

# Valley View Voice

Valley View Retirement Village • Rock of Ages Mennonite Home • M.A.I.D.S. • McMinnville, Oregon • Winter 2018

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## Valley View Voice

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## BRUCE AND SHIRLEY HAMILTON

by Victoria Wilbanks

Bruce Hamilton came into the world in April of 1940 in Willamina, OR. He was the last of five boys, but later two sisters came along, then *much* later another boy was born, making a happy family with eight children. Their parents were Walter Hamilton, who was in the timber business, and his wife, Tillie, who was a wonderful homemaker. Mr. Hamilton owned a portable sawmill business, and was able to go to his clients to work, and Bruce says this mobility was the reason he attended several schools in the area, although he eventually graduated from Willamina High School. After high school, Bruce got an opportunity to work and attend a Junior College in Kansas which was associated with his church. The cost for his schooling at this time was only \$1,000, and his uncle wrote him a check for that amount in exchange for summer work.



After his college experience in Kansas, Bruce moved home and worked together with his father in Willamina in timber related jobs, but eventually wanted a change, and went to Portland, where he got a job at Good Samaritan Hospital. This was a most fortunate choice, as he met his wife Shirley there. This choice also introduced him to the medical field, and eventually Bruce completed his college education, graduating from University of Portland as a registered nurse, and pursued a long career at Emanuel Hospital.

Shirley was born in Middlebury, Indiana in 1942. She was born in her parents' home, which was a converted one room school house. Her family consisted of nine children, four boys and five girls. Her father was a carpenter, and her mother a dedicated homemaker. Shirley attended Bethany Christian High School, and after graduation in 1960, she had the opportunity to move to Oregon through the Mennonite Volunteer Program, and at this time met Bruce at Good Samaritan Hospital. Shirley continued her career at Good Samaritan Hospital for another 32 years.

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## From Delvin's Desk



Working in the healthcare arena there are always regulatory changes that require us to adapt and evolve, and to which an organization such as Bible Mennonite Fellowship Inc. must pay close attention. Change in regulations may affect housing and healthcare including: regulations from the Department of Human Services, employee issues and employment practices, fire, life and safety, structural, OSHA, DEQ, Oregon Health Authority, Medicare and Medicaid issues including funding, rental and housing regulations, financial and accounting management, nurses (RN, LPN, CNA), insurance including liability, health and general, and the list can go on and on.

We have a great office team that does a tremendous job keeping track and monitoring regulations. The office, including Sheila and I along with Susan and Carla, works to keep the organization in compliance with these regulations. We have a CPA firm, Kathleen Bernards and Associates, who is a tremendous support; our experienced legal support, Dianne Haugeberg, Attorney at law; members of

LeadingAge, both Oregon and National, who keep us abreast of changes in the State and Federal law and regulatory issues, an HR firm addressing employment issues and other expertise at our fingertips to make sure we are within the law. We currently have two certified administrators, Oscar Hernandez for Memory Care and we are searching for a new administrator for our MAIDS programs. We also have a long-time employee, Jennie Ludwig, who is moving from the position of MAIDS administrator and will be filling the position of technical support.

Our goal is to serve our customers with satisfaction, and it takes a responsible management team to make sure we can do that. As the CEO for over 35 years I have seen lots of changes and expansion. One of my biggest concerns is that in all our responsibilities and challenges we remain “person centered” in our decisions and work, and that you feel a personal and warm relationship in working with management here in our community. Every staff member is expected to serve with a smile and go the extra mile. Making you feel at home is our desire. Please let us know where we can improve and serve you better.

## Chaplain's Corner



Mark Nissley

Recognizing 2017 is history and 2018 reality, I'd like to take this opportunity to express a deep appreciation to you residents and friends of Rock of Ages.

Although I do not advocate trying to divide our lives into neat little compartments of spiritual, emotional and physical, because of how closely intertwined is our body, soul, and spirit, it may be advantageous to look closely at our spiritual growth in the past year as well as our potential spiritual growth in the future. Doing this, I believe, will challenge us to be faithful and stay proactive in our spiritual growth, giving us incentive to assist others spiritually as well.

It is refreshing to see how differently our souls and bodies respond to aging, or should I say, maturity. Second Corinthians 4:16 says it so beautifully,

“Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.” This year I have seen this truth modeled in your lives as residents along with others in the community.

So, thank you for giving spiritually from your hearts. You have done this in so many ways. Helping in our Sunday morning services through special music, giving of finances, praying for each other, being greeters, bringing folks to the services, sharing meditations, attending memorial services, giving that one-on-one word of encouragement and that hug. There are those of you who visit residents, make phone calls, get out reminders about events and much more.

Current opportunities where your spiritual input and support are appreciated: Sunday services, Sunday evening service in Memory Care Unit, Thursday intercessory prayer at the chapel,

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## Honoring our Employees

### Employees of the Month/Year



**Kim Martinez** was selected as the Employee of the Month for September. Kim is the RN for Memory Care and has worked at ROC since 2012.

Kim also is working one day a week in the new TLC Clinic.



**Cindy Caswell** was named Employee of the Month for October and also Employee of the Year for 2017. Cindy has worked as a MAID since September 2016, mostly on the night shift.

Thank you for your service, ladies.

#### *From the Cloverdale Farms reader board:*

- What you are going to be tomorrow, you are becoming today.
- When a man gets too big for his britches his hat won't fit either.
- Patience is the ability to let your light shine even after your fuse has blown.
- Small things, if not corrected, become big things always.
- He that is good for making excuses is seldom good for anything else.!

(Hamilton continued from pg one)

Bruce and Shirley soon married in November of 1961. Since they were both involved in the medical field, and with the Mennonite church, this proved to be a wonderful match. They were eager to start a family, and establish a home, so after their two boys were born, they purchased a beautiful and spacious home in Portland, which was to be a haven for their many wonderful times.

As the children grew older, the couple found themselves hosting many young people through their work with the Mennonite Church and through Columbia Christian College. On one occasion, they took a group to Ontario, Canada in a 12 passenger van for the purpose of attending a conference. Along the way, they stayed with Mennonite families who opened their homes for them. Shirley was also a very avid quilter, and made countless quilts for kids who graduated, and many others. Bruce loved to do wood working, and the large house gave both of them the space to pursue their hobbies.

In addition to their busy involvement with the lives of many youth, Bruce and Shirley found time for choral pursuits, and they both sang for *The Singing Christmas Tree* in Portland. They both love to sing and both love southern gospel music. Bruce also learned to play the guitar.

Life continued to be rich and joyful for the Hamiltons, and eventually the boys grew up, married and had children of their own. Rex became a college professor in Stockton, California, and Kent and his wife, Kim, live in Weiser, Idaho, where he works as a Physicians' Assistant, and Kim enjoys being a homemaker, although she has taught school in the past. Bruce and Shirley both enjoy the five grandchildren that they now have. One of the grandchildren will be the first to be married this year.

Their boys were both acquainted with Rock of Ages, and encouraged their parents to investigate moving to the campus. Bruce and Shirley had attended events at Rock of Ages, such as air shows, so they were also familiar with the facility, and thought it would be a good choice for them. They were right, and Shirley says everything went like clockwork for them with the sale of their home, and the acquisition of their new home at Rock of Ages. They now enjoy their "small home," which

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# Rock of Ages

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Shirley says is “just right” for them, although she still cherishes the memories they made together in the joy-filled “large home” in Portland. In fact, Bruce proudly displays his guitar and a homemade harp in their current home, which he still puts to good use. He also continues to enjoy wood carving, and although he no longer has the large space that a large family home affords, he makes use of local resources, which give him the opportunity to continue his hobby. The couple both feel very blessed that they found their new home at Rock of Ages/Valley View in June of 2016.

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Wednesday evening worship and Bible study in memory care, our birthday celebrations, movie night, ladies tea, men’s breakfast, Tuesday coffee hour, Thursday coffee at the Senior Center, the list goes on.

Although there is no way to properly document and honor the ways many of you here at Rock of Ages/ Valley View provide much needed spiritual encourage and enrichment to each other, please accept my sincere appreciation. Thank you for caring.

Looking forward, there are likely more ways, which given some planning and leadership, would benefit us. I invite you to share your vision, your gifts, your advice concerning ways which will help provide spiritual growth and emotional support to us. Is there a need or desire for a grief support group, a music jam session or weekly choir practice? What do you think?

As so beautifully expressed in the Ray Boltz song *Thank You for Giving to the Lord*, only eternity will reveal how many people you have helped to stay strong in the faith.