



The Maranatha Village Trumpet

"The Lord Cometh"

June - July 2015

Helping One Another Until Jesus Comes

VOL. XXIX 4

Volunteering Is Sharing Yourself!



Volunteers are an important part of Maranatha Village. The individuals shown on the next page are only a few of those who share their time.

Life at Maranatha Village is like the flow of a giant one year ocean tide. High tide population is January through April and low tide population is June through August. But the work of caring for the Village during low tide does not decrease. In fact, there are many ways in which needs are the greatest when the population is at its lowest.

For instance, take grass cutting. Our grass growing season is during the summer low tide. In order for that to be taken care of properly, three of our full time workers, Tim, David and Phil have to leave other jobs and give two to three days a week just to cut grass. We thank the Lord for the new lawn mowers that are

making that job go quick and easy.

Volunteers are the greatest asset that Maranatha Village has. Employees keep the Village on an even keel, but the volunteers put the "frosting on" the Village and make it a great Baptist retirement community. Volunteers are plentiful during high tide, but low tide becomes a real challenge. Maranatha Village, Maranatha Baptist Church, and Maranatha Manor all need volunteers to step in and help during the summer months when the tide is low. The number of opportunities is too long to list, but if your health still permits, please look for something that you can do. Serving others is not just a cliché or a trite saying, it

(continued page 2)

***Maranatha Village Workers
Left to Right***

***Tim Thorp
David Waite
Phil Schmitt***



Volunteering

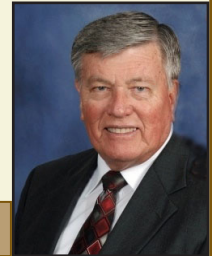
(continued)

is central to good Christian health. Along with volunteering, a longer lasting aspect of Christian life is that of estate planning. Consider leaving something to Maranatha Village now or at the end of your life. The continued well-being of Maranatha Village depends much upon the generosity of those who are enjoying the benefits now. The Charitable Gift Annuity program has been established as a means of benefiting the donor and Maranatha Village. Memorial projects benefit the Village residents and provide a memory of past lives. Enhancement projects that would make the Village an even better place to live are just waiting for the right

person to volunteer to take one on. I would like to quote our resident Grace Hadley. Grace says, "Do your givin' while you're livin', so you're knowin' where it's goin'." That is good advice for all of us.

Summer may be the low tide for the resident population in Maranatha Village, but you can make it the high tide of your life by volunteering. May this be the best year ever of "Helping Others Until Jesus comes."

Carl Barton, Editor



Maxine Brown



Connie Hammel



Sam Hammel



Gary Hanson



Butch Riley



Fred McNeil & His Mule



Clay Lewis



Margie Lewis



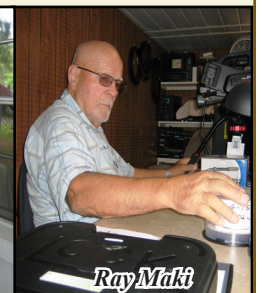
George Dougherty



Dave Howard



Charlie Welner



Ray Maki



John Eiler



Terry Arter



Roger Munson



Ruth Watterson



Jerry Johnson



Dave Cline



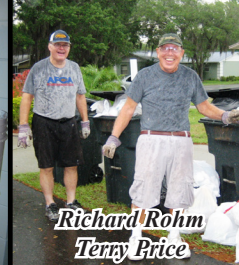
Carol Richards



Marie & Dale Moore



Dave Wills



*Richard Rohm
Terry Price*



John Thorp



Terry Price - Dave Cline - Doug Adams & Russ Hull

What Is Volunteering? "Volunteering is generally considered an altruistic activity and is intended to promote goodness or improve human quality of life. In return, this activity can produce a feeling of self-worth and respect. There is no financial gain involved for the individual. Volunteering is also renowned for skill development, socialization, and fun...." (Copied)



“Minnesota Nice”



On a beautiful Florida day, Tuesday, March 17th, the Maranatha folks from Minnesota gathered at the Pfeifer's home in Sebring for a great time

of fun, food, and fellowship. Chas Ruhter challenged us to do more in sharing our love for the Lord. Time is short! We must do more. Ellie Johnson brought some of her Minnesota moments and invited us to take one home. Over 40 people from Minnesota as well as four guests shared the sun filled, fun-filled day. *By Mr. Dwight Pfeifer*

When I (Bob Watterson), being a Southerner, read these two words *Minnesota Nice*, I was challenged to find out what the term meant. Thus, the following is the result from my research.

“What Exactly is Minnesota Nice?”

“Minnesota Nice! Heard of it? Experienced it? Living it?”

“For those of you who’ve just transplanted in Minnesota from elsewhere, Minnesota Nice can be one of the most challenging things about living in Minnesota....According to Wikipedia, Minnesota Nice is...the ster-eotypical behav-

ior of people born and raised in Minnesota, to be courteous, reserved, and mild-mannered. But the real juice of the definition is in the list of about 9 specific characteristics....

1. Polite friendliness.
 2. An aversion to confrontation.
 3. A tendency toward understatement.
 4. A disinclination to make a fuss or stand out.
 5. Emotional restraint.
 6. Self-deprecation--This is related to #3 & #4.
 7. Envy and speaking poorly of people behind their backs.
 8. Resistance to change.
- And finally, the ultimate characteristic:
9. Passive aggressiveness.” (Copied)

These are copied from the following web site <http://www.thrivemnnice.com/home/NiceTips/what-is-mn-nice>. If you have a hankering to find out what each one of these have to do with being Minnesota Nice, you may go to the above website which gives explanations about Minnesota. All the quoted information comes from this website.



A Maranatha Willing Worker



Lyle Mohr

and trailer throughout the Village looking for ways to help someone. This year there has been an abundance

Lyle Mohr is from the Grand Rapids, Michigan area, and accompanies Rev. Stan Mohr, his brother, for the winter months here at Maranatha Village. While here, he lives in his own mobile home. Lyle is a willing worker, and can be seen driving his golf cart

of fallen leaves from trees that surround our homes. Lyle has pitched in to help on many a day by raking and removing the leaves that have fallen. This has been a great help to numbers of our villagers this Spring. I know we all appreciate his help, especially with the amount of leaves that have been removed from our yards.



Thanks, Lyle!

A New Beginning A New Life Style

Mrs. Bertha Simonson



Bertha

I am 66 years old, and feel good for a woman my age. However, two years ago that was not the situation. I have

always been a very physical person, lifting more than I should, and weighing more than I should. Two years ago, I had problems swallowing, and then breathing. No matter how many antacids I took, I still experienced indigestion. I couldn't sleep or walk very far without shortness of breath.

I finally called my medical doctor, and asked her what to do. She recommended that I have an endoscopy, which I did. Before I was even cleared to go home, they

rushed me next door to have an upper GI. The technician kept saying, "I've never seen anything like this!" He said my heart was beating against my stomach. I talked to the doctor, and he said that I had a hiatal hernia so large that my stomach had popped through and was pushing against my lungs. The next step was to go to a gastroesophageal specialist.

The doctor wrote a 42-page document to the insurance company. I had to write a letter telling how I felt and how my life had been compromised. We sent it in, and, praise the Lord, the insurance company OK'd the surgery. The doctor said that he would try to pull the stomach down, but if it didn't work, I would have to have an entire gastric bypass. My pastor was there

to pray with my husband, son, and me. I went to surgery with peace in my heart. When I awoke, over eight and a half hours later, they told me my stomach had started to rot in my diaphragm. They did the gastric bypass.

That was October 11, 2012. I am now 65 pounds lighter, have no more pain in my knees, can buy a dress in any catalog, can care for my family and my aging parents. What could have been the end turned out to be a new beginning. I am so very thankful!

Yes, I have to watch how much I eat. Yes, I have to adjust my medications. But I am alive, and my family has a grandma, mother, sister, and daughter who can again enjoy life, and all of them! For that, I am eternally grateful!



“GO MICHIGAN!”



The Michigan Picnic was held at Memorial Park on Wednesday, March 25th at noon. It was a beautiful day with a nice, gentle breeze, and the temperature was in the mid-80's. The Michiganders did it again with a top attendance at a state picnic. We had 72 people present who were from Michigan

at one time or another. It was a great potluck meal, as usual, with lots of food. Yvonne White made some announcements, introduced the new people in the Village, and announced the date for the Annual Maranatha Reunion being on Thursday, July 16, 2015. You do not have to be from Michigan to attend. If you are going to be in the area, we would count it a privilege to have you come. It is a luncheon at noon, at Alpine Baptist Church, 692 Seven Mile Rd., N.W., Comstock Park, MI 49321 (suburb of Grand Rapids). The cost is \$10.00 plus tip. Reservations must be in

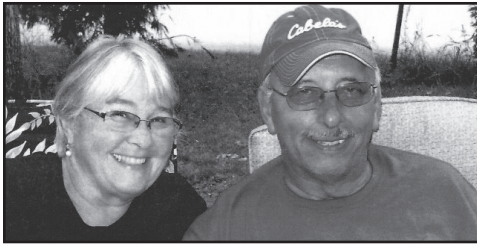
prior to July 1st to Yvonne White, 9400 Pine Island Dr., N.E., Sparta, MI 49345. If you have questions, you may call her at (616) 205-5534 or email her at mikeyvonnewhite@yahoo.com.

After the announcements at the picnic, Dennis Boonstra, whose hometown is Sand Lake, MI, led in prayer. During the meal and after the meal, we all had a great time of fellowship. For the year 2016 our attendance goal is 90.



New Village Residents Bronkemas

Carl & Mary



Carl & Mary

Carl and Mary have been married for fifty-four years. They met at Oakfield Baptist Church in Rockford, Michigan. Mary was led to the

Lord by her mother when she was seven years old. Carl accepted the Lord at the age of fourteen while attending Lake Ann Baptist Youth Camp, located in northern Michigan.

They have lived in White Pigeon, Michigan, for the past twenty-three years where they are members of Centreville Baptist Church. Carl has spent most of his working life in manufacturing management. Twenty-

five of those years were at American Seating Company in Grand Rapids. Mary has worked outside of the home, mostly at part-time jobs, during their married life.

They are the proud parents of three great sons, along with three beautiful daughters-in-law, who have blessed them with ten grandchildren.

The Lord has blessed their lives in many ways, and He has always directed their paths. They are happy to become residents of Maranatha Village. They have rented a mobile unit in the Village the last two years, and have enjoyed the fellowship immensely.

They thank the Lord for the opportunity to purchase their home, and are hoping to become active in serving the Lord here in the Village.

Maranatha Village Dinner

We missed the press time for the April/May issue of the TRUMPET, so this news may be a little old. However, some of you (the readers), who missed this dinner, might be interested in some “old” news of the past years of the Baptist movement.

The monthly Maranatha Village Dinner was held on March 27th at 6 PM. The attendance for the Dinner was 153. We had a lot of good food and fellowship in Hamman Hall. The Village Maintenance Crew set up the tables and chairs. Then Valene Douglas, Cathy Mooney, and Krysta Lowe prepared the tables, putting on the table covers, napkins, dessert plates, salt/pepper shakers, and assigned table numbers. We had a small crew of men consisting

of Dick Mooney, Joe Austin, and Don Laven who helped put things away after the dinner

Gil Seddon opened the dinner with prayer, and announced that the program would be in the church auditorium after the meal. Those participating in the program were Roger and Donna Rose and Dr. Robert Delnay. The Roses sang a few “happy” songs to liven us up after such a great meal. Robert Delnay, a retired college and seminary professor of church history, presented a bird’s eye talk on the beginnings of the GARBC. He discussed some of the very starting points, such as how only Christians in Boston, MA were allowed to vote for city government officials. He then discussed the formation of

the Southern Baptist, Northern Baptist, Baptist Bible Union, and the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches (GARBC) which was started in 1932-1938. We were informed that the Baptist Bible Union was known for Sunday school lessons.

R.T. Ketcham was a great leader of the GARBC for many years. The GARBC had a period where they had a cap off of 1600 member churches. Dr. Delnay was baptized by David Otis Fuller of the well-known Wealthy Street Baptist Church, in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Dr. Delnay presented this chapter of Church History in a very interesting and informative manner.

By Mr. Don Laven



Cook's Korner

Congo Bars

1 teaspoon vanilla
1 cup oil or oleo
4 eggs
2 1/4 cups brown sugar (or 1 lb)
Mix thoroughly and add:
3 cups flour
3 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 cup chocolate chips
1/2 cup chopped nut meats
Spread on a Teflon cookie sheet
Bake at 350° for 25 minutes or until done

Mrs. Jeanette Thorp

MARIBETH'S YUMMY PECAN BARS

Preheat oven to 350° F.
Line a cookie sheet that has sides (this is important!)
with graham crackers.
Sprinkle a large package (or two 5 oz. bags) chopped
pecans over the crackers. (If you prefer, you may use sliced
almonds.)
Bring to a rolling boil and boil together for 3 minutes only:
1 cup packed brown sugar
2-1/2 sticks real butter
Pour this over the nuts and crackers.
Bake in 350° oven for 10 minutes only.
Cool slightly before cutting into bars.

Mrs. Maribeth Smith

SHRIMP DIP

1 large pkg. cream cheese (8 oz.) — Room temp.
3/4 cup mayonnaise
1/4 cup minced onion
1 small can of tiny shrimp
Lemon juice
Worcestershire sauce
Mash shrimp with fork and use mixer to blend in
with the rest of ingredients. Add lemon juice and
Worcestershire to taste. Delicious right away, but
even better after sitting in the refrigerator for a while
to let the flavors meld. Great served with potato
chips, raw vegetables, crackers etc.

Mrs. Nancy Bullis

Easy Pleasy Meatballs

2 (14 oz.) bags of meatballs
1 can of cream of celery soup
1 can French onion soup
8 oz. of sour cream
Heat everything together and serve over buttered noodles
(Variation on this one is to substitute a package of dry
onion soup for the French Onion soup.)

Barbecue Glazed Meatballs

1-1/2 cup (12 oz.) Concord Grape jelly
1 cup barbecue sauce
1 (14 oz.) bag of meatballs
Heat everything together and serve

Mrs. Selma Barton





The Manager's Perspective

"The Past and The Present"

By Mr. Allen Lowe



Village Office 1975

In October of 1973, plans were delivered to a builder for the initial construction of a Christian Retirement Development. Earlier,

Floyd Conway had made offers on thirty-five different parcels of land in the Sebring area; none of those offers were accepted. He was finally able to purchase property on Arbuckle Creek Road for a down payment of \$50,000 and an \$18,000 note. That was the beginning of Maranatha Village.

Roy Hamman, who would later become the pastor of Maranatha Baptist Church, wrote, "Beautiful Maranatha Village was little more than a cow pasture: no houses, no streets, no roads, no well, no sewage treatment plant." It was acres of palmetto grove that had standing water during the rainy season. The first phase of construction was six apartments near the entrance, a well with "very good water," and a sanitation system with 400 feet of main, a manhole, and lift station. That first year, there were seven residents.

The second year, the small group dug the first half of the lake near the entrance. There were several reasons for doing this. They knew that it would improve the esthetics of the Village and provide fishing for the residents. Another practical reason was a supply of fill, necessary to expand into the lower areas of the property. The volunteers moved 200 yards of earth each day using a drag line with a

fifty foot boom and two bulldozers. They made forty foot piles around the lake and then moved the earth into

those wet areas. The second year the population of the Village was seventeen. A year later, there were fifty residents.

A Progress Report from August of 1974 states, "Our lake is finally finished and it looks beautiful. We have been swimming in it many times after a long hot day in the sun. All the piles of sand are pushed away into several large piles that can be moved at a later date. Our black top road is in and being used and looks wonderful."

The first *Policy Decisions* that were adopted by the board included:

- An apartment may be held after the occupant is taken to the hospital or nursing home only as long as the rent is paid.
- After the period of two weeks, a visitor in a home will be charged \$1.00 per person per day. This is to defray the cost of water used, etc.
- There will be no pets permitted on the premises.
- There shall be no children as permanent residents.

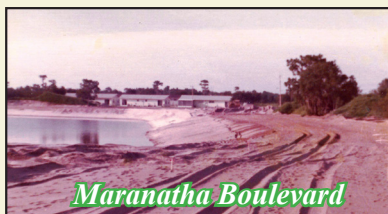
Today, there are 400 Village residents from over twenty different states. This community stands as a testament to those who sacrificed to bring it into existence and a God Who has preserved it through the years.



Village Progress



Village Swimming Pool



Maranatha Boulevard



Front Village Lake

Maranatha Village

11 MARANATHA BOULEVARD
SEBRING, FL 33870-6817

863-385-7897

fax 863-385-7954

john316@maranathavillage.org

maranathavillage.churchpage.us



**“Believe on the
Lord Jesus Christ
and you will be saved.”**

Let's Have A Fish Fry

Village residents Sam Hammel, Clay Lewis, and Carl Barton enjoyed a successful fishing trip in the Gulf of Mexico. They went with fishing guide Billy Miller out of Maximo Marina in St. Petersburg. They caught their limit of King Mackerel which was enough to provide an impromptu fish fry for the Village residents. Sam also cooked fish

for the evening meal for the residents in Maranatha Manor. Altogether around 150 meals were enjoyed by Village residents.

A good time was enjoyed by everyone and the Fogle Pavilion provided a wonderful location for the event. Maranatha Village is a great place to live!



“The king mackerel is a migratory species of mackerel of the western Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico.... Depending on size, a female may shed from 50,000 to several million eggs over the spawning season. Fertilized eggs hatch in about 24 hours.” Copied