

Log of the S. S. Fellowship

December 10, 1976

Since last "Log" we had the Jaycees International Congress here in St. Louis and with the thousands of Jaycees from all over the free world it was a most interesting week. It was so pleasing to see these young men and women gathering with their counterparts from other countries - and as one man said Jaycees International does a better job of world understanding than the UN and the way these young people all fraternized, it must have a positive effect on world understanding. Learning that there are now over 500,000 enrolled in JCI, it looks like the future is in good hands.

It was also good to see members of the Crew - like Win Cook, Doug Hoge, Norm Birnkrant, Mike Milder, Cliff Myatt, Abe Ashner, Ken Sullivan, Roger Flumerfelt of Canada, Malcomb Fellows of England, Ron Au of Hawaii (who was elected World President, so we congratulate him), Bob Lindholm and Ed. Birdsy, Ed Merdes, A. Jay Smith, Phil Winslow, Jim O'Connell, Bill Ramquist, Harry Wiles, Tom Gates, Ed. Foote and some other mates whose names escape me.

Andy's widow, Charlotte, and Phil Pugsley's widow, Marion also graced the occasion and received many gracious remembrances of the part their husbands played in Jaycee history. Henry Giessenbier's widow was to be there, too, but illness prevented her from attending.

The Opening Ceremony was quite spectacular, with the huge auditorium well filled, the Air Force Band playing, and the grand entrance in the darkened auditorium with it's flood lights beaming on each special guest walking down the red carpet to the steps leading up to the podium, then each officer and the heads of each delegation following the Vice-President in charge of that area of the world, many in their native costumes, was a sight to behold. The Cosmopolitan Singers, nearly 100 strong, sang splendid bi-centennial theme songs, the Air Force Band's soloist singing rousing patriotic songs, welcoming speeches by Illinois Governor Walker, World President Belmonte, of the Philippines, the USJC President, the Missouri JC President and the St. Louis Jaycee President and even a few remarks by me made it an inspiring program.

Then the 12 Past JCI Presidents and the reigning President, and other invited guests boarded busses and were taken to the riverfront and boarded the "Huck Finn", where the Mungenast Family hosted us all for a buffet and a two hour boat ride on the Mississippi for a most pleasant get-together.

It would take pages to tell of the many facets of the Congress following just the first day's activities - every day full of events that will long be remembered - and ending on Saturday night when the President's Ball climaxed a wonderful week for the thousands of Jaycees and JCI Senators, who I feel, sure were so glad to be here in St. Louis, the birthplace of the whole Jaycee movement. I wish all of the Crew could have been here to enjoy it.

I know how much we value the friendships that developed among the Crew through the years in Jaycee activities; imagine the same friendships that developed all over the world through Jaycee International and what a tremendous influence it will have on the future of the entire world - it is fulfilling the tenet of the Creed, "The brotherhood of man transcends the sovereignty of nations" - it was so evident that wonderful week.

Visits among the mates are always good news. Bob Graham tells of the letter he received from J. B. Fitzpatrick, who had been the house guest of Paul Bagwell's daughter in Detroit; that Allan Watkins of Honolulu had a visit with Jack Robinson in Minneapolis; that last time Bob was in Anchorage he had a visit with Chet Gordon, who is retiring as President of the Boy's Club there after 10 years as a mighty loyal volunteer. Mentioning J. B. Fitzpatrick, he also wrote that thanks to Ralph Rohweder he's back on the Log mailing list and that he was at World Headquarters of SME (Society of Manufacturing Engineers), he chatted with Dwight Havens and he heard from Hughes Brockbank, so these friendship stories go on and on.

With all the good news that comes to my desk there is some sad news - like the information that we lost several of our mates - word that Bob Howell and Bob Storkan have passed on. We are sorry to lose them but grateful that we have had their friendship for lo these many years.

Tom Brown asks us to take into the Crew David Philipps, 13404 Arden Circle, Burnsville, Minnesota 55337; Dave was Minnesota Jaycee President 1972-73 and Chaplin of US Jaycees 1973-74; and Keith Gabrie, 7421 Colehaven, Boise, Idaho 83704, who was Idaho Jaycee President 1973-74. Charles Crumbley asks us to take on Jerry Boteley, P. O. Box 605, Laurel, Mississippi 39440 and Hays B. Castle, P. O. Box 1964, Laurel, Mississippi 39440, both of whom are past National Directors and Bob Gano recommends Ray Noxsel, 8050 Florence Avenue, Suite 11, Downey, California 90240. Lou Raskin asks to take on board LeRoy Norine, 5030 South Hudson, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74135, who was Vice-President of Nebraska Jaycees prior to joining the USJC staff after serving under Presidents Winer, Clayton, Hale and Robinson, he joined Cities Service Oil Co's public affairs operation. With the fine recommendations we have taken them aboard.

We have many changes of address. Bill Hart is now Exec. Vice-President of American Commercial Bank, North 120 Wall Street, Spokane, Washington 99201; Rick Frey's is now 21700 Northwestern Bay, Suite 645, Southfield, Michigan 48075; Irv Plitt's is now 5884 Driftwood Avenue, Sarasota, Florida 33581, Wilbur Nolen's is now P. O. Box 3336, Montgomery, Alabama 36109; George Seibels, Jr. is now Alternate Federal Co-Chairman Appalachian Regional Commission, 1666 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, D. C. 20235. Tom Reid's c/o Merrill Palmer Institute, 71 E. Ferry, Detroit, Michigan 48202 and Cal Junge's is now 14013 North Cameo Drive, Sun City, Arizona 85351 and Jim Skidmore's change to Science Management Corp., Fellowship Road, Moorestown, New Jersey 08057. Jim is Chairman and President of this corporation.

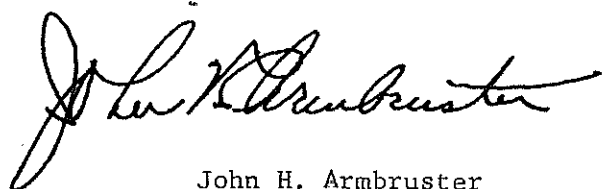
Now if you mates will send me the new addresses of the following whose mail comes back, I'll get them back on the list - Lewis Stocking (Milwaukee), John Benjamin (Tulsa), C. O. Girard (Dallas) and Mrs. Beth McMorris (Florida).

I'm using the letterheads this time of Huntsville/Madison County Industrial Development Association, dear to the heart of Walt Wieseman, who is such a booster for Huntsville, Alabama.

Thinking of the two mates who left us, I think of the words that famous Frenchman, Georges Clemenceau said so eloquently,

"A life is a work of art. There is no more beautiful poem than to live to the full. Even to fail is not unworthy since it implies that one has attempted something."

Cordially,



John H. Armbruster
Keeper of the Log

PS - I don't want to forget to send you my wishes for a most enjoyable Christmas Season and a New Year filled with blessings.