



The Circuit Rider

Life in the Big Bend Episcopal Mission – November 2003

Big Bend Youth Club Hosts Halloween Bash



On Friday night, October 24th, 2003, the Big Bend Youth Club dared the ghosts and goblins of Halloween to appear. Community members, old and young, came to see what the new youth club is all about. The daring in the crowd paid 50 cents to enter the "Spook House" and to be ushered from room to room through a chamber of horrors. The less adventurous contented themselves with munching on snacks to fit the occasion. Punch with floating eyeballs, "spider" shaped cookies, and "slinky, slimy" worms were on the menu. A dance started at 8 o'clock and went until the "witching" hour.

Members at the South Brewster County Youth Activities Center have decided to call their operation the Big Bend Youth Club. As Beth Garcia says: "I told

them it is their center, and they should make decisions like that."



Inside this Issue

- Bishop Calls for Election
- Otra Vez "Staging Area"
- Convocation Delegates
- Bible Quiz Answers
- and more...

Deanna Bowling

Since the late 90's, Deanna Bowling has played the organ at St. James', Alpine. Deanna, originally from Roanoke, VA, is



retired from social work and nursing. She lived in San Antonio for 19 years and spent 4½ years in the Order of St. Helena.

Deanna now lives in Terlingua. She is a "physical fitness freak" and helps out with the Terlingua Community Choir and Girl Scouts.

Deanna had a "life changing experience" walking the Camino de Santiago in France and Spain (see *Circuit Rider*, July & August 2003). Next spring, she plans to walk the Ruta del la Plata, from Seville to Santiago, about 600 miles. She is supported by her friend Bill, who "puts up with all my nonsense and is an absolute angel."

Deanna has two sons, a daughter, and two grandchildren, all living in Texas. She loves to read, hike, play the piano, and work in her "minimalist yard." She says that living in Terlingua has created a "special place in my heart for the HEB."

Elaine Ponton to be Ordained Priest

The Rev. Elaine Ponton will be ordained to the sacred order of priests by The Rt. Rev. Dr. Terence Kelshaw, Bishop of the Diocese of the Rio Grande, Sunday, November 2, 2003, at St. James' Church, Alpine. The service will be followed by a light lunch in the parish hall.



Change in Schedule for Bishop Kelshaw's Visit

St. James', Alpine, Service of Ordination, 11:00am, Sunday, November 2, 2003
St. Paul's, Marfa, Service of Confirmation, 4:00pm, Sunday, November 2, 2003

These will be the ONLY services in the Big Bend Mission that weekend!

Bishop Kelshaw to Confirm Five in the Big Bend Mission



There will be a service of Confirmation at St. Paul's Church, Marfa, 4:00pm, Sunday, November 2nd. Those being confirmed are (left to right) Gene West, Shere Whitley, Ken Whitley, Carol Livingston, and Evelyn Luciani.

Maxine Haislip in Her "Staging Area"

The Big Bend Mission Otra Vez Thrift Store is open on Saturdays every week, but Maxine Haislip spends some time most



every day in her "staging area" readying the donations that many of you have provided for the store. The overwhelming success of the store is due in large part to Maxine's dedication and hard work. She is a consummate display artist and natural sales person. Thank you Maxine!!

Bishop Kelshaw Calls for Election of "Coadjutor"

Our diocesan bishop, Bishop Kelshaw, shown below with his wife Hazel, has called for the election of a bishop coadjutor in the Diocese of the Rio Grande. A



bishop coadjutor shares the responsibilities of the diocesan bishop and is generally elected when the diocesan bishop is anticipating retirement. When the diocesan bishop retires, the bishop coadjutor becomes diocesan bishop without any further electoral process. A search committee will present nominations, and the election will take place in the Fall of 2004.

Delegates Attend Diocesan Convocation

The annual Diocesan Convocation was held in Albuquerque in October. Our clergy delegates, lay delegates, and spouses in attendance were (left to right) The Rev. Elaine



Ponton, The Rev. Judith Burgess, The Rev. Jack Murray, Greta Murray, Judy and Jack Probst, Gene and Aurie West, and Charlotte Harris. For information on the actions and resolutions of Convocation, talk to one of these people.

Do We Have Your Correct Information?

Work on the new Big Bend Mission Directory continues. Have you been to the Big Bend Mission web site at www.bigbendepiscopalmission.org and clicked on "Directory of Members and Friends"? Please let us know if we need to change or add to your listing. If we don't have your photo, we would be happy to take one for you, or please send us one.



Last Month's Question: How does sin have power over us?

Answer: Sin has power over us because we lose our liberty when our relationship with God is distorted.

This Month's Question: Why are infants baptized?



Hard Questions

What should we do if we have questions about our faith? Questions are an integral part of the journey of faith. Even the Apostles had questions and doubts about Jesus and their own ideas about the way things should be done. They told Him not to go to Jerusalem when they thought it was too dangerous. They tried to get Him to send the crowds away when they thought there was not enough food to go around. They were upset when "unauthorized" people were doing things in His name. In every case, Jesus addressed their doubts and answered their questions in ways they could not possibly have imagined. His perspective was wider than theirs then, and it is wider than ours today. Questions and doubts are part of the journey of faith. Jesus answers many of ours in ways we cannot imagine. We need only be patient while His answers unfold. — Seth



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Answers to the BIBLE QUIZ

There are thirty books of the Bible in this paragraph. Can you find them? This is a most remarkable puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket, on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, keeping him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much, he passed it on to some friends. One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his John boat. Another friend studied it while playing his banjo. Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column. Another friend judges the job of solving this puzzle so involving, she brews a cup of tea to help her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot, that's a fact. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalized. Truthfully, from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar to see some of them at the worst. Research has shown that something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in this paragraph. During a recent fund raising event, which featured this puzzle, the Alpha Delta Phi lemonade booth set a new sales record. The local paper, the Chronicle, surveyed over 200 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As Daniel Humana humbly puts it, "the books are all right here in plain view hidden from sight." Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations from those who have to be shown. One revelation that may help is that books like Timothy and Samuel may occur without their numbers. Also, keep in mind, that punctuation and spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mad exodus there really are 30 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this paragraph waiting to be found. God bless.

Behind the Scenes



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