

THE SDB Woman

I'm sure that everyone was blessed who attended the SDB General Conference in Lindsborg, Kan., in August. Marjorie Jacob, president of the Women's Society, reported that things went well for the first Conference with the "new crew" handling things.

Many thanks to everyone who helped out with the Crafts Table, whether contributing items, donating money, sharing their time, or simply purchasing goods. The sale generated over \$1,000, with \$260 coming from the silent auction of an antique quilt made by Seventh Day Baptist churches in the late 1930s. Luan Ellis of Alfred Station, N.Y., was the lucky auction winner.

The Women's Banquet on Wednesday evening of Conference week was also an enjoyable event. The silver voices of the SDB Men's Quartet—made up of Stephan Saunders, Paul Green, Phil Rood, and Dale Thorngate—

provided the entertainment. They even brought music directly to our tables as they strolled and crooned.

Jeff Hazen gave an excellent slide presentation, and SCSCers Jenny Butler and Bethany Thompson Gordon gave testimonies. Lovely handcrafted cards with envelopes served as table favors, compliments of the White Cloud, Mich., Women's Circle. Writing letters and notes is a great way to stay in touch with all of the nice people we meet at Conference every year.

Love Gift donations collected at the Women's Banquet came to \$4,445. By the end of Conference, this amount had grown to over \$5,000. Thank you to all who helped.

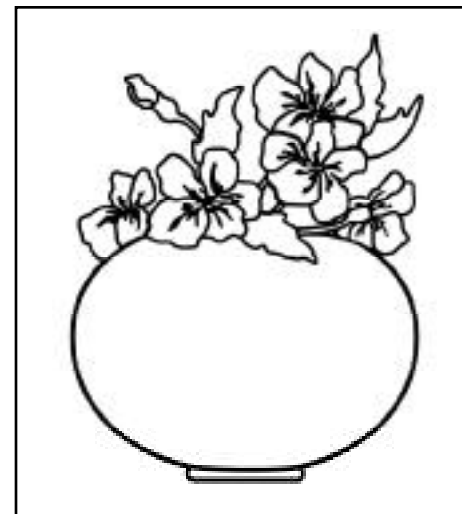
Special thanks go to Audrey Fuller and June Kenyon, organizers of the Women's Banquet. You "guys" did a great job! With this success under your belts, I'm sure that you'll be excited about doing it again next year!

The African Violet Queen of Milwaukee

by Victor Parachin (Condensed version)

In the early 1900s, renowned psychiatrist Milton H. Erickson was asked to visit the aunt of a colleague. The 60-year-old aunt was wealthy but had never been married and lived alone. By this time, she had lost most of her close relatives and friends, and medical problems had put her in a wheelchair. The nephew was concerned that his aunt was depressed and considering suicide.

Dr. Erickson went to the aunt's home. Upon receiving a tour of her estate, he noted that everything in the house appeared old and musty. Heavy curtains were kept drawn, making the house a dark, depressing place. However, the aunt became animated when



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she showed her greenhouse. There she would spend hours working with plants—particularly African violets.

The woman confided that she suffered from major depression. Erickson told her that her problem was not depression but the fact that she had chosen to isolate herself from people. He recommended

that she look in the latest church bulletin for announcements of births, illnesses, graduations, engagements, and marriages. Then he suggested she make a number of African violet cuttings, place them in gift pots, and have her handyman drive her to the homes of the people who were affected by the happy or sad events. "Bring them a plant and your congratulations or condolences and comfort, whichever is appropriate."

Although upset by the doctor's blunt assessment, the woman responded positively. Twenty years later, Dr. Erickson displayed in a scrapbook an article from the Milwaukee (Wis.) Journal. It had a large headline that read: African Violet Queen of Milwaukee Dies—Mourned by Thousands. The article detailed the life of this caring woman who had become locally prominent for her trademark flowers and her charitable work with people in the community during the 10 years preceding her death.

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"Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God" (2 Cor. 1:3-4).

A call for contributions



As always, you can send your favorite recipes, short stories, poems, quotes, etc., to:

Carolyn M. Jacob
4387 Ripken Circle W.
Jacksonville, FL 32224

Or e-mail to: doghugger@hotmail.com

Your contributions are welcome. Please help make this a newsletter from our entire SDB family.

Solomon's Wisdom

What is greater than God,
More evil than the devil,
The poor have it,
The rich need it,
And if you eat it, you'll die?

If you still can't solve this puzzle after getting together with at least three different people, one of whom you've never met, you can look at the answer at the bottom of this page.

Potluck Picks

Dee Morgan of the Carraway SDB Church, Palatka, Fla., sent some of this yummy treat to our home. I'm afraid I neglected to tell Matt that there was more than just one apiece, and I ended up eating more than my fair share. (Sorry, Matt.)

"Blondies"

1 egg
7/8 cup (3/4 cup plus 2 Tbsp.) packed brown sugar
1/2 cup butter (melted & cooled)
1 1/2 tsp vanilla
7/8 cup all purpose flour
1/2 tsp. baking soda
1/8 tsp salt
3/4 cup pecans (coarsely chopped)
2/3 cup flaked coconut
1/2 cup white chocolate chips
1/4 cup butterscotch chips (optional)

Beat together egg and brown sugar. Mix in the butter and vanilla. Now mix and add in the flour, baking soda, and salt. Stir in the pecans, coconut, and chocolate and butterscotch chips.

Bake in 8-inch, ungreased square pan at 325° for 30 to 40 minutes (toothpick inserted in middle to withdraw with moist crumbs).

DO NOT over bake!! (If using a glass pan, set oven to 300°.)

Puzzle Answer: Nothing