

The Bible Students Retirement Centers, Inc.

Fairview, OR • FALL 2019

Chairman's Message

Since our annual meeting in June this year, the Lord has called our dear Br. Tim Thomassen home. His sweet spirit and industrious service to the BSRC will be sorely missed by our brotherhood. I'm humbled and honored to pick up the chairmanship mantle of service and I look forward to continued direction from our heavenly Father.

We are grateful for Br. Joe Megacz, Chicago, who's agreed to temporarily step in to fill the vacant Board seat.

Your Board met in June, chaired by Br. Tim Thomassen, and moved forward with the customary business of the Center. We welcomed our newest board member, Br. Kome Ajise, and returning Board member Br. Doug Rawson, both of California. We welcomed Sr. Janet Wojcik to her second term as Resident Director, and our returning Resident

Advisors, Sr. Elinor Rozmus and Sr. Lois Austin.

On November 2nd we had a wonderful Fellowship Meeting where Br. Joe served us with a discourse and a study. Enjoy more on that in this issue of the Newsletter.

We are confident that our heavenly Father will continue to provide the assistance and direction needed to manage His business at the BSRC.

"And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the



wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or not." Deut. 8:2

Br. Michael Costelli

Welcome to Our New Residents ...

Sr. Jean Mora

Our most recent resident to the BSRC is Sr. Jean Mora, but she's not new to the Center. Jean and Boone started serving at the very beginning, in 1984; clearing the land and helping to build the units. They were permanent residents in 2011 and 2012. They found it a joy and a privilege to help provide for the spiritual and temporal needs of the brethren, and very thankful to our Heavenly Father for this privilege.

After Boone's death, Jean returned to the Center and is renting a studio unit in order to enjoy being with the brethren on weekends. She continues to enjoy the meetings, fellowship, being surrounded by brethren, and to be a blessing and to serve whenever possible.



Br. Russell and Sr. Janis Wojcik

Members of the Los Angeles Ecclesia since 1976, they are among the latest additions to the BSRC!

Last year they stayed for a two-month trial visit at the BSRC, somewhat unusual since the normal trial period is only two weeks. They decided however to rent for the remainder of their trial period to insure this was the right fit for them. Obviously, they liked what they saw and experienced, and, in June 2019, moved into Unit A-1.



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Fall Fellowship Meeting

NOVEMBER 2019

On Saturday, November 2nd Br. Michael Costelli chaired our Fall Fellowship meeting, where brethren from near and far travelled to attend; as well as many online. The meeting was broadcast live, via “Zoom”, with the help and expertise of Br. Jerry Leslie.

Br. Joe Megacz started us off with a discourse entitled “My Favorite Bible Story.” He shared with us the story of Naaman from 2 Kings 5. He emphasized the faith the “little maid”, from the land of Israel, had in the prophet’s ability to cure Naaman’s leprosy. His touching story brought out many spiritual lessons.

After Br. Joe’s discourse, lunch was provided by the BSRC for all residents and guests to enjoy along with some spiritual fellowship. A “Praise and Testimony” meeting followed where those that testified, shared the evidence of how the Lord has directed them in their experiences. Each experience provided those that heard them, an opportunity to increase their faith.

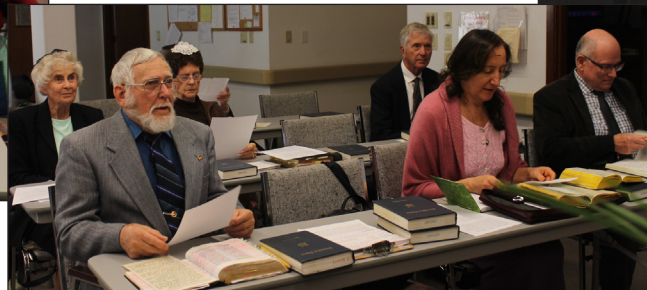
Br. Joe Megacz then led a study on “Helpful Rules for Daily Life,” taken from an article entitled “Because the

Days Are Evil” (R3593). The article outlines 12 rules for daily living beginning with resolving to mind our own business. To make it a little more interesting Br. Joe did several “role plays” with Br. Dan Wojcik to illustrate how easy it is to get drawn into

someone else’s business and the proper way to address the issue. In the interest of time Br. Joe polled the audience to find out which three of the additional eleven rules were of most interest to the brethren. A discussion ensued on the deadly aspect of pride followed by shunning a contentious and fault-finding disposition.



The day ended in the dining room with refreshments and more sweet fellowship.



Welcome New Residents

Continued from page 1

Russell and Janis moved to the BSRC for several reasons:

(1) To live in a beautiful, relaxed, wooded setting, with minimal upkeep and responsibilities; (2) To be able to drive around a vibrant, medium-size metro without wasting much of one’s life in freeway gridlock, (3) To have the ability to walk two minutes across the lawn to great food in the Dining Room and great meetings in the Chapel; (4) To be part of and contribute to a real-time, 24/7 community with an interesting cast of brethren and a refreshing focus on spiritual matters, and lastly; (5) To have ample latitude for privacy when you want it.

Russell is a third-generation Bible Student. His granddad Br. Wojcik was born in 1874! Russell has been an elected elder in the L.A. class for the past seven years. Janis is a fourth-generation Bible Student. Her maternal great grandfather, Br. Charles Swenson, a respected figure at the Bethel House in NY, had the good sense to get out when the Judge took over. He also used to take Pastor Russell out on his fishing boat when the opportunity presented itself. Janis’ paternal grandfather, Br. Joe Brown, helped in the start-up of the Dawn Publishing House circa 1933.

Please join us in welcoming Jean, Russell and Janis to a wonderful life here at the BSRC.

A Remembrance

Tim Thomassen

February 11, 1943 - July 15, 2019

Br. Tim Thomassen finished his course on July 15. It was less than a week before the General Convention and the PBI annual meeting. Up until the morning he was taken to the hospital he had been busy in the Lord's service preparing for his discourse for the General Convention, working on the agenda for the PBI meeting, preparing for the studies of his ecclesia and fulfilling his responsibilities as chairman of the BSRC board.

Br. Tim served on the BSRC board for many years in various capacities. The last three years he served in the role of chairman. Being on the board was a family affair for him. He followed in the footsteps of his father-in-law, Br. Rick Buss, who was on the first board of directors and for two years, he and his daughter, Sr. Tami Wesol, served on the board together. Tim, along with his mother and step-

father, wife and daughter helped paint A and B buildings as they were being built.

Br. Tim considered it a blessing and privilege to be of assistance to the brethren living at the Retirement Center. He enjoyed his visits to the Center and would make an effort to spend time with all of the residents. Wherever he went, he was always an ambassador for the BSRC - sharing pictures and the blessings of living at the Center and encouraging many to visit. He truly believed God was blessing and providing for the Retirement Center and wanted to do all that he could for the brethren living there.



Available for Immediate Occupancy!

Two Bedroom / One Full Bath / Upper Level / \$704 per month

This spacious two-bedroom unit is 1,090 sq. ft. It is all on one level, unfurnished, has a living room/dining room combination with a vaulted ceiling and high windows, which give it a bright and open feel. The U-shaped kitchen comes with a stove, refrigerator and dishwasher. It has a full bathroom and separate laundry room. The location is great, with a lovely, large deck, which overlooks the landscaped courtyard and Main House. Access to the unit is via stairs or an elevator. It is perfect for independent living. Rent: \$704/month.

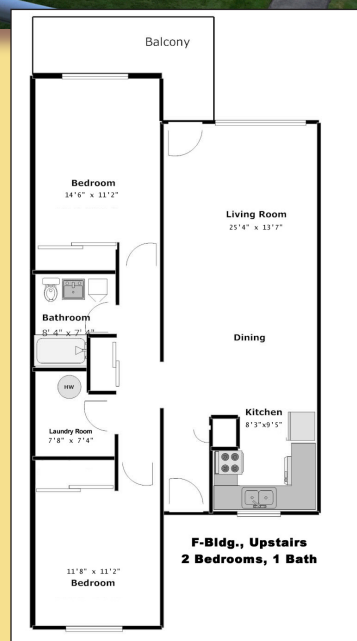
All of the BSRC units are in a gated community, which includes a quarter-mile walking path. The Main House sits at the center of the property. It is a gathering place and center of activity. There we host five studies per week, Monday – Friday noontime meals, hymn singing, holiday gatherings and many other opportunities for fellowship.

If you might be interested, we would like to invite you to come to the Center for a trial visit. You may come for up to 2 weeks. The purpose of this visit is for you to get a good feel of what life is like at the Center, try out the unit and decide if it is right for you. The lodging for the trial visit will be at no cost. We will also include a free noon meal during your stay on the days it is served in the Main House.



View from unit's balcony.

WINTER SPECIAL!
First month's rent
FREE to a permanent
occupant taking possession
between now
and May 31st,
2020



**For more information
or to schedule a visit,
Contact the Admissions Chair
at 908-756-4954**

Planning and Construction Report

There has been a lot of behind-the-scenes activity regarding ongoing construction projects. Activities range from trying to close out a project to getting bids for another. Of a surety, there is a lot of discussion among Board members and Residents about this work.

Deck Resurfacing and Railing

This project is complete and provides us with a more substantial wood structure following the replacement of many rotten members and decking. A new, more positively sloped, waterproof deck has been applied to replace the nearly flat old deck. Most of the new deck drains much better than the old. There are however, a few spots that don't drain as rapidly as the rest. A new powder-coated, white aluminum handrail graces the entire length of the project and is beautiful to behold and will hopefully last into the Kingdom.



Waiting List

If you're not ready to make the move to the BSRC we strongly encourage you to put your name on our Waiting List, so that you can be informed when a unit becomes available. Please contact the Admissions Chair for more details and qualification information. All inquiries will be held in strictest confidence.

Stairs

The stair work was initially conceived to be included in the deck project but was pulled out at the last minute. Efforts were made to bid this work out separately but we were unable to do so without additional Oregon engineering certification. We contacted our structural engineer for the elevator project and he suggested that stairs be bid together with the elevator and he reviewed our BSRC furnished design and drawings for a reasonable fee increase.

Elevator

Design of the multi-level elevator is wrapping up as we speak. Bidding on this project is anticipated for this Fall and construction will start soon after. As you have heard, the elevator is sited between Buildings C and F in the grassy area and will serve both buildings.



We would be remiss if mention was not made of our handyman and brother in Christ, Tim Sochacki. Tim has been invaluable as "boots on the ground" on the deck project and we fully look forward to his assistance on the elevator project. Having a "shop-trained", multi-disciplined technician at the BSRC is a wonderful blessing from our Heavenly Father.

Br. Michael Costelli
Planning and Construction Chair

Fun Had By All!

We've had a busy 3 months at the BSRC. The summer was packed with activities. Our vegetable garden was blessed with a bumper crop and enjoyed by our residents. Some of the activities at the center included: June Strawberry Waffle Celebration, July 4th Picnic; July 13th BBQ, August Ice Cream Social and a Labor Day BBQ, to name a few. The ever-popular monthly Hymn Sing is always a highlight. The center sponsored a Fellowship Day with Br. Homer Montague, with a wonderful study and a Pizza lunch.

We had some wonderful lunch outings too, including a drive to Hood River to eat at the Hood River Inn on the Columbia River. Our residents' meetings have been informative with presentations on such topics as emergency supplies to keep on hand,



energy saving tips for winter and new phone scams to watch out for.

Our annual all-day outing was a trip to Seaside Oregon. First stop was to be Camp 18, a logging museum and restaurant in a huge, old, log structure. Then on to the beach for a classic car show, a reenactment of the Lewis and Clark salt works, and finally some beach time at Tolavana Beach. We didn't make it to Seaside. The Lord overruled. An accident closed down the highway so after our two hour stop at Camp 18 we headed back to Portland after a stop at a Gelato shop called Pinolos. Fun truly was had by all in attendance.

Call us with your questions & comments
BSRC 503-661-7045