



Twelveacres

Newsletter Spring 2005

*I love to tell the story of unseen things above, of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love, I love to tell the story
Because I know 'tis true, It satisfies my longing as nothing else can do. C.S. Hymnal 414*

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We Love To Tell The Story

Satisfied longing for the healing that emblazons pure Christianity—Jesus-style healing—is what our mission is all about. Let us tell you some glorious stories!

Twelveacres CEO, Marlie Brooks, has received many expressions of gratitude from parents of our clients. Their appreciation overflows with joy for the wondrous progress and healing of their beloved sons and daughters. They "...love to tell the story."

From a letter written by a father to the CEO

I am reminded that soon we shall come upon the anniversary of my son's first days at Twelveacres. I recall that it was a time of apprehension for my wife and me, for an earlier experience with having him away from our home had left us concerned for his future physical and emotional well being.

Prior to an introduction to Twelveacres, our son had resided in a private care facility, where increasing doses of sedating medications were the response to his hyperactivity. At times we would find him in a semi-comatose state. It wasn't long before we realized that was not the future we had envisioned for our cherished son, and so we began a search for an alternative environment for him. I'm not sure that we knew then precisely what we sought, other than an opportunity for him to develop into the man that he was intended to be.

How we found the Twelveacres community is of less importance than what we found there, which was spirituality, caring, peace and harmony. The atmosphere engendered over the years by the directing and operating staffs of Twelveacres has brought personal growth to our son—and considerably beyond the expectations described earlier by health professionals. In many ways he also has taught us patience, understanding and a greater acceptance of God's will than we otherwise might have.

On behalf of my family, I should like to express in this letter our thanks to you, to those who preceded you and to those who shall surely follow, for the years of dedication that make Twelveacres the refuge of spirituality and compassion that it is for the sons and daughters of families such as ours.

*I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
The message of salvation from God's own holy word.*

From a parent's letter about a son's Christmas holiday home-visit

Our son arrived home with many indications of joy. He is talking. He is responding to questions. He was willing to do his chores with simple direction and finished without continuous prompting. Our visit turned out to be a very happy time with our son who expressed joy and healing each day with us.

Thanks to all for the dedicated staff who provide the atmosphere needed for the continuation of healing.

*I love to tell the story, it is my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

The CEO received a phone call from another father whose son had visited over the Christmas holidays.



We Love To Tell The Story *(continued from previous page)*

That father reported he had observed the greatest progress he had ever seen since his son had come to Twelveacres. He noted a maturity and dignity present in his son that wasn't noticeable during his last visit. He loved that it was no longer necessary for his son to "take center stage" all the time. Now, he was willing to sit and listen to others and to interject intelligent comments into their shared conversation. He no longer interrupted others, nor did he repeat ideas he had already voiced. This father also reported that his son's reading and comprehension had improved considerably since his visit a year ago. His closing comment was a heartfelt, "It's marvelous to see."



*I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
Seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest,
I love to tell the story, to sing the new, new song
That is the old, old story that I have loved so long.*

*I love to tell the story, it is my them in glory
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*



A letter from a mother

When my son arrived at Twelveacres, he was mentally unreachable and unteachable. Compulsive behavior filled his days, and that was only the beginning of his sad condition. Today he lives in a beautiful home with four other men. He contributes to the activities of his home with a happy heart. He attends daily learning programs in the community, attends church, swims, goes to baseball games and dances. He enjoys his housemates and expresses loving care for others in a very tangible way. This is not the person who came to Twelveacres.

In a world where the only redress in caring for those labeled developmentally disabled is sedation and medication—with no hope of healing—Twelveacres stands as a beacon of enlightened thought, whose residents are healed through prayer to God alone.

Twelveacres' staff members embrace the altitude of thought that refuses to see any but the spiritual man and woman of God's creating. They are patient, loving, creative, and expectant of constant progress and healing. Words cannot possibly express the gratitude I feel for God's precious gift to the world—Twelveacres.

*I love to tell the story, it is my them in glory
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

Welcome New Board Members

Jill Grimes, CS, is a life-long Christian Scientist and a Christian Science Practitioner since 1984. Her parents were also Journal-listed in the practice; her dad was a Teacher of Christian Science. Jill's brother is also a Journal-listed Practitioner. Her husband is a Christian Science Practitioner and Teacher.

Jill has put this spiritual lineage to good use in her own life. In tandem with her practice, she has been an active member of a total of six branch churches in the West, Midwest and East. She and her husband Paul now reside in Tucson, Arizona. Jill is a former member of the Committee on Institutional Work in Southern California, which included work in a state mental hospital. She also started a Sunday School program in a Juvenile detention center. She is a mother, and grandmother of three. Jill enthusiastically joins our Board and is looking forward

to being a vital part of the healing foundation of Twelveacres, and its unique mission as an emissary of Christian Science healing, to our local community, the state, and the world.

Patricia McNeill has worked in the field of fundraising for over 20 years. She began her career at a small consulting firm in New York City whose clients included a wide variety of non-profit agencies. Since 2002 Patricia has been fundraising for San Jose State University. She is currently Director of Development. An active church member since the mid-eighties, Patricia has served on several branch church boards. While living in Los Angeles, she was a Mother Church bookstore representative for Science and Health for a few years, prior to moving to Northern California. She now lives in Los Gatos with her 12 year-old daughter, Gabriela, and her Welsh Terrier, Lizzy. 🐾

“Welcome
board members
Jill Grimes, CS
and
Patricia McNeill”



Healing the Unhealable Series of Talks

There was a grand reception in each of three church communities in southern California for our Healing the Unhealable Series in early December 2004.

- ◆ **Molly Byers, CS**, of Long Beach gave an inspirational talk in First Church, Palos Verdes Peninsula on December 2nd.
- ◆ **Julio Rivas, CS**, of Hollywood spoke at Tenth Church in Los Angeles on December 4th.
- ◆ **Lona Ingwerson, CS**, of Laguna Beach spoke at First Church Laguna Niguel on December 5th.

All the talks were well attended. We received rave reviews for all three—both on the spot and in calls

and letters afterwards. Twelveacres is humbly grateful to each speaker for their gifts of these inspiring talks. How well they magnify praise to God for Love's healing and saving ability! What blessings we feel in telling the world about Twelveacres and its healing mission, proving that there really is no "unhealable" condition.

We would love to present a Healing the Unhealable talk in your city. If you would like to host a talk for your community, please call our CEO, Marlie Brooks, at 408.341.0100, extension 102.

*I love to tell the story, 'tis pleasant to repeat
What seems each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet.*



“ We would love to present a Healing the Unhealable talk in your city... ”

Current Progress and Healing at Twelveacres

A client loves the Lesson Sermon. When she gets home from her day program, she often indicates that she wants to watch the Bible Lesson on video. She doesn't speak, but she makes her desire plain by standing in front of the television, pointing, until the staff asks her if she wants to watch the Lesson Sermon. She nods her head and grins broadly—her unique “yes.”

More and more, a client continues to converse to the delight of all. For many years, he rarely spoke. At a recent house meeting (staff congregate monthly to discuss each client's progress), ideas for activities were being discussed. Many ideas and suggestions were shared by the staff. The client was sitting nearby listening intently. When the meeting concluded and staff were preparing to leave, he spoke very clearly, “I like shopping, papers and groceries.” We've raised our expectation level another notch for this client's ability to communicate.

Another man has made remarkable improvement in caring for his clothes. Keeping things neat and orderly is a work in progress for him. He has been known to throw his clothes in a heap on the floor of his closet and to stuff things in drawers until they could not be opened or closed. Often, when told to clean the top of his dresser, he would quickly shove everything into the upper drawer, closing it before anyone could see. He is getting better. He has been observed shaking out his pants and neatly folding them over the hanger. He is learning to fold his clothes before placing them in

the drawer. On his last laundry day, he was very proud of his accomplishment and said, “Hey, look, I did it right!”

Three months ago, a client was having behavior problems such that her (and her housemates') nights were sleepless, disrupted by loud talking and screaming. She was not eating her meals, was very frail, and unable to attend her day program. This behavior was incessant over numerous days and nights. Board members and staff spent many hours reading from the Bible and our Textbook while the noise went on without a break. Persistence in the Truth paid off. Today she continues to remain free from those behaviors. She is long since back in her day program, fully able to participate. The frail appearance quickly faded into its “native nothingness.” Her cheeks are rosy and her eyes bright. She is back to her original beautiful self. Everyone, including her roommates, is grateful.

We all are expressing our gratitude daily for these beautiful evidences of progress and healing—the natural and expected outcome of practicing Christian Science when facing any problem.

*I love to tell the story of unseen things
above, Of Jesus and his glory,
of Jesus and his love.*



“ ...he was very proud of his accomplishment and said, ‘Hey, look; I did it right!’ ”



From July 1, 2004 through February 28, 2005 Twelveacres received greatly appreciated donations in the names of the following:

In Memory of:

Joy Hammell Allbright
RADM. C.C. "Andy" Andrews
Lenore Ruby Cross
Rick Danielson
M. Scott Darnell
Helen Derevan
Anita Flori
Elsa Forsblad
Harriet Gaffney
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Patricia Wagenseil
Robert M. & Matilda C. Wehle
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In Honor of:

Kendall Alisch
Marlie Brooks
Bill & Holliday Bruegmann
David & Alice Bullwinkle

Amy L. Hellyer
Mary Hellyer
Babs Koehler
Ruth Lee

Amy Long
Debbie Mueller
Alan Schmidt
Ruth Sonke

Laura Spaulding
Shari Tobias
Marian Wells

Twelveacres has need of contributions to the general fund for...

- ◆ Re-instatement of our Vocational Education Program—\$100,000 per year
- ◆ "On the Road" expenses for our Healing the Unhealable Talk Series (one trip averages \$500—\$2000)
- ◆ Christian Science Periodical Subscriptions for each of our six homes (\$500 annually per client home)
- ◆ DVD Players for clients to watch the Daily Lesson Sermon (\$100 per DVD player, six are needed)
- ◆ Purchase of a home to replace Harlan House (\$450,000 in the current market; down payment is \$90,000)

Thank you for advancing our work with your gift!

Check donations may be made payable to Twelveacres, Inc. and sent to:

595 Millich Drive, Ste. 104,
Campbell, CA 95008-0550

Donations may also be made via our web site:
www.twelveacres.org

Click the "Donations" button on the left; click the "Make a Donation" button.

Where there's a will, there's a way—to give.

Many people feel increased peace after prayerfully deciding how best to distribute their assets. It is also wise to seek counsel from an attorney specializing in probate and estate planning. You may give stocks, bonds, a dollar amount, or a percentage of your estate, tax free, with or without restrictions. A bequest to Twelveacres makes an impact—for you, and for our clients as they pursue "... a determined, joyful denial of limitation."

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It is my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story
Of Jesus and his love.
C.S. Hymnal 414*



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