

# The BAHÁ'Í Connection

The Newsletter for the Bahá'ís of Southeastern Colorado

December 1991

## Calendar of Events

### The Russians are Coming

Our 3 Russian Baha'i guests will be arriving in the evening of December 4th and stay during the day of the 5th. They are from the Ukraine and Siberia and two are English teachers. Their itinerary is not finalized as we go to xerox.

### 10 Baha'is in Glenwood Springs

A year and 3 months ago there were 3 Baha'is in Glenwood. At the commemoration of Abdu'l Baha's visit an assertion was made to usher in a assembly status community. LSA to form in December. Proclamations are happening every 2 months. They would like to have prayers for their teaching efforts.

### Goodbye to Devoted Friends

Muin and Soheila Afnani who first set foot in the shadows of the Pikes Peak region in 1983 have moved on to the golden state of California.

Their contributions were abundant during the last eight years. They served on various committees, LSAs, and Muin served as delegate to National conventions. Soheila by her demeanor demonstrated such courage and understanding after her father's martyrdom that those who witnessed that time will always have a much greater understanding of how important our faith is. Carol Brooks after her appointment of Muin as assistant Auxiliary Board Member gave him a very apt nickname "Well trained mind".

The Afnanis wanted, because of the speed of their move, to tell the community through the newsletter of their heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the friendships and the Baha'i community. They promise to keep us in their prayers.

Sadly, we are also losing two more families. Michael and Berta Gardner will be leaving in December for the Anchorage, Alaska. Michael has served the faith in our community in many ways serving on LSAs and various committees. His warm, open and friendly manner has always brightened any gathering. His contributions will also be sorely missed. Thank you so very much. And Berta we thank you for supporting Michael's Baha'i life, we know it wasn't easy. Stay warm!

Mike and Donna Ard we thought as you thought, you were going to be here a long while. When someone builds their home and then shortly after sells it we consider that person in the construction business. Ah, the foibles of life if it weren't for them we may not have anything, but wouldn't we like to see for ourselves.

Mike brought new music to our ears when Texas Instruments moved his family here a seemingly short while ago. He and Donna were not slow starters in the community they rolled up their sleeves and plunged in to contribute their talents and energies but Texas Instruments had new plans. They will also be leaving in December. We thank you for your assistance and sincere contributions.

Should this newsletter catch up with all of you, let it say publicly we thank you so much for things we know you have given and we suspect there is much you have given that we shall never know and thank you for that also. We pray you will all successfully achieve your heart's desire and may your new Baha'i families find your talents and dedication quickly. God bless and goodbye.

note: As I understand it Colorado Springs community is to grow by 25%. I believe this is the wrong direction. the Ed.

### Colorado Springs

#### Feasts

Thursday Dec 12, 7:15 PPMHC  
Monday Dec 30, 7:15 PPMHC

#### Feasts for Colorado Springs

The Feasts in Colorado Springs are changing. The social/food portion of feasts will now be potluck in style. In other words everyone is encouraged to bring typical feast items for the social portion.

In addition one particularly **new feature is a potluck supper** to occur one hour prior to feast time. So those wishing to have a potluck supper come at 6:15 and bring your delicious dishes.

### El Paso County

#### Feasts

Thursday Dec 12, 7:00 Rouhani  
Monday Dec 30, 7:00 King

### Manitou Springs

#### Feasts

Thursday Dec 12, 7:00 Alison Landis  
Monday Dec 30, 7:30 Debi Miller

#### Highway Cleanup

Dec 29, To Be Announced

### Some Events for Everyone

Sunday, Dec. 8 Going away party/potluck lunch for Mike & Donna Ard and Family and Mike Gardner and family at PPMHC 11:30am to whenever

### See page 2 for Youth Programs

### Firesides

Wed - Co. Spgs. Rickert 260-7732  
Sunday - Co. Spgs. Ostovar 596-3966  
Friday - El Paso Co. Rouhani 392-6472



## A Road of Hard Knocks toward Developing Spirituality

Wrap this poem around a good sized rock and give it to someone you love when all else fails or make one for yourself.

### PRAYER ROCK

I'm Your Little Prayer Rock  
And This Is What I'll Do  
Just Put Me On Your Pillow  
Till The Whole Day Is Through

Then Turn Back The Covers  
And Climb Into Bed  
And "Whack", Your Little Prayer Rock  
Will Hit You On The Head

Then You'll Remember,  
As The Day Is Through  
To Say Your Prayers  
As You Always Wanted To

When Your Prayers Are Finished  
Just Drop Me On The Floor  
I'll Stay There Through The Night  
To Give You Help Once More

When You Arise In The Morning  
"Clunk" I'll Stub Your Toe!  
So You'll Remember Your Morning  
Prayers Just Before You Go

Put Me Back Upon Your Pillow  
When Your Bed Is Made So Fair  
And Your Clever Little Prayer Rock  
Will Continue In Your Care

Because The All Knowing God Above  
Cares And Loves You So  
He Wants You To Remember Him,  
To Talk To Him,... You Know

## Notes on Consultation

One of the hallmarks of the Baha'i Faith is consultation. It is the process which will see us all through the most difficult conflicts that lie ahead for us. If you ever needed a survival tool consultation is the best one. Essentially there are 7 Prime Requisites, 2 conditions and 5 rules of procedure. This article will elaborate on several points. This all may seem simple enough, believe me it isn't. We will have to wage an internal war on what we call innate feelings, i.e. defense, ego, etc. It is vitally important that we enter consultation knowing how important it is for us to increase in our worthiness. Otherwise this experience is only a wonderful illusion.

Much of this article is based upon John L. Kolstoe's book *Cosultation, A Universal Lamp of Guidance* and the training program developed by the National Spiritual Assembly for LSA development.

### 7 Prime requisites

- 1> purity of motive
- 2> radiance of spirit
- 3> detachment from all else save God

- 4> attraction to His Divine Fragrances
- 5> Humility and lowliness amongst His loved ones
- 6> patience and long-suffering in difficulties
- 7> servitude to His exalted Threshold

**Purity of Motive** Purity, freedom from corrupting elements. Anti-purity is mixed emotions, ego involvement. Your is Motive, inner drive, impulse, intention, the inertia that compels someone, make it as pure as you can.

**Radiance of spirit** Radiance, showing pleasure, love well being, shining brightly. The opposite is gloomy, pessimistic attitude. Radiance of spirit is an enthusiasm for life, a real interest in others, sharing happiness, nurturing others.

**Detachment from all else save God.** Detachment does not mean indifference it means rather not being emotionally attached to yourself or others, impartial. It is to be as completely objective as possible. Setting aside all personal preferences except God.

**Attraction to His Divine Fragrances** Be attracted to all of the Divine aspects of God, i.e. Baha'i projects, Eagerness to come together, lively curiosity in all that relates to God's attributes. Abdu'l Baha expresses this in his prayer for Spiritual Assemblies "Come ye together in gladness unalloyed..."

**Humility and lowliness amongst His loved ones.** A modest sense of one's own importance. A trait that develops with the service to the Cause. Positioning yourself to being less than those you are with, but does not mean weakness or timidity. A good quote is that "Humility is love in work clothes". It is using your best talents, resources, and capacity to the best extent for the Cause without being self-conscious. Humility walks a tightrope between two areas, one being fear and insecurity and the other is pride or false modesty. To stay on the tightrope is reliance and confidence in one's relationship to God. Humility rest with giving all in God's path.

**Patience and long-suffering in difficulties** Grace under stress, self-control, perspective, persistence, diligence not succumbing to anger and complaints no matter what frustrations are encountered. Recognition that there some problems with no good solutions. Learning to accept the things that you cannot change. Antithesis/is loss of composure, anger, inaction or passivity.

**Servitude to His exalted Threshold** Servitude can be to be to our own passions our desires, materialism, animalistic impulses, self-gratification, greed, mythical pleasures or it can be in servitude to the attributes of God. It is ironic that true freedom lies in our complete submission or servitude to our Master, the Creator Should they be graciously aided to acquire these attributes victory from the unseen Kingdom of Baha' shall be vouchsafe to them' Baha'i Administration

**TWO CONDITIONS** In a letter from Shoghi Effendi, 3/5/22 quoting Abdu'l Baha', laws and pragmatic results.

*"The first condition is absolute love and harmony amongst the members of assembly. They must be wholly free from estrangement and must manifest in themselves the Unity of God, for they are the waves of one sea, the drops of one river, the stars of one heaven, the rays of one sun, the trees of one orchard, the flower of one garden. Should harmony of thought and absolute unity be non-existent, that gathering shall be dispersed and that assembly be brought to naught. The second condition:- They must when coming together turn their faces to the Kingdom on High and ask aid from the Realm of Glory."* Baha'i Administration

**Remember a condition is a requirement that must be done before anything else.**

**The First Condition** The first condition is absolute love and harmony amongst the members of assembly. They must be wholly free from estrangement and must manifest in themselves the Unity of God, for they are the waves of one sea, the drops of one river, the stars of one heaven, the rays of one sun, the trees of one orchard, the flower of one garden.

Love but the "not liking" attitude is a fallacy. Just getting along is not "Manifest in themselves the Unity of God" servitude to Baha'u'llah

Should harmony of thought and absolute unity be non-existent, that gathering shall be dispersed and that assembly be brought to naught.

Build upon the unity that does exist. This **Should Not** be a

The Bahá'í Connection is published monthly by the Local Spiritual Assembly of Colorado Springs, 5690 Del Paz, Colorado Springs, CO 80918. Information for publication only should be sent to Richard or Maria Stamats, 705 Drew Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80911 or call (719) 392-6472 on or preferably before the 20th of each month.

Change of addresses should also be sent to the above address.

Contributions to offset publication costs and mailing should be sent to Ralph Homan 5720 Escarpado Way, Colorado Springs, CO 80917. The cost of producing each newsletter is currently \$6.00 annually.

The  
**BAHÁ'Í Connection**

705 Drew Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80911

situation where consultation drags through all the petty concerns. It should reach a higher plane where free flowing movement is achieved.

### **Estrangement**

1. to turn away in feeling or affection, to alienate the affections of.
2. to remove to or keep at a distance. For consultation this barrier of estrangement feeling can: Lead to Tension (invisible wall) Discussion becomes superficial, bogged down, flounders in frustration. Decisions become simplistic, Details overlooked, Unpleasantness may enter, Fatiguing as spirit is drained & nerves exhausted, Desire to avoid future meetings, Joy and spirit disappear If there is no growth toward "absolute unity" the assembly will be "brought to naught". Attention may be brought about if only Two members recognize the divine nature of the assembly.

### **The Second Condition**

Turn their faces to the kingdom on high  
Ask aid from the realm of glory entering into consultation  
Everyone is considering many things

#### **To the Kingdom on High**

Develop techniques to bring this frame of mind to bear.

1. Small talk
2. Spend time on devotion or study of Baha'i Writings. This is similar to musicians tuning up or athletes stretching before the main event

Ask for Aid Know that we need assistance 5 rules or procedures to follow 2 Conditions They must then proceed with utmost devotion, courtesy, dignity, care and moderation to express their views. Baha'i Administration p 22

Here are the answers if you must. To view turn upside down and place in front of a mirror to read. I couldn't make it too easy the questions are too easy. But of course it always easier when your the creator. The Ed.



**BULK RATE**



## Area Wide Search Begins

Colorado Springs- An intensive hunt is under way for booknapped Baha'i books being held against their will. Everyone is encouraged to be on the lookout for these disappeared ones they are described as follows: Twins approximately 8 inches tall going by the name "Abdu'l Baha in London"; another set of twins going by the name "The Proclamation of Baha'u'llah"; even another set of twins called "Baha'i Holy Places at the World Centre"; And the final set of twins named "Baha'i World Faith".

Additionally the numerous single books that are on the list of missing are:

**The Advent of Divine Justice,**  
**The Baha'i World - Volumes VII, VIII, & XVII,**  
**Christ and Baha'u'llah,**  
**Epistle to the Son of the Wolf,**  
**God Passes By,**  
**The Hidden Words,**  
**The Kitab-i-Iqan,**  
**Memorials of the Faithful,**  
**Messages to the Baha'i World - 1950-1957,**  
**Synopsis and Codification of the Kitab-i-Aqdas,**  
**Tablets of Baha'u'llah,**  
**The World Order of Baha'u'llah.**

There is no reason to believe that these books left home on their own accord. Detectives Janina and Judi Barnes will keep all information leading to the restoration of these books in complete confidence. And an amnesty program will keep these booknappers from incarceration. Their brother and sister books are at home in the Baha'i Library and they believe that their missing siblings will return. Please call either detective at 598-4806 if you find or have seen these titles hiding in your bookcases or under your mattress.

## Baha'i Youth Ski Weekend Bring a Friend & Teach the Faith

Spend a fun-filled weekend skiing at Monarch Resort. Bring a special friend and gather for an action packed weekend of skiing, eating, playing and making new friends!

### The Details

Pikes Peak Tours Bus leaves Colorado Springs Friday March 6 at 5PM and returns Sunday March 8 at 5PM. Included in this package deal is: Round trip bus, 2 nights at the Monarch Mountain Lodge, Tips from the Ski Patrol Pros, 3 Buffet meals at the lodge-Breakfast, Dinner and Breakfast (lunches are on you), 2 days of lift tickets and ski rentals. Optional 2 hour group lesson \$18.00.

Adults \$168.00  
 Age (13-18) \$162.00  
 Age (7-12) \$155.00  
 Age (0-6) \$53.00  
 Non-Skiers (Excludes Skiing package above)

## 2 The Baha'i Connection

Age (adult-7) \$106.00  
 Age (0-6) \$39.00

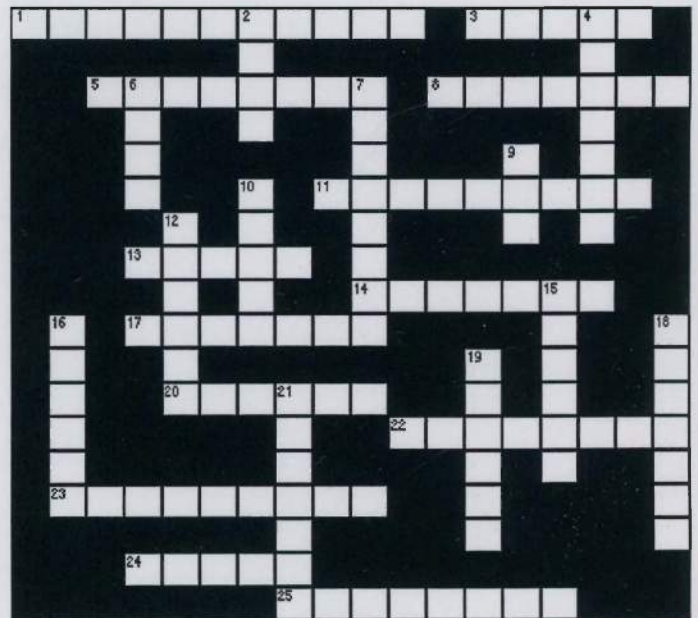
47 People needed to make it happen. So Call as soon as Possible. 50% due Jan 6th. 2nd 50% due Feb. 6th. Youth will agree to a contract of cooperation. Each 4 youth will have an adult supervisor.

## Youth Retreat DEC. 13, 14 & 15

\$5.00 gets you 3 days and 2 nights in beautiful Colorado Springs at the Cann and England homes. (Meals included) Junior High and older only! Young ladies to the Cann home. Young men to the England home.

**COME ENJOY THE FUN!**

Call Bonnie Cann 590-7387 or  
 David England 579-9220



### Clues Across

1. What bird is also a title of Baha'u'llah?
3. Last word of "The Most Holy Book" title?
5. First name of first American believer?
8. Baha'is who relocate to teach the faith?
11. Attitude during prayer?
13. Baha'u'llah's followers?
14. The Baha'i Faith has two official languages one is Arabic.
17. The earliest age at which one can register as a Baha'i?
20. One who has died for is faith?
22. The Bab as a young man worked as a \_?
23. A second language often referred to as a \_ language.
24. Location of Baha'u'llah's ascension?
25. New York City is known as the city of the \_.

### Clues Down

2. How Many Sides to all Baha'i Houses of Worship?
4. What country did Abdu'l Baha come to in 1912?
6. The year 1992 is called a \_ year.
7. Number of Baha'i months in a year?
9. Gate
10. Every 19 days
12. Belief in superior skin color.
15. First name of Baha'u'llah's great grandson.
16. Old name for Iran
18. The Universal House of \_
19. Mountain where the Baha'i World Center is located.
21. What famous ship sank two days after Abdu'l Baha's arrival New York.