

Mike McDaniel, President Larry Powers, Recording Secretary Volume 1, No. 2

Laborers Together Newsletter

Memphis School of Preaching Alumni Association

"For we are laborers together with God. . ." (1 Cor. 3:9)

> Skip Andrews, Vice President Keith A. Mosher Sr., Treasurer June, 2006

Notes Of Appreciation Received Mike McDaniel

During our annual alumni association dinner, we honored brother Anthony Hixson with the Alumnus of the Year award. He wrote the following to the alumni association: April 23, 2006

"I would like to express my sincere thanks to my fellow class mates of the MSOP who nominated me to the alumnus of the year. I deeply regret not being able to attend the Lectureship this year. I have always considered the award of the alumnus of the year to be one of great honor, and I also consider it to be one of which I am truly undeserving to have received. Nevertheless, thanks to all who thought of me to be worthy of such honor.

Anthony Hixson

Our Honorary Alumnus awards went to two very worthy recipients, brother B. J. Clarke and sister Joanne Bradshaw. Brother Clarke's remarks of gratitude were very touching. Sister Bradshaw was also deeply appreciative and wrote the following letter to each of our alumni:

April 7, 2006

My dear brothers,

I am humbled by the wonderful honor you have given me. Although undeserved, it is deeply appreciated. As you know, the school is dear to my heart, and association with it had been a great blessing. I am so grateful for the good men who have gone out, well prepared to "preach the word." This must continue.

That you have considered me for this special honor brings much joy. I shall try to live so as to reflect the confidence you have in me.

To each of you I give my sincere and genuine thanks. This is not adequate, but it is from the heart.

May God's fondest blessings be showered upon all of you.

Faithfully, Joanne Bradshaw

News About The MSOP Web-site Mike McDaniel

We have been working to make some improvements and updates to <u>www.msop.org</u>. Our thanks to brother Joey Davis for his good assistance as our webmaster. We want to encourage all of our alumni to book-mark the site as one of their favorites and to go to it regularly.

On the alumni page, we now have the new officers of the alumni association listed. One nice feature is that you can click on any of our names and send each of us an e-mail. Your e-mail will then be forwarded to our respective e-mail accounts.

Next you will see a list of documents. First is the *Laborers Together Newsletter*. When you select it, you will see our masthead and the issues that are available for viewing. Select one, and it will appear in the form of a pdf file. As I have said, this newsletter will be produced at my discretion as I have the time. However, if you suspect that I may have sent one and you failed to receive it for some reason, just go to the web-site and see if a new one has been posted there. This may also serve those who do not have a computer. They may go to their local library and print out their copy of this newsletter.

The next document is the Constitution and By-laws of the Alumni Association. Following this is our Alumnus of the Year Selection Criteria. This document has been updated to acknowledge that brother Rick Lawson is chairman of this committee and included are all the members of the committee which are the award recipients beginning with brother Melvin Hampton in 1989 and concluding with brother Anthony Hixson in 2006.

The last document in the list is the newest. It is entitled: the Distinguished

Alumnus Award Selection Criteria. This award will be bestowed for the first time next year. I encourage you to read the document and to compare the differences between its criteria and the criteria for the Alumnus of the year award.

The last thing on our alumni page is our Personal Information Update. This feature is very important as it serves as a fast and effective way for us to update our information. If either your address, phone number, or email address changes, you may call the MSOP office or you may go to this link and make the changes. I think it would be good for all alumni to do this just to make sure that the school has your correct information in advance of any Alumni Directory which may At the first mail-out of this be made. newsletter by e-mail attachment, some **eighty** e-mails were returned! This is caused by neglecting to notifying the school of your change of address. I want to ask each alumnus to please make sure your information is updated and tell other alumni to do the same.

If you speak to another alumnus who has e-mail and who desires to receive this newsletter but has not received it, there is a good possibility that I have an invalid address for them that is coming back to me each time I do a mail-out. Please have them e-mail me their correct e-mail address.

On the *Yokefellow* page, we now have the new masthead and the pdf of the March Issue which pertains to the new student apartments. We are making good progress toward the archiving of the *Yokefellow* in a smaller file that will be searchable.

One exciting addition is our new search engine. Notice the word "search" at

the bottom of the left hand column of the main page. This engine will search the entire web site. When the *Yokefellow* begins to be archived including issues from past years, this will make the web-site a great research destination for our alumni and others. Isn't that exciting? Bookmark <u>www.msop.org</u> because it will soon become a favorite!

Reminders To Our Alumni

We Need Your Dues!

As a member of the alumni association, you have honorary dues of \$25 that need to be sent to MSOP and directed to brother Keith Mosher who serves as our treasurer. Many have paid their dues but some have neglected to do so for whatever reason. This goes to our alumni fund and gives us the resources to do what is needed. Please send yours in today!

We Need Your Personal Illustrations!

Brother Russell Kline is assisting with a book project of sermon illustrations, based on the personal experiences of the graduates of the school. All alumni are encouraged to write down any anecdotes from their personal lives, which they have found useful in illustrating points of Scripture, and send them to him at 1810 Dundee Drive, Madisonville, Kentucky, 42431 or by e-mail at msop1989@yahoo.com.

We Need Your Brief Outlines!

Danny Butler is working on a book project involving brief outlines of 10 or 15 minutes in length for use in nursing homes or on Wednesday evenings. Send it to: Danny Butler, P.O. Box 112, Carbon Hill, AL 35549 or to jdb@sonet.net.

We Need Your News!

If you have a birth announcement, are moving, have had a death in the family, or have an interest in our prayers for someone in your family, please let us know.

We Need Your Prayers!

Please remember Tim (1997) and Dawn Wilkins, whose daughter, Robin, is hospitalized at LeBonheur Children's Hospital in Memphis. Brother Wilkins preaches for the Imboden, Arkansas Church of Christ.

A Request For Help From An Alumnus

Brother Douglas Hoff has written me the following note. I know nothing further, and if you are interested in helping the Hoff family, please contact them for further information.

Brother McDaniel:

Thank you for the newsletter. Yes, I have some news for an upcoming issue. A few months ago my wife (Linda) was diagnosed with a cancerous ovarian tumor. She had surgery April 13 and healed well. She starts chemotherapy May 17 and is currently scheduled for 6 treatments spaced 3 weeks apart. Unfortunately, we have no health insurance at present and the bills are overwhelming. We moved last November 16 and I had been looking into insurance but what I found initially was quite discouraging in terms of the cost and/or exclusions. Some said we were uninsurable because of existing health problems. Others told us it would be at least \$900 - \$1,100 per month. The church does not pay for insurance so I could not afford that. We had been here only a few months when we learned the bad news. We were still getting moved in and settled.

The hospital bill alone came to \$13,376. The tests (CAT scans, ultrasounds, blood, X-rays), lab fees and charges from the surgeon, radiologists, pathologists, anesthesiologists, etc. added about another \$10,000. The estimate for the chemotherapy

is about \$18,000 (excluding further tests and doctor visits). Is there any way you could publish this? Could the alumni association help with our financial needs? Any help, including prayers, is greatly appreciated. Douglas & Linda Hoff, (734) 782-9411 [home], 24735 Huron River Drive, Rockwood, MI 48173-9767. Flat Rock Church of Christ, (734) 782-2886 [office], P.O. Box 12, Flat Rock, MI 48134-0012.

Birth Announcements

Congratulations to **Jeff (2002) and Jennifer Collet,** upon the birth of their daughter, Nora Cathryn, born Friday, May 19. She was also welcomed by big sisters, Mackenzie and Larissa. Brother Collet preachers for the Crown Point, Indiana Church of Christ. Congratulations to **Patrick (1999) and Abby Morrison**, upon the birth of their son, Nathan Kade, born Wednesday, May 17. He was also welcomed by his siblings, Lydia and Noah. Brother Morrison preaches for the Cleveland Church of Christ in Bankston, Alabama.

Student Apartments

I don't know about you, but when I look at the blueprint on the next page, my imagination begins to wonder. Oh, wouldn't it have been nice if I could lived in these apartments in 1983-1985? Then, I look into the eyes of the first year students, and I consider the fact that, Lord willing, they will! What an exciting prospect that is. What a blessing that will be for them and their families.

It is one thing to be told that the apartments are being built. It is another to actually see the blueprints and how they will be constructed. Then a few days ago, I saw the dump trucks and the bulldozers working. Brethren, the work has begun! I ask, what can you do to help make it happen? Can you give? Can you ask the elders where you are located to consider it? What about other congregations in the area? Can you help to organize a dinner in your region where the need could be communicated? MSOP faculty members will be glad to assist in this endeavor if such would be possible in your area. They can make suggestions as to how to proceed.

Brother Cates mentioned several days ago that this was a dream of brother Roy J. Hearn but that it had been delayed due to the urgent need to move the congregation and school from Knight Arnold. How wonderful it is to see it finally come to fruition!

Blueprint Of Four Apartments In Unit A

