



The

Faith Script

Summer, 2004

Vol. 21 Issue 3

APhA PRAYER BREAKFAST

Approximately 95 APhA meeting attendees joined together for praise, prayer and fellowship on Sunday, March 28, 2004 for the CPFI Prayer Breakfast. A time of singing, led on the piano by Elizabeth Bushardt, and a solo by Gene Lutz, President Elect, APhA, was followed by a presentation by Mary Ferrill on "Christ as a Pharmacist." A time of intercessory prayer and singing concluded the event.

Attention:

Christian Pharmacy Mentors

CPFI would like to start and maintain a list of Christian preceptors for pharmacy students and residents. We would like to provide this information to students who contact CPFI. Please e-mail your name, contact information and type of rotation or residency that you provide to office@cpfi.org.

Insightful Quote

Of the nine major religions in the world today, eight of them are man's efforts to get to God. But only one of them is God's effort to get to man—Christianity. Pastor Steve Rosser, Abundant Life Church from Can Prayer Heal? Discovery Health Channel, 2003

In the News...

Morning-After-Pill Denied OTC Status

By Mary Ferrill

On Thursday, May 6, 2004, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), against the recommendation of a panel of scientific advisers, denied Barr Pharmaceutical's request to make their "morning-after-pill" available over-the-counter. This announcement immediately led to allegations that the Bush administration had allowed politics to interfere with sound medical science. However, Barr Pharmaceuticals was told that the FDA would reconsider if the company provided specific supplementary information.

Barr's product, referred to as Plan B, is an emergency contraceptive, which may prevent pregnancy if taken within 72 hours after sexual intercourse. Advocates of the Rx-to-OTC switch state that easier access to Plan B could help to decrease the number of abortions.

One of the concerns stated by the FDA was that the company did not provide sufficient confirmation that adolescent girls (< 16 y/o) could use the product safely without medical supervision.

The advisory panel voted 23-4 in favor of the Rx-to-OTC switch last December. Traditionally, the FDA follows the recommendations of its advisory panels.

A spokesman for Presidential hopeful Sen. John Kerry stated: "the White House is putting its own political interests ahead of sound medical policies that have broad support." The response from the White House was: "This was a decision made by career scientists at the FDA whose primary responsibility is to ensure that the public health is protected."

Those opposed to the switch argued that allowing easy access to Plan B would lead to more promiscuity and sexually transmitted diseases, particularly among young girls.

Barr has the option of either submitting more data regarding safety for use in young women, or providing details on how the product could be sold over-the-counter for those 16 years of age or over. With the second proposal, girls under the age of 16 would still need a prescription. A company spokesman for Barr stated the company would pursue one or both of the options.

Plan B's mechanism of action remains unclear. Some state that emergency contraception, including Plan B is equivalent to an abortion. While there are some data to suggest the agent prevents implantation of a fertilized egg, Barr holds that their product prevents ovulation. Further research is needed to definitively ascertain the exact mechanism.

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~ ❁ ~ *Dispensing Hope and Encouragement* ~ ❁ ~

CHRISTIAN PHARMACISTS FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL

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MISSION MOMENTS

From Tom Bonifield,
tomrphmdiv@yahoo.com

"Hola"

I have been here since Jan 12 - got on the Internet finally just 3 weeks ago. I have two Bible studies on the format of discipleship with three young men in their 20s, and a morning prayer meeting with the young man for whom I provide housing (he comes from a very poor family with a scholarship to the University here in Tegucigalpa). He is a 21 year old, Honduran, almost as thin as I, but over 6 feet tall. He is a brilliant young man who is headed for a medical degree in eight years (the length of time to acquire that degree here). Initially, he could speak about 35% English, and I speak even less Spanish. The idea was for me to learn Spanish from him, and for him to learn English from me. Guess what? He is making great strides, and I am still waddling along! I attend a Spanish speaking church, and while the songs become more familiar, and I am able to follow Scripture as it is flashed on a big screen, my speech and understanding are still very slow. I tell every pastor that I meet, "I did not come to preach; that is your job. I came to serve as a pharmacist with GHO, and to disciple men in their Christian growth. If God had called me to preach, I would already have a year of Spanish behind me." The power of

prayer has been demonstrated to such an extent that I have two married men with families who want to learn to seek the throne of God in intercessory prayer. It reminds me of an old Hymn: "I stand amazed in the presence of Jesus the Nazarene, and wonder how He could love me - a sinner, condemned, unclean." I am still excited, and God enables me to amaze many on the various teams. It seems that my age is supposed to confine me to a rest home, or some such!

Mission work is NOT a dull existence, and my family is so very supportive in prayer and handling my retirement income within which I must live. Keep me in your prayers: I have another seven months before my Ford Focus (which I left in the States) is paid for (it is in storage so that I will have transportation when I come home for a month at Christmas). Then, I can breathe a little easier!!! But I feel that God wanted me to realize that it is in Him that I place my trust, not in my retirement income!!!!

My daughter, Pam, is going through some more difficult time with a constriction in the vein draining the blood from the head to the Medaport. The vein does not like the medaport, so it is constricted, thus drastically slowing the blood returning to the heart, giving extreme instability and pain.

However, she still teaches a Wednesday night pre-teen Bible study, and a Sunday morning S.S. class of 8 thru 10 year olds, and plays the piano once a week for a Nursing Home ministry.

I look forward to a very fulfilling life in the next 20 years. I tell everybody that I'm going to retire when I am 96! May the Grace, Mercy and Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I must say that the wording of the letter to Eckerd drug as suggested by Children of God for Life and listed in Vol 20 Issue 5 of Faith Script was a bit inappropriate. As Christians, we are to follow Christ's example. Would Christ threaten litigation? Would Christ threaten to boycott a company? Doubtful. Romans 12:14 tells us to bless those who persecute us, and verses 17-19 say do not repay evil for evil for vengeance is the Lord's. James 1:2 says WHEN you fall into trials... when, not if, we fall into trials. Christians are going to have trials no doubt about it. How will we respond? Will we allow the flesh or the Spirit to rule?

Dani S. Dolin, Pharm.D.
Morgantown, WV

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Circle of Friends

I was listening to my local Christian radio station one morning when the station manager asked: "What would you do if this station was no longer on the air?" The station does not allow advertisements and operates solely on donations from listeners. I thought for a moment and then realized how much I enjoyed the radio station. I joined their Circle of Friends and I now make a monthly donation to the station.

CPFI has lost their corporate sponsorship of the journal and newsletter, in the amount of \$18,000 per year. If you enjoy receiving our publications, would you consider joining our "Circle of Friends"? Whether you want to make a one-time donation or a monthly commitment, all contributions to CPFI are tax deductible. We thank you for your continued support of CPFI. (See Circle of Friends box on this page.)

I would like to join CPFI's Circle of Friends so that the Newsletter and Journal may continue to be published.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PLEDGE AMOUNT

We will acknowledge your pledge by name (not by amount) in upcoming issues of Faith Script, unless you wish to remain anonymous (check here). Please send this coupon to CPFI in the enclosed envelope. Thank you and God bless!

Please fill out the Circle of Friends Box and mail a check to CPFI, or send a check with "Circle of Friends" listed in the memo section.

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Contributing Member

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Kay E. Houghton
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Randy Jones
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LETTER TO THE EDITOR (Continued from page 2)

Response:

Thank you for your e-mail. The article in the latest newsletter was a news release discussing the issue from a secular point of view and the letter is the opinion of one person, Debra Vinnedge from the Children of God for Life. I have now been able to contact Gene Herr (one of the Eckerd pharmacists who was fired) and a story about him will appear in the Journal in the Fall from a Christian perspective.

Thank you again for your thoughts.

I appreciate that you read the article and took the time to provide your thoughts.

In Christ,
Mary J. Ferrill

Global Missions Health Conference

Global Missions Health Conference will be held in Louisville, Kentucky on November 12 - 13, 2004. CPFI is pleased to once again partner with the SouthEast Christian Church, Christian Medical and Dental Association and numerous other Christian organizations to present the Global Missions Health Conference in Louisville, Kentucky. The largest medical mission conference of this type, last year's meeting had the highest attendance to date, with over 1500 attendees. This included the highest number of students (over 400) and pharmacists (over 100) since its inception. Mark your calendar now and don't miss this incredible conference for anyone with a heart to serve God either locally or in the uttermost parts of the earth. You can find more information regarding the conference at: http://www.southeastchristian.org/gmhc_index.cfm.

Palm Beach Atlantic University School of Pharmacy Returns from Pharmacy Mission Trip to Bolivia

A group of 18 faculty and students from Palm Beach Atlantic University School of Pharmacy recently returned from two weeks in Cochabamba, Bolivia, serving in a pharmacy missions project. Participants had the opportunity to serve in a local medical clinic, help with construction projects and visit several orphanages. It was truly a blessed time for the group. The group is also extremely thankful to CPFI, who provided some scholarship funds for the participants. Be looking for a more detailed report of the trip in the next edition of Christianity and Pharmacy.

Information Regarding the Acquisition of Donated Medications

For those of you that have been involved in the acquisition of donated medications for short or long term medical missions projects, we are com-

piling a list of companies, organizations, foundations, etc. which donate for such projects. We need to hear about your experiences to get a complete list. Please contact Christine Birnie at christine_birnie@pba.edu with any information you may have regarding this issue.

Donations Being Accepted to Fund Student Travel to the CPFI Annual Meeting

The Board has established a fund to help support student travel to the CPFI Annual meeting. If you would like to contribute, please send a check to CPFI with "Student" written in the memo section. Students interested in attending the annual meeting next year will be given the opportunity to request sponsorship. This is a great way to introduce future pharmacists to the fellowship that CPFI offers before they graduate. A contribution of \$50 or \$100 or whatever you can spare will help a student discover the spirit of Jesus Christ in our profession. Consider it an investment in the future of our organization, and a gift of God's peace to a fellow human being. Nine students attended this year's meeting, five from Palm Beach Atlantic and four from North Dakota. We'd like to see that number grow every year from member support.

2004 Annual Meeting Update

There were a total of 152 attendees who took part in this year's Annual meeting in Colorado Springs, 75 of whom were pharmacists. Fun was had by all with activities such as visiting Garden of the Gods, Pike's Peak, Manitou Spring's Cliff Dwellings, Focus on the Family, Cave of the Winds, and the Flying 'W' Ranch, all located near to the conference facilities. There were also miles of hiking trails in and around the conference center grounds. Many participants commented on the breath-taking scenery in the area as an impressive reminder of God's majesty. The picturesque landscapes of the foothills around Colorado Springs served as an awe-inspiring catalyst to the worship and fellowship that took place. More information and pictures will be provided in the next Journal.



A few brave souls ventured to Dorothy falls after dinner on Saturday night.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Mark your calendars!

CPFI usually has a prayer breakfast at all National Pharmacy meetings. For more details, watch for flyers in the mail or check the daily or updated meeting schedule for each program.

Annual Meeting - June 10 - 15, 2005

The CPFI Annual meeting is back at Myrtle Beach. Attending this annual meeting is a must! There will be plenty of family activities, food, prayer, and of course CE! Come and enjoy a pharmacy program from a Christian perspective. Make sure and bring a friend (or two!).

Editor's Note

from In the News on page 1:

If you would like to give your opinion about this issue, please e-mail your comments to Mary Ferrill at mferrill@wingate.edu.

We will include these comments in the next issue of *The Faith Script*.

GLOBAL HEALTH ORGANIZATION MISSION TRIP CALENDAR

For more information on these mission trips, call 423-844-1000 or e-mail gho@cmdahome.org or The Christian Medical and Dental Association (CMDA)



You can also contact Ronald Herman, ronherman@mchsi.com to learn more about short-term mission trips.

2004 Upcoming Project Schedule

JUL 29 - AUG 12, 04 Ghana <i>Families Welcome</i>
AUG 6 - 22, 04 Kenya
AUG 14 - 28, 04 San Salvador, El Salvador <i>Only accepting healthcare professionals and dentists</i>
AUG 21 - 29, 04 Langué, Honduras <i>Only accepting healthcare professionals and dentists</i>
AUG 27 - SEPT 8, 04 Afghanistan
OCT 23 - 31, 04 San Marcos de Colon, Honduras

Nov 6 - 20, 04 Cuenca, Ecuador <i>General Surgery</i>
NOV 29 - DEC 12, 04 Afghanistan <i>ENT, Dermatology, Pediatrics</i>
DEC 4 - 12, 04 El Triunfo, Honduras
DEC 13 - 17, 04 Talaube, Honduras <i>Prison Ministry, No minors</i>
JAN 13 - 29, 05 Ghana
JAN 15 - 22, 05 Mexico <i>Orthopedic Specialty Team</i>
FEB 12 - 26, 05 El Sembrador, Honduras



A warm welcome to CPFI board members, both new and current, for the 2004-2005 year. The board members were voted in during the annual meeting in Colorado Springs.

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Palm Beach Atlantic University School of Pharmacy in West Palm Beach, FL. (www.pba.edu) continues to search for qualified Christian clinical faculty to fill several vacant positions. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact CPFI member Warren Richards' warren_richards@pba.edu

Register to Vote

Don't forget to register to vote and take part in our national election this fall. Our Christian voices must be heard. Please also continue to pray for our nation's administration and our armed forces.

