Cambridge, MA. Kairos was featured on the cover of the Boston Globe Sunday Magazine as Boston's new chief city planner, charged with responsibility for future vision of Boston. Shen credits his exposure to architecture of Hong Kong for developing his eye for design.

Genie Holmes came in first place for women 65+ in the "Megan Savage Memorial 5K Run for a Cure" in Upland ... and is now in training with San Gabriel Valley Marathon Program to run/walk in Santa Barbara Hall Marathon for Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. She will be honoring Richard Harris and friends back East in her fund raising.

Thanks

In early September, I had major surgery on my right shoulder and want to thank my Pilgrim Place friends and neighbors who have been so caring in visiting me and sending me very thoughtful cards and best wishes for a speedy recovery. Knowing that my recovery will take awhile, I am very grateful indeed to all who have been completely gracious, thoughtful and supportive. *-Ed Yonan*

Just a word to thank everyone for their concern about my health in Sept./Oct. and to say I put a description of my experience in the prayer book in the Garden Lounge. Thanks! *-Leo D. Nieto*

Thank you so much for the wonderful and kind things you did for my retirement! The cards, notes were so precious! What a caring group you are. *-Mary Lambert*

IN REMEMBRANCE

Margery McWilliams

October 10

Entered Pilgrim Place 1993

As I See It

*A supplement for Pilgrim Place NEWS
for expression of mind and heart offered
for common thought.*

What Were the Pilgrims Really After?

There is a lot of pious sentimentality surrounding the happy Pilgrims-Indian Thanksgiving celebration in the Plymouth colony in 1621. The history books usually say they crossed the Atlantic to worship God as they pleased. All of this may be true, but it's only a small part of the record.

One must ask of the Pilgrim story, what else is also true?

It is difficult to swallow the proposition that intelligent people, however devoted, would give up everything, risk the lives of their families, endure the terror of an angry ocean for two seasick months, eat hardtack on a freighter that had no passenger facilities, and fling themselves into a frightening wilderness in the wintertime with no survival skills—all in order to sing from hymn books of their own choosing and decide for themselves how the pews should be arranged.

Another look at the record shows something more. What they were really out for was a new and different way of life, nothing short of building a new type of society, liberated from the shackles of the old world, free to form something never before seen.

True they were tainted with the accepted colonial mores of the day that held that any European going anywhere in the world owned the real estate they landed on.

But looking beyond that, their Mayflower Compact for self-government, forerunner of the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution, was not a fluke. While still anchored in the harbor at Cape Cod, they signed a covenant pledging that the purpose of their venture was four-fold. It was to be:

- (1) for the glory of God and the advancement of the Christian faith;
- (2) to covenant and combine ourselves together into a civil body politic, for our better ordering and preservation;
- (3) to enact just and equal laws;
- (4) to promise all due submission and obedience.

They may not have been fully aware of the historic implication. But John Adams 150 years later was to say that whereas every other band coming from the old world to the new relied for their authority on a royal charter, this one relied for theirs on a social compact made with each other. It was America's first written constitution.

For them religious freedom was not an end. It was the engine for political transformation.

It was their Moses, John Robinson, who like the Moses of old did not reach the Promised Land, who challenged the Pilgrims before they launched forth:

“Will you be content,” he asked, “to go down to your graves with your witness undelivered and your bravest hopes unattempted? Or will you risk something, nay everything, to translate your theories of Christian freedom into a veritable free society?”

Religious freedom for them was not an end. It was a means of building a new world. You could make a good argument that they succeeded.

-T. Willard Hunter

Calendar

Sunday, November 2

10:15 am **Health Center Worship**
Leader: Judy Chatfield
Pianist: Halee Spriggins
Soloists: Don & Judy Chatfield

Tuesday, November 4-11-18-25

11:30 am A Eucharistic Circle Forms/Scrooby

Thursday, November 6

4:00 pm **Newer Resident Orientation •**
7:00 pm **Vespers - Holden Evening Prayer**

Saturday, November 8

7:00 pm **Festival Preview •**

Sunday, November 9

10:15 am **Health Center Worship**
Leader: Gordon Winsor
Pianist: Cathy Thompson
Music: Ruth Brown

Wednesday, November 12

10:00 am **School Performances of Drama**

Thursday, November 13

7:00 pm **Festival Vespers**
Leader: Byron Light
Abernethy Dining Room

Friday, November 14

10:00 am- **Pilgrim Festival**
4:00 pm
4:15- **Pilgrim Kin Reception**
6:30 pm Scrooby Lounge

Saturday, November 15

10:00 am- **Pilgrim Festival**
4:00 pm

Sunday, November 16

10:15 am **Health Center Worship**
Leader: Jim Fiske
Pianist: Peggy Wallace
Music: Judy Fiske

Thursday, November 20

1:30 pm **Copy deadline for December NEWS**

7:00 pm **Vespers**
Leader: Ward McAfee
Musician: Mary Hornberger

7:40 pm **Dickinson Conversation/Scrooby**

Sunday, November 23

10:15 am **Health Center Worship**
Leader: Barrie Gray
Pianist: Ann Gray
Music: Constance Waddell

Thursday, November 27 - Office Closed

No Vespers

Friday, November 28 - Office Closed

Sunday, November 30

10:15 am **Health Center Worship**
Leader: Howard Rice
Pianist: Eleanor Dornon
Soloist: Becky Dornon

HSC CHAPLAINS

Jim & Judy Fiske

NOVEMBER GUEST ROOMS

Primary / Eleonore Powell / 621-9369

Back-Up / Carolyn Loper / 625-4882

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