

# **HERITAGE HORIZONS**

a publication of

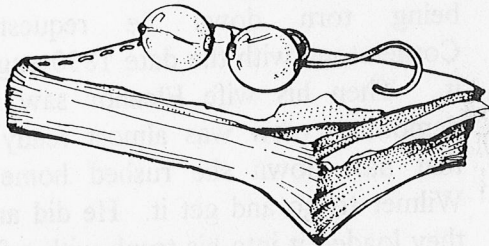
**NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST HERITAGE COMMISSION**

*...a memorial book was written in His presence, recording those who revered Him  
and those who had the highest respect for His Name...Malachi 3:16*

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Editor: B.V. Westerman

Associate Editors: E. DeNeui and G.W. Lang



## **HORIZON THOUGHTS**

It is a questionable practice to begin a literary statement with a question. However, such a question is mandatory when the LORD GOD asks. It was put to the Prophet Ezekiel in the Valley of Bones, "can these bones live again...?"

Of course, the dead hope of ancient Israel shall be revived. And so the living hope of the "New Israel" is activated by the Spirit of the LORD GOD. This may be expressed by the historian-archivist who provides contact with persons who, through the Incarnate Word, continue to spark us to action.

Another question is asked, "What is the evidence of that living hope being made real, especially in our N.A.B. history and particularly, by its archives?" Without trivializing the Sacred Scriptures it can be stated that the Spirit-Wind is working, even in the details of our N.A.B. Heritage Commission.

Who will gainsay the facts? They are, one-after-another, Reorganization of our Heritage Commission structure and function; Purchase of and installation of a topnotch computer; Finding the corner stone of the Seminary edifice in Rochester, New York; South Dakota-Wyoming Association's

generous annual support; Dr. David Priestley's documents of N.A.B. participation in local and national affairs; Partnership with a Cameroon Baptist student in the creation of his doctoral dissertation-and many other "sparks of action."

Some of the historical-archival engagements call for description and further action in hope. How much and sincerely we pray and plan to move towards the beckoning horizons! Securing a moveable shelving system; a capable volunteer work force; funds to organizationally update the Historical Book Collection; making our N.A.B. Museum more respectable and attractive; republish the late Missionary C.J.Bender's little "Blue Books" on Cameroon and to realize our far-out dream of publishing the collected works of Walter Rauschenbusch who continues to speak passionately from the past to our times.

Does the LORD GOD ask questions? Certainly He does. He said, "...can these bones live gain?" We, like Ezekiel, live in the awesome yet gracious presence of the LORD GOD Who said, "...prophecy, and say to the wind..." "...and breath came into them, and they LIVED."

- G. A. Dunger  
Archivist

## **Welcome to two new members:**

Harry Haas, N. D.  
Robert Cunningham, N.Y.

LET'S GET ACQUAINTED



**Note:** Some of you will receive a notice in this issue of the Heritage Horizons telling you that your membership fee is due. If you do not send in the fee you will not receive the next issue of the Heritage Horizons. The Life-time, Patron and Sponsor Members will not get this notice.

Change of address? PLEASE LET US KNOW

No we did not move but;

**Here is our NEW ADDRESS:**

North American Baptist Heritage  
Commission, 1525 S. Grange.,  
Sioux Falls, SD 57105-1599

**DALLAS DECISIONS:**

At our Dallas, Texas meeting an Executive Committee was created. The following people were elected that committee.

Orville Meth, Chairperson  
Edith DeNeui, Vice Chairperson  
Betty Poppens, Treasurer  
Berneice Westerman, Secretary  
George A. Dunger, Archivist

Our Constitution is in the final process of revision at this time.

**OUR COMPUTER:**

The computer we have been praying about is now in use. When God approved getting one He also provided the person to install it. Steve Miller, a friend of Orville Meth assembled it, brought it to Sioux Falls and installed it. His labor was a gift to us. We praise God for that and now we hope to replace the cost of the equipment to our budget so we can move ahead with our regular expenses. If you know of friends who would like to contribute to this cause please encourage them.

*Hurrah! This issue was produced  
by our new computer!*



**THE ROCHESTER CORNERSTONE IS FOUND!**

We are glad that Rev. Wilmer Quiring came to ask about the Cornerstone that was in the Seminary Building in Rochester, NY. When he realized that the old building was being torn down he requested the Cornerstone with the date 1890 engraved in it. Then his wife Eleanor saw that the demolition crew was almost ready to tear that part down she rushed home to tell Wilmer to go and get it. He did and when they loaded it into his trunk with a forklift it was so heavy that he had to drive home with extreme care. A friend of his was able to cut it down to a manageable size so he could bring it to Sioux Falls. That was in the 70's and it was tucked away in a safe corner in the furnace room to be undisturbed until Nov. 1994. When Rev. Quiring came in to ask about it we could not find it, however George Lang recalled that a large cornerstone had been stored in the furnace room. We went to look. It is still so heavy that it takes two men to carry it. It is being prepared for display along with a picture of the building showing clearly where the stone had originally been placed. **If you have a picture of the whole building that shows it clearly please notify us or send us a copy of it. We will use the best one.**

**VOICES FROM THE PAST**

*We include an insert which may find a spot on your desk or refrigerator or serve as a bookmark. It is a copy of a prayer by Walter Rauschenbusch, spoken in the language of almost a century ago, but continues to voice contemporary needs. Maybe you can make it your prayer in your own way.*

G.A.D.

