



# The Circuit Rider

Life in the Big Bend Episcopal Mission – October 2003

## South Brewster County Youth Center Takes Off!

Thanks to the extraordinary efforts of Beth Garcia, the South Brewster County Youth Activities Center is a reality. Funding and support continue to come in part from Big Bend Mission members and proceeds of the Big Bend Mission Otra Vez Thrift Store.



The center is currently open from 4-10pm Wednesday through Saturday. Participants are mostly Junior High students. Attendance has ranged from just a few to over 20 kids a day. Activities have included decorating the center, playing games, and talking about



fund raising and the future. Look at the box below for ways you can help.

## Sponsorship Opportunities at the South Brewster Co. Youth Center

- **Ministry and Media**, lessons using contemporary films and music -- \$29.95/year
- **Understanding Your Teenager**, for parents and youth leaders -- CD and workbook \$25.00
- **Junior High Ministry** -- \$13.99 and **Family Based Youth Ministry** -- \$13.99
- **The Best of Play It**, non-violent games with a lesson in them -- \$12.99
- **Hot Illustrations for Youth Talks**, stories, parables, fables, etc. -- 4 CD's \$44.99
- Great Graphics for use with youth: **Wild Calendars** -- \$55.00, **Camp Cuts** -- \$35.00, **Gargantuan Grab Bag of Icons** -- \$35.00, **Way Off the Wall** -- \$35.00, **Artsource** -- \$65.00, and **Cattitudes** -- \$35.00

To sponsor one or more of these items, send your tax deductible contribution to: South Brewster Development Corporation, P.O. Box 421, Terlingua, Texas 79852.

**Listen to what Beth has to say...** "What I am seeing in these kids is that their parents don't have much time for them and seem a little afraid of them! I think it's the music, their love of violence and ugly talk, etc. With the Hispanic parents, I think they feel separated by the fact that their children are American in speech, music, and unfortunately, values. I long to bring parents and kids together. These kids are wonderful and their parents are mostly missing out!"

## Inside this Issue

- **Mission Directory goes On-line**
- **Word from the Sudan**
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## Bill Smith... Music to Our Ears

Bill Smith has been an organist for us at St. James' since 1992 and St. Paul's since 1996. He was born in Alpine and reared in Marathon. His childhood home is now the present-day Gage Hotel's Café Cenizo.

Bill worked 25 years for Wicks Organ Company of Highland, Illinois as a pipe voicer and serviceman and for Rogers Organ Company of Portland, Oregon heading up their Texas installation team. He has been organist at First Baptist in Waco and Second Baptist in Houston. He went back to school in 1989 to get his teaching cer-



tificate, followed by a Master of Education in Reading in 1993, so he would have less time away from his family.

Bill is currently the Technology Coordinator for Terrell County ISD and teaches Junior High Science and Computer in Sanderson. He and his wife Gail met at Sul Ross State University over 30 years ago. The Smiths have 5 children, three of which are currently attending Sul Ross. Bill collects old toy trains and would like to build a pipe organ in his home.

## Vicar Went to Jail!

On September 23, 2003 Judy "went to jail" for the benefit of the West Texas and Southern New Mexico Chapter of the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). Her incarceration raised \$750.00 to benefit MDA's local health care service program and worldwide research efforts. Many thanks to all who made donations.



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**MDA**  
**LOCK-UP**

## Mission Directory Goes On-Line

The Big Bend Mission directory of members and friends is changing. Photos are being added to the list of names and addresses, and the directory will now be available at the Big Bend Mission web site. Printed copies will also be available at a later date. To find the directory, go to the Big Bend Episcopal Mission web site at [www.bigbendepiscopalmission.org](http://www.bigbendepiscopalmission.org) and click on "Directory of Members and Friends."

Big Bend Mission Directory September 15, 2003

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Please review your individual listing and let us know if we need to add or change anything. If we do not have your photo, we would be happy to take one for you, or you may provide one. If you are not on the list, please contact us and give us your information.

## Elaine Ponton to be Ordained to the Priesthood



Bishop Kelshaw will ordain The Rev. Elaine Ponton to the Priesthood on Sunday, November 9th at St. James', Alpine. The service will begin at 11:00am and will be followed by a reception and lunch in the parish hall.

## Origins and Structure of the Bible and the Prayer Book

Classes on the origins and structure of the Bible and the Prayer Book are taking place around the Mission. The Lajitas congregation is meeting after the 9am Sunday service at the home of Billy and Elle Webb. Classes at St. Paul's will be on Tuesday, September 30th and Tuesday, October 7th at 7pm. No previous reading is required. Attend any or all sessions as you choose.

## Ice Cream Social Brings in the Community



**Last Month's Question:** What is sin?

**Answer:** Sin is the seeking of our own will instead of the will of God, thus distorting our relationship with God, with other people, and with all creation.

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

## Word from the Sudan

Ambrose Kambaya of the diocese of Lui in Sudan writes to thank us for our donation earlier this year and with news of Wandj Parish: "Rev. Allison is planning for the dry season and is struggling to make bricks and collect stones for construction in his Parish. Spiritually, the congregation is progressing well. They have decided to organize Convention next year, most likely in February. In October they will meet as a committee to chart a way forward for this undertaking. It is a program of evangelization which our people still need. Because of the war effect, people tend to ignore God and try to look for survival means. We have organized a development workshop for November 2003, and by next year we will be able to send to our partners concrete development plans for all the Parishes including Wandj. But as of now, Wandj Parish is involved in brick making and stone collection. They would appreciate if you could support with purchase of corrugated iron sheets of about 200 pieces."



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The Big Bend Episcopal Mission  
[www.bigbendepiscopalmission.org](http://www.bigbendepiscopalmission.org)

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## 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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