

ARMSS

Association of Retired Ministers, Their Spouses or Survivors

Quarterly Newsletter

April 2010

Volume 15, Issue 1

2010 ARMSS CONVENTION

Called to a Lifetime of Service -- God's Plan OR Ours

September 9-12, 2010

Bloomington, Minnesota

by Ellen Davis, Convention Chair

You won't want to miss the 14th annual convention of the Association of Retired Ministers, Their Spouses or Survivors being held at the **Ramada Mall of America in Bloomington, Minnesota September 9-12, 2010.** Our theme *Called to a Lifetime of Service --*



God's Plan OR Ours, focuses on the fact that God calls us not just for a portion of our lives but for the whole of our lives. Retirement does not mean the end of our call but a change in the way we hear our call. God calls us in many ways in retirement. Our worship, our plenary sessions, our workshops and our excursions, during our 2010 convention will explore ways in which we might hear anew God calling us to a lifetime of service. Informal conversations and gatherings will bring opportunities for members and friends of ARMSS to connect and re-

connect. And of course, you won't want to miss our Saturday evening banquet featuring entertainment by the Cedar Lake Seven, a mission of Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, singing gospel music of the 40's and 50's.



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ARMSS Quarterly Newsletter

This Newsletter is distributed quarterly by the Association of Retired Ministers, Their Spouses or Survivors.

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At this writing the following are workshop areas you might explore during our time together:

Voices Long Silenced: Who are the people in our communities and in our world who are not being heard? Or are they being heard in a new way? How might we be a part of ministry that responds to these “long silenced” voices?

- **New Immigrant Ministries** – A panel discussion moderated by the Rev. Kathleen Macosko of Stadium Village Presbyterian Church, Minneapolis and other members of the Minneapolis/St. Paul community who work with new immigrants will introduce you to the challenges as well as the successes of those moving into a new culture and a new language.
- **Service Learning as a Model for Ministry** – Elder Elona Street Stewart, Synod of Lakes and Prairies staff for Racial Ethnic Ministries and Community Empowerment, and other panel members involved in American Indian Service Learning will share their experiences in this innovative approach to sharing the Good News and developing intergenerational community service.
- **Ministry in a Multi-Cultural Church** – How does one guide a multi-ethnic congregation? How does the congregation worship? What gifts does it offer the larger Church? Members of the staff of Church of All Nations

(PCUSA) will explore these and other questions as they share the ministry of this unique congregation.

- **The Revitalization of an Older Congregation: The Kwanzaa Story** – Several years ago, a neighborhood church was graying and getting smaller and smaller while its neighborhood had become ethnically more diverse. Enter Kwanzaa. John Ivers, who was there at the beginning, and the Rev. Alika Galloway, co-pastor of Kwanzaa, will share the story of one community that embraced a new dynamic and has become a model for ministry in a changing neighborhood.

My Changing Call: Your spouse retired. What does that mean for your own ministry as a spouse? You’ve retired and you don’t know what’s next for you in your presbytery of retirement. What are your gifts and how might you use them? Or do you have new gifts emerging in retirement?

- **It’s My Call, Too** – In this workshop led by the Rev. Barbara Anne Keely, Director of Master Studies, Associate Professor of Christian Education and Congregational Spirituality at United Theological Seminary of the Twin cities, spouses, survivors and women clergy will explore issues of retirement unique to them. Do you ever feel that people expect something special from you? Do they fail to see you as a “regular” member of the congregation

who needs spiritual care, who needs to explore her faith as much as the next person in the pew? Where do we find our spiritual direction? How should we consider our own call in retirement?

- **Like Lambs into the Midst of Wolves** - A Bible study on our theme based on the Scriptures of Luke 9 - 10, led by the Rev. Cal Cooper, Director of Spiritual Care at Presbyterian Homes of Minnesota. Participants are encouraged to review Luke 9 - 10 in advance.
- **What’s in Your Clay Jar?** – An interactive discussion of gifts for ministry led by the Rev. James F. Reese, ARMSS past president, and Rev. Ken Smith, Chair of the Governing Body Network for ARMSS.

Exploring Ministry: Here’s your opportunity to see what’s happening in one metropolitan area. What might be the implications for where you live? How might ministry happen that reaches beyond the norm, beyond what has always been? Come with us to explore how ministry ideas become reality here in the Twin Cities area.

- **A daily opportunity for Presbytery and Synod ARMSS Representatives** to connect and share successes and challenges of connecting retirees, spouses and survivors with ARMSS moderated by Ken Smith, Governing Body Network Chair.

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- **A tour of one of the premier Presbyterian Homes Retirement Communities** including lunch and a presentation by Dan Lyn, CEO of Presbyterian Homes of Minnesota.
- **A tour of the Oliver Christian Center (PCUSA) and the Native American Center** including tours, presentations and lunch. Each of these nearby sites has evolved from the needs and vision of the community.
- **Conversations about Cuba** – Sharing among many who have traveled to Cuba in the past year. Discuss the latest in this ongoing ministry with the Matanzas Theological Seminary.
- **Our Annual Business Meeting** Saturday morning following the keynote presentation with election of officers and presentation of reports on the Cuba Mission projects.

And there’s more –

The Twin Cities have much more to offer. Stay an extra day or two and enjoy some of the following:

- **The Mall of America** – located next door to our hotel, is the largest indoor mall in the United States offering not only fine shopping and dining but one of the world’s only indoor amusement parks.
- **The Science Museum of Minnesota** – located in St. Paul overlooking the Mis-

issippi River, the museum is featuring the Dead Sea Scrolls and St. John’s Bible exhibits.

- **The James J. Hill House** – located in St. Paul, the James J. Hill house is the residence of the builder of the Great Northern Railway. Guided tours are available
- **Macalester College, our Presbyterian college in Minnesota** - boasting a beautiful campus, the college has a long history and offers a wide range of degrees. The chapel is especially beautiful and centrally located on the campus. This is a great walking campus.
- **Downtown Minneapolis** – a short train ride north of Bloomington you will find yourself immersed in the arts. The Minneapolis Institute of Arts and the Walker Museum of Art and Minnesota Sculpture Gardens are but two attractions you won’t want to miss.

Remember: You are God’s child called for a lifetime of service. Come, listen, pray, worship and celebrate that call with brothers and sisters from around the PCUSA September 9-12, 2010. If you aren’t currently a member of ARMSS, send in your dues and registration for this year’s gathering today. We’ll miss you if you don’t come!



Look for the Convention Registration form on page 9 of this newsletter to sign up today!

**AND FOR YOU
FIRST TIMERS...
JOHN RHEA SCHOLARSHIP**

John Rhea was instrumental in the development of ARMSS in 1997. John worked as a full-time volunteer retiree, on duty with the Older Adult Ministry Office, CMD and served as staff to the ARMSS Executive Committee. His guidance and continued dream helped develop ARMSS into the organization it is today.

Upon John’s death at the age of 92 in 2003, several members of ARMSS gave special donations in his name. The Executive Committee of ARMSS at that time decided to open a special John Rhea Scholarship Fund with the gifts, and to use the interest from the fund each year to provide convention registration scholarships for first time attendees who may have a financial need.

In recent years the fund has generated enough interest income to cover registration fees for one or two people. Last year when five requests for scholarships were submitted, an anonymous donor gave an extra gift to the fund to assure all five people were able to attend the convention.

This year once again interest generated from the John Rhea Scholarship Fund will be available to cover the registration fee for a limited number of first timers interested in attending the Convention in Bloomington. Please contact our Support Staff, Ginny, at: gnyhuis@verizon.net or by calling: 615-426-1545, for more information or to submit a name for scholarship consideration.



Bill Gannaway

A Message from the President of ARMSS

Our ARMSS Cuban Mission

A year ago, February 2009, thirteen members of ARMSS spent eleven days visiting Reformed/Presbyterian congregations, ecumenical centers, farms and the Matanzas Theological Seminary in Cuba. ARMSS has supported the "Cuba Connection" under the direction of the Rev. Dean Lewis as a mission focus for several years. The Reformed/Presbyterian Church of Cuba was formerly a member of the Synod of New Jersey in the United Presbyterian Church USA. The purpose of this trip was to establish a relationship with members of congregations, pastors, church leaders and the students and professors at the Matanzas Seminary. Due to the U.S. embargo, a relationship between US Presbyterians and Cuban Presbyterians has suffered.

When the ARMSS team visited the Matanzas Seminary, an obvious need confronted us when we visited the library. While most Presbyterian USA seminaries have from 200,000-500,000 volumes, the Matanzas library was woefully lacking in books and resources. Thirty or more years of being an atheistic state has taken its toll on congregations and especially the seminary; however, now that the transition has been made to a secular state, the Cuban Church has seen phenomenal growth in congregations and the need for new pastors and church leaders. The primary reason; however, for the lack of

books and resources for the library has been the U.S. embargo.

Dr. Bob Worley, a retired McCormick professor and member of our ARMSS team, developed a vision for ARMSS support of the seminary library with books and resources, computers and printers. Coordinating these plans with Dean Francisco Marrero of the seminary, Bob has researched the project and presented a plan to the 2009 ARMSS Convention in Tucson, Arizona last fall. Members of ARMSS approved the project and have responded generously. We have received a total of \$14,983.05 for the project to this date with another \$2,000 or more in pledges yet to be received. ARMSS member, Rev. David Cockcroft, who also made the trip to Cuba, secured a major gift of \$5,000 from a member of the Riverdale Presbyterian Church in Bronx, NY.

In October, 2009, ARMSS sent \$679.93 in digitized resources for the library. In January, the Rev. Dean Lewis took \$5,000 of ARMSS receipts to Matanzas to purchase three computers and a printer for students to use in the library. ARMSS still has another \$9,303.32 on hand to purchase more digitized resources, CDs and books. Bob is working with Wayne Bornholdt at International Book Charity compiling books to send to the library. Rev. John Sinclair, who is fluent in Spanish and a lecturer at Matanzas is helping in the oversight of our potential shipment of books to the library. We want to thank the members of ARMSS and all who are helping to fulfill this project for the Matanzas Seminary.

Another trip to Cuba is being planned with ARMSS members for November 4-15, 2010. This group will carry approximately 1,000 titles that are digitized and we will be working on shipping a large volume of books from International Book Charity. We should have enough money to send two more shipment of books; however, we will need additional funds for shipments in the future.

At this time, seventeen members have registered their "Declaration of Interest" to make the trip. This is about the maximum number who can travel to Cuba because of transportation limitations on buses we use in Cuba. If you wish to be on the "stand by" list, please register your intention with Dean Lewis via email at: deanlewis6299@windstream.net.

The cost of the trip will be approximately \$1,900 - \$2,000 and will cover all expenses from Miami including hotel costs there. Participants are responsible for travel to and from Miami. The "Declaration of Interest" should be filed with Dean before June 1, 2010 and the first payment is due July 15, 2010.

Our leaders for the trip will be Dean Lewis and the Rev. Muriel Miller an experienced Cuban hand, and chair of the Chicago Presbytery Cuban Work Group.

Bill Gannaway

*A person is not old
until regrets
take the place of dreams*

-- Unknown

WHY JOIN ARMSS?

by Ray Bayley

Nowhere does the Book of Order decree that the call to ministry is cancelled by retirement. The arenas of service may change, even drastically, but the call does not end. Just how does a retired minister continue answering the call? Clearly there are numerous constructive ways. Sometimes either or both the retiree and the presbytery hold the view that retirees, like children, are to be seen (though not too much) but not heard. Interim pastorates, drawing upon entire careers of experience and employing still vigorous preaching, can provide invaluable service. Judicious involvement in presbytery business can be of priceless value. But after forty years of leadership withdrawal is neither automatic nor easy. It is to be hoped that both presbyters and presbyteries recognize the propriety, experience, and continuing interests, talents, and energy, all founded on humble dedication to the spiritual health of the church of Jesus Christ.

Where does the Association of Retired Ministers, their Spouses or Survivors (ARMSS) enter the equation? ARMSS can foster clerical family fellowship and service apart from normal presbytery settings. Frequency of gatherings varies from monthly to annually to occasionally to never. ARMSS can provide information and inspiration, especially to the "never" areas, and channel exchange of ideas among the actively engaged. The most active can motivate the least active, and thereby become still more active in the process.

ARMSS conducts an annual convention. Friends from long ago separated by varying careers and locations catch up to each other. Projects of ministry to mission fields develop into productive travel.

ARMSS uniquely can alert all concerned to needs of peers who, whether by circumstance or choice, have become marginalized. Physical incapacitation may not have reduced interests; offers of transportation, or appropriate recognition may provide a welcome uplift. Most particularly widows may encounter isolation. Having moved to be near or with adult children they may be forgotten by their presbytery of service and are unknown by their presbytery of new residence.

It could be argued that all these things can be accomplished without a national organization, that presbyteries can and should do them. Indeed, some do effectively accomplish many of them on a routine basis. The fact is, however, that some do not, and all could improve. ARMSS is deliberate in action to alleviate such problems.

The crucial action point is with the ARMSS Presbytery Representative. The goal is to have one retiree member (or, in large presbyteries possibly several) who is the conduit between the national organization and the presbytery. The Presbytery Representative tells the national what they are doing, and hears back what others are doing.

ARMSS membership fee is designed to be affordable enough for most of the retired ministers and their spouses or survivors.

Except for a small part-time secretarial/editorial position all ARMSS work is volunteer. Of course there are expenses: newsletter printing and mailing, and executive and other committee meetings (mostly telephone conference) being most notable. Membership fees speak loudly: "I'm in favor of what you're doing!" For some the fee also will say; "I may attend a convention," or "I may volunteer some time and effort." But most clearly, "I'm in favor of what you're doing." Retirees can find personal satisfaction through participation in ARMSS functions and services. But even greater personal satisfaction can be derived from helping provide needed assistance to others. This almost sounds like answering the call to ministry.

For more information and updates, log on to the ARMSS website: www.pcusa.org/olderadults/armss

*"For age is opportunity no less.
Than youth itself,
though in another dress.*

*And as the evening twilight
fades away,
The sky is filled
with stars invisible by day."*

--Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

*I am careful not to confuse
excellence with perfection.
Excellence I can reach for;
perfection is God's business.*

-- Michael J. Fox

*** * * AN IMPORTANT
ANNOUNCEMENT
FROM THE
ARMSS EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE * * ***

FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

For the remainder of this year, ARMSS Newsletters will be sent only to people who have paid their dues to ARMSS, Presbytery Offices, and clergy who have retired within the past year. We regret that we have to make this change in publishing policy. In the past, we have sent the ARMSS Newsletter out to all 9,000 retired clergy, spouses and survivors. We have seen it as part of our ARMSS mission to keep in contact with these people. Some have said, "The Newsletter is the only contact we have with the church". We are also concerned about what this will do in terms of getting new members for ARMSS or attendance at the fall conventions.

The fact is that it costs ARMSS \$4,000 per publication or \$16,000 per year to carry out this publishing mission. We did not budget in 2010 for this Newsletter project at the Tucson Convention. The General Assembly Mission Council Louisville Office of Ministry Support said that they could publish the Newsletter for us; however, due to a cut back in funds at the national level, Ministry Support said that they could only help us with the 2,000 to be sent to dues paying members, presbytery offices, and newly retired clergy. We will want to re-evaluate this publishing policy at the Minneapolis Convention.

To continue your subscription, please send in your 2010 dues of \$20 per person to the ARMSS Treasurer, Rev. James Huffaker, 2613 Pine Manor Lane, Albany, GA 31707. You may also look for a copy of the ARMSS Newsletter on the General Assembly Mission Council website at: www.pcusa.org/olderadults/armss or, request a copy from our administrative support staff Ginny Nyhuis at: gnyhuis@verizon.net.

Please get your 2010 dues into Jim as soon as possible!

**WHY WE CHOSE TO
STAY IN OUR HOME**

submitted by Bob & Jean Duncan
Wichita, Kansas

Eighteen years after my retirement we realize, that for us, home ownership is a key to quality of life. Jean's mother was our inspiration and our role model. She managed to remain in her own home for all her 88 years. At the time I thought her stubborn; now I think her wise. With the proceeds from the sale of her house we built a house in Topeka in which we lived for eight years.

Ten years ago we decided to move to Wichita to be near family. Our present house, built in 1995, is smaller but meets our basic needs very well. There are two bedrooms, two baths, a semi-finished basement and a two-car garage. There is room for much of our favorite furniture and for memorabilia gathered over a lifetime.

The location is even more strategic than we first realized. Within

a few blocks are our church, a fire station, a supermarket and an Emergency Room. Within two miles are our health club and primary care physician. The senior couple who live across the street are good neighbors and friends. A sheriff's deputy lives next door. Our daughter and her family live a few miles away. This relationship has worked out well. We each live our own lives but they are here to help when needed. We have also been able to reciprocate. We enjoy being part of an extended family.

If all this sounds too rosy, we acknowledge that we are gradually reducing the number of our activities. Some simple house maintenance tasks become more difficult. Our life together continues to be very good and we are thankful to be in reasonably good health.

A child once said: "Fun is something you like to do that you can do."

**WHY WE CHOSE TO
LIVE IN A RETIREMENT
COMMUNITY**

submitted by Frank & Anita
Younkin
Glendale, Arizona

In this day and age the increased availability of Home Care makes it possible for retirees to remain in their own homes longer. Expenses can be less and the challenges of moving are extended until a spouse dies. But at that time the details of operating a

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house can become burdensome. Taxes, maintenance, yard upkeep, loneliness, distance to needed facilities -- doctors offices, stores, church etc. -- can become overwhelming.

By moving to a community designed to alleviate much of the above, we have also found it an advantage to have easy access to almost daily entertainment and physical exercise. There are no maintenance or property tax worries. A bank and financial advisor are located on campus. Food Services can supply up to three meals a day if desired. A full time pastor at the Community Church and a full time Chaplain of the Care Center cover the spiritual needs. It is a comfort to know you can receive help 24/7 with the push of a button. But most important, there are meaningful volunteer opportunities right on campus.

In a multilevel community many of the functions utilize volunteers. Here at Glencroft the Pantry, Thrift Shop, Flower and Gift Shop, Computer club, In-house TV, Library (books and videos), are all operated entirely by volunteers with staff oversight. For over 30 years the Quilting Studio has been a popular volunteering opportunity. Their efforts culminate in an annual Quilt Auction that sold over 30 quilts as well as other crafts, used furniture and household goods, books, meats and cheeses. This staff/volunteer event yielded gross sales of \$144,000 in 2009. In addition there is a blood pressure clinic, campus mail distribution, food services, etc. which use volunteer help.

Residents are encouraged to live active lives according to physical limitations. We believe it is important to become a resident while you have the ability to get out and meet other resides and can still make a contribution to the community. There is no excuse to have nothing to do, yet impossible to take part in everything. It is a blessing to be part of a community with the motto "Inspired to Live".

TRENDS WORTH NOTING

- There are more than 84,000 people over the age of 100 living in America today. 19% of these folks use cell phones to keep in touch with family and friends.
- Today's retirees could live into their 90s. 53% of those retirees will deplete their savings and be left with only Social Security.
- A smaller fraction of older adults live in care centers today than ever before. In 2006, about 7.4% of Americans age 75 plus were in skilled nursing homes. In 2000, this fraction was 8.1%. In 1990, the fraction was 10.2%. Assisted Living Communities, and Home Health Care have become viable options for millions of seniors.
- Those 65 and older now have the highest divorce rate in the country. They also have the highest suicide rate, replacing even teenagers.

- By 2020, there will be more people aged 65 and older in the world than children under the age of five. This fact is changing social and economic conditions around the globe and will present some difficult new challenges.
- Over 50,000 people over 65 are enrolled in college-level courses. Research shows that continued learning enhances our sense of well-being and improves our perception of aging.
- Researchers have found that people who stay moderately fit as they age live longer and healthier.
- Walking is the simplest form of exercise.
- Research indicates that listening to music is important as older adults work to maintain their health.
- Wii video games significantly increase heart rates in older participants. In addition, gamers report better moods and higher energy levels as a result of an hour's playtime.
- Working during retirement is a positive way to remain stimulated and feel wanted.

Visit our
ARMSS
web page at:



www.pcusa.org/olderadults/armss

ARMSS 2010 CONVENTION

CALLED TO A LIFETIME OF SERVICE: GOD'S PLAN OR OURS

Schedule at a Glance (subject to change)

Thursday, September 9

Registration (1:00 - 5:00 p.m.)

Opening Reception w/ heavy appetizers (5:30)

Get-to-Know-You Session

Opening Worship

Friday, September 10

Breakfast (on your own)

Presbytery Reps Meet

Morning Worship

Keynote Speaker

Q & A session

Mission Tour with Lunch (choice of two)

- McKenna Crossing Presbyterian Home
- Oliver Christian Center (PCUSA)
and the Native American Center

Dinner (on your own)

Conversations about Cuba

Saturday, September 11

Breakfast (on your own)

Presbytery Reps Meet

Morning Worship

Keynote Speaker

Q & A session

Saturday, September 11 cont.

Business Meeting

Presbyterian Board of Pensions Luncheon

Workshops

- New Immigrant Ministries;
moderated by Rev. Kathleen Macosko
- Service Learning as a Model for Ministry;
Elder Elona Street Stewart
- The Revitalization of an Older
Congregation: The Kwanzaa Story;
John Ivers and Rev. Alike Galloway
- What's in Your Clay Jar?;
Rev. James Reese and Rev. Ken Smith
- It's My Call, Too;
Rev. Barbara Anne Keely
- Ministry in a Multi-Cultural Church;
Staff of Church of All Nations (PCUSA)
- Like Lambs into the Midst of Wolves;
Rev. Cal Cooper

Banquet

Entertainment by the Cedar Lake Seven

Sunday, September 12

Breakfast (on your own)

Worship and Communion; led by
Rev. Barbara Anne Keely

Closing of Conference (11:30 a.m.)

Safe Travels!

CONTRIBUTIONS

We are grateful for the contributions which we have received in support of ARMSS.

It is your gifts that supports our broad ministry.

The following persons contributed in support of ARMSS since publishing the last newsletter:

David Aaronson	Vernon & Marjorie Elgin	Jack Kyle	Jean Rowan
Jane Anderson	Mary Ellenberger	Beatrice Lammers	Wilburn Sanders
Estler Aquilar	Helen Filson	Elaine Lester	Teresa Schofield
Robert Armistead	Edward Fish	Dean & Marianne Lewis	H. Schuessler
Jack & Ella Banton	William & Alyce Gannaway	David & Ann Lodge	Robert Seel
Charles & Doris Bartlett	Richard & Cynthia Gibbines	Bob & Kari Malcolm	Delphine Sefcik
Donna Baxter	Florence Gilkeson	Joyce Manson	Marvin & Joanne Simmers
Ray & Hazel Bayley	Fred Graham	James & Barbara Mathieu	Richard & Marion Skelley
David Beamer	Robert Gray	Lois McCredie	Kenneth & Betty Smith
Gayle & Joy Beanland	Dennis & Donna Haines	Bruce McQueen	John & Elizabeth Snyder
Donald Buteyn	Dick & Enola Harberts	Herbert & Fran Meza	Harold & Virginia Stafford
Robert & Elaine Button	Rupert & Janice Harris	Lorna Jean Miller	Charles & Susan Stanford
Cameron Byrd	Kazicko Hidaka	Martin & Pam Miller-Hessel	Helen Stout
Lowell & Delores Campbell	Richard Hills	Charles Murray	Walter & Edith Sutton
Vern & Doris Campbell	Houston Hodges	William Ng	Kenneth Thomas
Patsy Chaney	Martha Holder	Gerald Niece	Edward Triem
James & Mary Chesnutt	Carol Holland	Margaret Noland	Lenore Unger
Yong & Kyu Chung	Richard & Barbara Huggins	Barbara Ohly-Dingus	Elwin & Diane Vanderland
Louise Churchill	Barbara Hughes	Chester & Sue O'Neal	David & Janet Vogan
William & Nancy Clark	Mary Johnson	Frank & Jane Penick	Eugenia Vogel
Robert Coray	Barbara Johnston	Roger & Patricia Perks	Joseph & Miriam Walstad
Kenneth & Margaret Crabtree	Stark & Kathi Jones	James Phillips	Neil & Janet Weatherhogg
Roberta Croker	Jacob Kaufman	Douglas & Lois Potter	Auwina Weed
Lynn & Ellen Davis	Wilson & Arlene Kilgore	Barbara & Derek Pursey	Virginia Wellman
Julio Delgado	Kwan Sun & Eun Jae Kim	Elizabeth Raitt	Ralph Willers
Elizabeth Denier	Jeane Kiskaddon	Barbara Renton	Euton Williams
Alma Drown	Claude & Joanne Klaver	Erv & Andrea Roorda	Joan Wise-Hosteter
Miriam Dunson	Ira Kugler	Eliza Ross	John & Phyllis Yohe
			Frank & Anita Younkin

ter:THANK YOU!

For your generous assistance.

NOTE: If we have failed to recognize you as a contributor for this quarter,
please contact Ginny Nyhuis at: gnyhuis@verizon.net or: 615-426-1545.

Your support is vital to our program. Please **mark your check ARMSS** and send contributions to:

James Huffaker, Treasurer
2613 Pine Manor Lane
Albany, GA 31707

ARMSS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND PLEDGE FORM

Use this form to pay your membership fess for 2010, and to make extra contributions to the work of ARMSS. Your contributions are greatly appreciated and can be given for continuing the general mission of ARMSS, or can be designated to go to the Cuba Library Project or the John Rhea fund. Interest from the John Rhea fund is used annually to award scholarships for attendance to the ARMSS Convention.

Dues of \$20 per person (\$40 per couple) are for the 2010 calendar year \$ _____

Pledge for continuing the mission of ARMSS (Tax Deductible) \$ _____

Current Mission Project: Cuba Library (Tax Deductible) \$ _____

John Rhea Fund (Tax Deductible) \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please Print when completing the following information:

Name of Minister Spouse Survivor

Mailing Address City State Zip

Phone numbers (home, work, cell)

E-mail address

Presbytery where you hold membership Presbytery where you currently reside

Synod where you hold membership Synod where you currently reside

Please make checks payable to ARMSS and mail to:

James Huffaker, Treasurer
2613 Pine Manor Lane
Albany, GA 31707

BUTTERFLY TEARS

Look at me fluttering up above,
So blithe, so graceful and free,
Midst flowers and rainbows and blue, blue sky,
I live so joyfully.

With the birds of the air I celebrate
By swooping and soaring so high
But do you know that with all my joy
That butterflies, too, can cry?

With the sparkle of sunlight on my wings
I now live in a world so big
But nostalgia tugs and some sadness wells
As I see the cocoon on a twig.

It once was my home; it held me close,
It kept me protected and sure,
I have now pushed out to the wide unknown,
I have left what is safe and secure.

And I can't go back; my wings wouldn't fit,
Though the past was very kind.
I guess these are tears of gratitude,
As I think what I'm leaving behind.

I'm flying now, I'm traveling,
On the winds of God's glorious sky.
And in my heart joy and sadness are mixed,
You can know there's a tear in my eye.

Through all of the stages of life,
I've been kept by a Power from above.
As an egg, caterpillar, in cocoon, now in flight,
Always wrapped in a wondrous love.

May that love keep us all in the stages we face,
As we grieve for the good life behind,
As we cry tears of joy for what lies out ahead,
For the growth and adventure we'll find.

--written by Rev. Joseph C. Whitner,
taken from *Here and Now and Then*

Joseph C. Whitner is an ordained Presbyterian minister, currently serving as Parish Associate at the Trinity Presbyterian Church in McKinney, Texas.

We will feature more pieces of Joseph's works in future issues of the ARMSS Newsletter. All of Joseph's work is being used with his permission.

Return Service Requested

Association of Retired Ministers,
Their Spouses or Survivors
PO Box 700311
Oostburg, WI 53070

ARMSS
QUARTERLY
NEWSLETTER

PRSRRT STD
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