

October 20, 2006

My Dear Sisters and Lovely Friends,

This note comes to you on the heels of our recent conference. What a glorious day we had last Saturday. If you weren't there, I am truly sorry. God richly blessed us and the day was a whirlwind of spiritual activity interspersed with our required business.

The day was begun with Sis. Leona Buffa sharing a song given by God that followed the theme of Bro. John Griffith's experience. She and Sis. Marilyn Scolaro sang, "Tell Them They are Builders", which brought a marvelous spirit into our meeting.

I can't share the entire meeting with you, but here's a recap:

- Bro. John Griffith addresses the meeting with a beautiful message on the virtue of modesty (Check out the website in the next few weeks. We will be posting some notes Bro. John made that you will be able to use for a lesson in your own Circle.)
- Sisters Judy Coppa and Bonnie Metzler shared the miracles God has performed in their families in the last year.
- Typists and proofreaders are being sought for the "Come and Dine" cookbook.
- We created our own resource inventory so that sisters who are unable to attend conference can still help with the work, using their natural talents and abilities
- Sis. Virginia Rose gave shared her report on the upcoming General Fellowship Weekend to be held in San Antonio, Texas from February 15-18, 2007. The price is right and forms are available on this website and hopefully in your local circle.
- We viewed and discussed the presentation on Circle done by the Southwest and Pacific Coast Area Circles. It was great because it addressed the characteristics and the way sisters provide support for the Church and each other.
- We so enjoyed the Devotions on "When God Whispers Your Name" presented by the Atlantic Coast Area Circle.
- We heard the final report of the World Conference Center Beautification Committee, in which Sis. Laurie Whitton, Committee Chair, shared that the entire project was done for just over \$31,000.00, nearly \$20,000.00 less than the estimated charges. What a great job the sisters can do. If you need landscaping advice, the sisters on this committee are now experts!
- The sisters wisely spent the monies collected this six months. Only a few requests were unmet and they are listed under the needs section of the website if your circle would like to help with them. We provided the following:
 - 1) \$1,100.00 for a motorcycle for India
 - 2) \$1,000.00 for a building in the Philippines
 - 3) \$600.00 so the Sisters of the circle can travel in Kenya to uplift one another
 - 4) \$1,500.00 for school uniforms so the children in Kenya can attend school
 - 5) \$1,000.00 for Bibles and Books of Mormon for the work in Rwanda
 - 6) \$750.00 for Bibles and Books of Mormon for Nepal

- 7) \$2,000.00 to help with the expenses of building a church in Dominica
- 8) \$1,500.00 for a building in Peru
- 9) \$500.00 to help bring the brothers and sisters to the first South American Conference
- 10) \$4,700.00 to Malawi to help with village gardens so that our Saints can become self sufficient (Just \$4,300.00 to go on this project.)

Isn't that just amazing? As I have said before, just under 700 members managed to raise over \$15,000.00 in just six months. If all the Sisters of the Church were members of the circle, just imagine what could be done for the Missionary work.

I am excited to report that we are beginning a membership drive. Each Circle has been challenged to increase its membership by 10% over the next year. Ideas we came up with to accomplish this will be part of the minutes of our meeting. If you aren't a member, pray that God will place it upon your heart that you join us and assist with the work of the Circle.

If you have never been to a conference, don't miss it next year. I guarantee you will laugh and cry and that the day will fly by as we enjoy a marvelous time of spiritual inspiration, as well as the fellowship of being together and the joy of conducting the business of our Circle.

I love you,
Sis. Karen