



# The Abbey Message

Subiaco  
Abbey

News of our Apostolates for Friends of Subiaco

Spring 2008

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## Monastic Leisure

by Br. Patrick Boland, OSB

According to Abbot Jacques Winandy of Clervaux, “Saint Anthony described the monastic vocation by the expression *propositum quietis*. *Propositum* means a purpose, a plan, an ideal of a calm and tranquil life.” Taking each moment of the day as a gift from God I think could be something everyone can do. It’s not exactly rest, but it’s not rushing around trying to get too much done either. Monastic leisure is, perhaps, an attitude, which is transformed into an action. Monastic leisure is a “calm approach” toward the responsibilities and challenges of each day. We do what needs to be done at the time it needs to be done and try not to worry about what needs to be done next.

Monastic leisure demands our surrender of control. Ironically, it is the surrender which gives leisure its power, through internal peace, which can be an external sign for others in kindness. When a guest says,

“Subiaco and the monks are so peaceful and kind,” I believe their observation is the fruit of our practice of monastic leisure.

I am learning to appreciate monastic leisure as I balance my responsibilities as both a full-time student at Arkansas Tech and a junior monk at Subiaco. This balance requires organization, discipline and peacefulness. I’m certain my experience in management helps with being organized and disciplined. Adding the element of peacefulness reduces the stress of being busy much more effectively than the “counting to ten, breathe” approach commonly applied. Counting to ten is a rest period and thus has an endpoint, monastic leisure is continuous. Perhaps I have the cart before the horse; perhaps God gave me the gifts of organization and discipline which helped me succeed in the business world and now those same gifts plus monastic leisure are helping me at Subiaco.

One of the tenets of Benedictine spirituality is balance in one’s life. As Benedictines we aspire to have a healthy balance of prayer, work and leisure. My enrollment at Arkansas Tech University, majoring in General Technology with an emphasis in Air Conditioning/Heating/Refrigeration, and my enrollment at the Theology Institute with the Diocese of Little Rock and St. Gregory’s University, seeking a bachelor’s degree in Theology, keeps me very busy. Fortunately I have been able to schedule my classes with little interruption to my obligation to the Divine Office, *Lectio Divina* and spiritual reading.



Monastic leisure is an area of my formation I am learning to appreciate. Monastic leisure is the opposite of idleness; it requires the mental attitude to approach each moment of the day in peace, confident that God is in control.

Some of my fellow students feel I have an unfair advantage living at the monastery because I can devote more of my time to studying, free from the distractions of holding a job, family obligations and social functions. I guess they may have a point to some degree. However, I try to share that I have these responsibilities as well at the monastery, which is very much like a family. I must do my part to help with household duties and the primary work of a monk is prayer. These responsibilities consume a significant portion of my day. I think over time I have made some progress explaining this to my classmates, but I don't think they can get the full grasp of how busy life as a monk can be unless they actually lived here. That's okay; I'm grateful I can share my life as a monk openly with them. Hopefully, they can find something they can use in their relationship with God.

Monastic leisure includes social time and recreation, but also "purposeful leisure." When I entered Subiaco as a candidate 2 ½ years ago I thought it was going to be pretty easy. I soon found myself wondering why I was so tired all the time. The Abbot told me it was normal to be tired in the first couple of months because adjusting to the schedule required a large amount of energy. Most of the effort was mental discipline and simply learning so many new things. But getting up early everyday was an adjustment as well and required the discipline of going to bed at a reasonable time, which I didn't practice before.

I am learning that it is my practice of monastic leisure that keeps me energized throughout the day. Monastic leisure is a calm approach to the challenges of the day. Which reminds me of when I decided (after numerous speeding tickets and excessive insurance premiums) that I would simply stop "speeding" several years ago. This occurred while I was living in Florida and traveling to visit my family in Pennsylvania twice a year. I soon learned that the drive was so much easier without the stress of constantly looking for the police and weaving in and out of traffic.

Monastic leisure is the state of mind that says, "I'm not in control anyway, so go with the flow." This doesn't mean ignoring responsibilities, but means not trying to control every minute of the day. I believe that this is the true spirit of monastic leisure that provides peacefulness. This type of leisure can be applied to life outside the Abbey as well. This may be counter-cultural, but I believe everybody could afford to slow down a little and find peace in the moments of the day.

## Abbey

### Over-Responsibility

Everyone likes to be known as a responsible person. It's a compliment to be described as having a "sense of responsibility." We know how valuable a responsible member is in any group, someone you can always count on. Words like "accountability," "commitment," "faithfulness" have a positive ring.

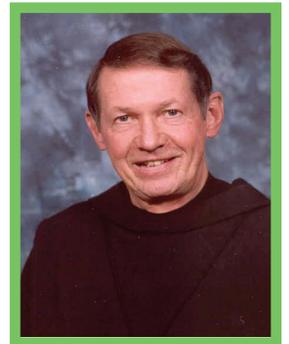
Many of the woes of society are attributed to a failure of responsibility. "Mistakes were made." "The department I was in charge of had errors in bookwork." Adam blamed Eve; Eve blamed the snake. When Washington, D.C., was criticized for its high crime rate, Mayor Marion Berry defended his administration: "Aside from all the murders, Washington has one of the lowest crime rates in the country."

Responsibility is a key mark of maturity and is basic to stewardship of the gifts we have received from God. But responsibility has a seductive side and may become irresponsibility under a mask. Taking too much responsibility – in other words, assuming responsibility that isn't ours – can be just as harmful as taking too little. We rarely get criticized for taking too much responsibility; rather, we are often praised for it.

In *The Road Less Traveled*, psychiatrist Scott Peck describes taking too little responsibility as a character disorder and taking too much as a neurosis. A typical problem he saw in his patients was assuming too much responsibility and then complaining of the stress it caused. Poet William Blake had a word for this pattern: "mind-forged manacles."

What are some examples of over-responsibility or misplaced responsibility? A caring person might assume the medical care of an uncle who has children of his own. This begins in charity but may end in frustration and anger on the part of the caregiver (and the children). Or a pastor might devote so much energy and time to convincing uninterested parishioners to come to a Wednesday night discussion that he ends up with a stroke. Much energy is wasted on stewing about things beyond one's control: the weather, government spending, the spread of cancer, the conduct of grown children or grandchildren. Stories about the fallout of over-responsibility are regularly in the news: a man who destroyed his marriage because of total commitment to Little League sports; a woman who gave a vast fortune to protecting a rare species of fish which died out soon after she did.

The mature person is responsible, not under-responsible nor over-responsible. Pope John XXIII, a very wise and mature person with a monumental assignment, described his approach to problems brought to him daily in these words: "I try to see



everything: I overlook most, and change what I can.” He knew that even though he was responsible for leading the Church, he was not God, and most things were beyond his control. He discerned which issues needed his attention and trusted God to take care of the rest. Mother Teresa didn’t worry about whether or not her work with the dying poor was judged successful: “God does not ask me to be successful, but faithful.”

We are often over-responsible towards ourselves. “I know it’s wrong for me to feel this way.” A feeling is not wrong. My responsibility lies in what I do about the feeling, in my actions and attitudes. “I feel terrible because I have so many distractions when I try to pray.” Distractions are by definition involuntary. They are not my responsibility unless I make them voluntary.

In a business (or a parish or a religious community) an over-responsible person may take on jobs never assigned until he is overwhelmed and stressed, and probably angry. But even when offered relief, he may be unable to let go. A person with a big job may be unable to delegate part of the responsibility. “I am the only one who can do this right.” All roads stop at his door and he is very angry.

In the spiritual realm, under-responsibility is associated with the sin of presumption, and over- or misplaced responsibility with a lack of faith. God will not or cannot take care of things, and therefore I must. The call to commitment and faithfulness does not mean we agree to do everything, nor that we refuse to do enough. It means we discern the true responsibility within the daily demands, needs, and opportunities that come our way. This is the road to charity, joy, and peace.

*Abbot Jerome Kodell, OSB*

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## Abbey Journal

*by Fr. Mark Stengel, OSB*

### January

The first week of the new year saw the coldest and the warmest temperatures of the winter. Eleven degrees was recorded on January 2; three days later we were basking in record-setting 70’s. Such extreme weather fluctuations are often blamed for sickness during the winter months. Whether there is any real connection does not seem to be proven. At any rate, many monks had one or more bouts with URI’s, often coupled with LGI distress (Upper Respiratory Infection, Lower Gastro-Intestinal). The afflicted monks dropped out of circulation for some days, leading to speculation about their whereabouts: “Is Father X on vacation? Did Brother Y go to a funeral or something?” When the sufferer arose by the third day, he reported regret at having missed a funeral—his own!

All the large water oaks were removed from the mall in front of Centenary Hall during the first week of January, and by the next week the stumps had been reduced to piles of chips. *The Periscope’s* (the Academy newspaper) headline of mid-January blazed: “Many are Shocked at Loss of Trees.” The whole story is rather complex, but let’s just say that “these trees were not working out any more.” The area now lies fallow, barren and lifeless,



*Tree removal from mall in front of church*

awaiting its own resurrection. A tentative plan featuring an array of smaller trees and gracefully looping paths has been seen in the maintenance office. Brother Francis conducted soil testing recently, so the wheels are turning. Movement in a monastery is often best detected by time-lapse, rather than by stop-action photography.

The selection of table reading in a monastery is a delicate art. Abbot Jerome winnows through suggestions, and makes the final choice on what is read at the evening meal. Occasionally we enjoy some lighter fare, but more commonly he chooses a serious subject. January's book was *Mother Teresa: Come Be my Light*. There were few light moments in this book, which tells, in her own words, the story of Mother Teresa's 50 years of dealing with an interior darkness, an almost unrelieved sense of God's absence to her. It was hard to listen to her pain day after day, but probably healthy for us to view our own small difficulties in contrast to real spiritual suffering. Mother Teresa summed up her response to God with the expression: "Give what He takes, and take what He gives, with a big smile." That principle should work, whether our spiritual journey is difficult or easy.

Brother Tobias reported the birth of two sets of twin calves in January. Records revealed that the two mothers were themselves mother and daughter, which suggests a family genetic trait for producing twins. I suppose this is a known trait. What made it interesting is that these two related cows gave birth to their twins within days of each other.

One of the activities of Catholic Schools Week—the last week of January—was a "guess the teacher" and "guess the teacher's age" contest. Baby pictures and youth pictures were supplied by most faculty and staff members, and the students competed for prize money by matching pictures to names and ages. We old curmudgeons actually used to be cute babies and handsome dudes!! The popular pilgrimage day took the entire school to the nearby parishes of St. Scholastica at Shoal Creek and to Sts. Peter and Paul at Morrison Bluff. Nature provided a surprise "winter break" as part of Catholic Schools Week. Thursday morning's heavy sleet caused classes to be cancelled for the day. Then nothing more came down until the late afternoon snow, which prompted a Friday cancellation also.

January 29 was bright and clear, but with straight-line winds such as we seldom experience. Small fires around the area kept firefighters hopping. A grass fire near Fort Smith spread into the vacant WWII army barracks of Fort Chaffee and burned some 130 structures to the ground. However, newscasters quickly reassured us that the building where Elvis Presley had received his haircut when he was inducted into the army in 1958 still stood. Whew!

The temperature that day dropped from 76° to 19°. Amazing Arkansas weather!

## February

Brother Martin Gocke died at 9:45 on Sunday morning, February 3, at the age of 82. His obituary photo (below) is a very recent shot, and, to me, he does not look 82 years old. Students have often commented to me that monks do not show their age. I answer that we are spared the wear and tear of raising rascally kids. That may be part of the answer. In Brother Martin's case, he did not hold onto worries, he handed over the course of his life and work to God and his superiors, and he took time to enjoy the ice cream.

The February table reading book was *Amish Grace: How Forgiveness Transcended Tragedy*. This book investigated the response of the Amish community to the shooting deaths of five girls in an Amish schoolhouse in 2006. Their countercultural response of forgiveness and reconciliation was good Lenten fare.

Speaking of Lenten fare, the noon meals during Lent exercise the creative abilities of Jacob Carey and his kitchen crew. A long-term monastic practice is that besides the official Friday abstinence during Lent, no meat is served on Wednesdays, and only at the evening meal on the other weekdays. Jacob comes up with an amazing assortment of vegetable casseroles, meatless lasagna and noodle dishes, baked potatoes, grilled cheese, shepherd's pie, bean soups, bean salads, bean main courses. A real southern-sounding combination is collard greens and fried squash. And of course the old standby of peanut butter and jelly is always available. So we eat differently during Lent, but we're not suffering.

The Literary Symposium on February 21 featured the works of poetess Andrea Hollander Budy. Her poetry is highly evocative, really enabling the listener or reader to "be there" with her as she enters deeply into the most ordinary of events. Her poems about a tiny spider getting washed down the lavatory drain as she brushed her teeth, and the one about the feel of the word "ochre" in her throat as she pronounced it, illustrate the point that poetry depends on the skillful and beautiful use of language, and not on the subject matter.

Brother Dominic, majoring in music at Arkansas Tech University, has been preparing for his role in the musical "Assas-



Br. Martin Gocke, 1926-2008

sins.” Just days before it was to be presented, the university president abruptly cancelled the performance, citing concerns about school violence. Br. Dominic called it a “shocking announcement.” Several weeks later, the show was allowed to go on, with special precautions and security checks. The monks who were cleared to attend reported that the play did feature a lot of shooting.

Brother Ephrem, Communications Director, got into the blog business recently. He has corralled a stable of bloggers, each of whom contributes an entry on a monthly basis. These seem to be well-received by our tech-savvy readers. There have been interesting pieces on Marian devotion, capital punishment, forgiveness, soteriology, and Aquinas’s argument from causality. Take a look at these blogs, and post your comments at:

<http://www.subiacoacademy.blogspot.com/>  
<http://www.subiacoabbey.blogspot.com/>

February ended with the conflation of Parents Weekend, Discovery Weekend, Academy Carnival, and Confirmation Sunday. Saturdays on the hill are usually quiet days, but this weekend saw much scurrying about. Prospective students and their parents here for Discovery Weekend may have come to the conclusion that Subiaco is a bustling place on weekends. Well, it certainly was that particular weekend.

The Diocese of Little Rock is still without a bishop (21 months now), so Abbot Jerome administered the Sacrament of Confirmation for the 20-plus students. Father Hugh had been preparing the confirmandi since last Fall.

## March

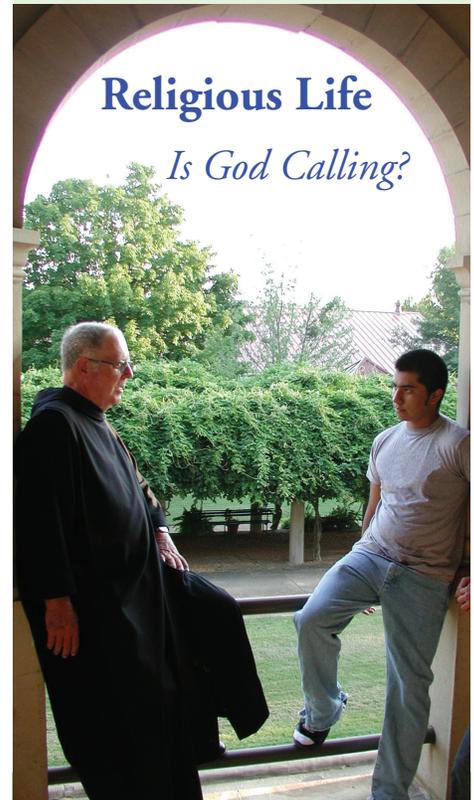
Water began flowing over the spillway of the water supply lakes on the morning of March 3. With this accomplished, some dry weather would be nice. The cattle are churning their low-lying pasture into a soup. So far the herdsman say that the young calves have remained healthy, in spite of the cold and wet conditions. And it remained cold and wet. We awoke on March 7 with 10½ inches of snow on the ground (see cover picture of the “summer house”), which meant another “snow day” for the Academy. Will we have to pay the piper later on? So far, the policy seems to be “Don’t ask; don’t tell.”

Brother Anthony glories in snow. Early in the morning, he had signs on all bulletin boards: “We thank God for the glorious gift of this beautiful snow, and ask that he give us a whole lot more.” Not everyone agreed with this sentiment. The snow was beautiful, but the extremely wet, heavy snow did massive damage to trees, awnings, barn roofs, and electrical lines. The Abbey never lost power, but many neighbors all around us were in the dark and cold for 3-4 days.

Holy Week and Easter week this year includes the big feasts of St. Patrick, St. Joseph, St. Benedict, and the Annunciation. All of these have to be anticipated or deferred. On Saturday, March 15, the Abbey observed the feast of St. Joseph, but some areas were commemorating St. Patrick on that day. Brother Patrick’s name was added by mid-day to the feast day banner, along with our two Josephs and one José. Brother Patrick said he will accept greetings, well-wishes, and presents on either day, and take credit for any dispensations or relaxations we receive on either day. Brother Ephrem sported a green cowboy hat on the 17th, and Health Center worker Juanita Martin was all in green. Prior David commented that she—a black lady—gave new meaning to the term “Black Irish.”

St. Benedict’s day, according to the Ordo, is transferred to April 1. Subiaco’s plan is to wait for the July 11 date to celebrate St. Benedict, rather than let his feast fall on April Fools Day.

## Come and See . . .



### Religious Life

*Is God Calling?*

MONKS OF

## SUBIACO ABBEY

The best way to learn more about monastic life is to experience it. We invite you to visit us at your convenience or at our free annual retreat called **Come and See; Consider your Call**

July 3-7, 2008.

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In wet weather, the Abbey has an interior waterfall. Ground water seepage drops from the lip of the shaft under the new elevator, down into the abyss, with quite a bit of splashing and splashing. A sump pump ejects the water out into an inner court drain. In case of nuclear attack, we could just turn off the pump, and have a cistern full of water.

All students were required to vacate the premises for the Easter holidays. After Saturday dismissal at 10:30, a great quiet settled upon the campus. It reminds me of the Holy Saturday reading, which begins “Something strange is happening today.” Brother James Casey and Isaac Youker, Academy Deans, are once again seen in the Abbey. Computer service speeds up, the parking lots are not congested, and monk teachers remain later at community recreation.

The Abbey honored Fr. Paul Hoedebeck on Saturday, March 15. (This story is covered in the Development section of the Abbey Message.) As Abbot Jerome mentioned in his homily, Fr. Paul, at the age of 92, is still the champion pecan sheller and—until recently—the world expert at raking and cleaning pathways on the Abbey grounds. This writer, marveling at his continued ability, realized “He is 30 YEARS older than me!”

I wonder what I’ll be able to do at the age of 92.

## Who’s in charge here?

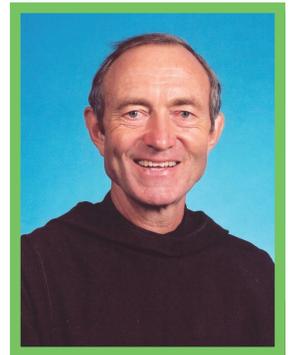
Abbot Jerome’s article, in this issue of *The Abbey Message*, concerns the human tendency to “take charge,” since it often appears that God is not able or willing to act. Therefore I have to take responsibility if anything is to get done. The Abbot calls this “over-responsibility.”

I’ve been pondering the principle of “synchronicity.” In secular terms, this simply means that there seems to be some underlying factor that gives unexpected connection and relevance to otherwise unrelated events. A religious definition might be “the meshing of the gears of divine providence and human action.” Synchronicity would then refer to those moments, when we suddenly realize that God really is in charge, wonderfully and powerfully guiding the course of human existence.

Some years ago, I drove the soccer team to a game in Eureka Springs, Arkansas. During the long drive, the soccer coach told me about attending the Passion Play in Eureka Springs when he was a high school student. A strange and wonderful instance of synchronicity occurred during the play, and he had never forgotten it. It seems that, just at the moment in the drama when the stone over the tomb of Jesus was rolling aside, a very bright meteor flashed across the sky! To him, this “coincidence” seemed not a freak chance, but a strong sign confirming God’s presence and action in the world, and in his life.

His story immediately brought to mind an instance in my own life, during my years in Belize, when a bright meteor spoke to me in much the same way, offering reassurance about the reality of a powerful and loving God. As we compared notes, we realized that we were talking about the same year, the same time of year, the same time of night. We could not prove it, but it certainly seemed that the very same meteor had spoken to us in the same way that night, even though we were about 2,500 miles apart. And now, “chance” had brought us together on this bus trip, so that we could each hear “the rest of the story.”

Anyone is free to scoff at such credulity, and the skeptic cannot be proved wrong. Neither can anyone prove that such happenings are the result of pure chance. I do know that both Mr. King and I, on that night nearly 25 years ago, felt awed that the God who controls the stars also knows us, and chooses to arrange the very movement of star particles, for our benefit.



*Fr. Mark Stengel*

## Academy

### Headmaster search ends with hiring of Mike Burke

Mr. Michael Burke will begin as the headmaster of the '08-09 school year beginning in July, replacing Dr. Roy Goetz who filled in as interim headmaster during the search.

Mr. Burke is currently president of the St. Joseph School system in Bryan, TX, where he is also the head soccer coach.

Mr. Burke has worked in many environments including academic dean at a military academy, founder/co-founder of two Catholic schools and banker.

According to Br. Ephrem O'Bryan, head of the search committee for the new headmaster, there were three requirements for every candidate: adequate experience in education and administration, being Catholic, and having a Master's degree.

About fifteen candidates applied for the position from across the country. "The number of applications was surprising," said Br. Ephrem.

"We chose Mr. Burke because we felt that he was the most qualified out of the three candidate finalists," said Br. Ephrem.

Mr. Burke believes in building good habits and confidence and stresses the importance of education, hard work and achievement. Mr. Burke also emphasizes the importance of the "Renaissance" student, an individual who is well-rounded in academics, athletics and art.

Mr. Burke has been married for twenty-eight years to his wife, Jill, and has two children, Chris, 24 and Erin, 20.

Mr. Burke has visited the campus twice since receiving the nomination.



Mr. Michael Burke

### Blues concerts continue run on hill

For the past several years, blues bands have been entertaining the students, faculty, monks and community with some first class performances. This year, Watermelon Slim and the Workers played their version of the blues Jan. 30.

In December 2006 Watermelon Slim received a record-tying six Blues Music Award nominations for Artist, Entertainer, Album, Band, Song, and Traditional Album of the Year. Only B.B. King, Buddy Guy and Robert Cray have ever landed six, according to Mr. Roy Goetz.



Watermelon Slim playing an impressive harmonica solo in concert Jan. 23

The band played for about an hour and a half. The band's lead Bill Homans (a.k.a. Watermelon Slim) thrilled the audience with his style. He played a slide guitar on a table and sang in his raspy, weathered voice.

Attendees were perhaps most amused with Slim's selection of guitar slides, ranging from an antique medicine bottle to a pepper shaker. Occasionally he picked up a pair of maracas.

While in a Vietnam hospital bed, Slim taught himself to play an upside-down, left-handed slide guitar on a \$5 balsawood model using a triangle pick cut from a rusty coffee can top and his Army issued Zippo lighter as the slide.

### Oskar Rust hosts junior basketball tournament

Eight years had passed since Subiaco hosted a district tournament, but on Feb. 4-8 Dover, Clinton, Ozark, Dardanelle, Clarksville, Waldron, Booneville, and Subiaco teams competed in the junior high district tournament in Oskar Rust gym.

With the recent renovations to the gym, Subiaco meets AAA guidelines. Subiaco delayed hosting a senior high district tournament in 2005 due to the lack of locker room.

"We had three locker rooms; we needed four... [Opposing] teams had to share locker rooms," said Mr. Greg Timmerman. "Even the women's teams had to share lockers with the men's team."

Sixteen years will have passed since Subiaco hosted the senior tournament in 1997.

Twenty students assisted at the tournament. "We could not have done it without them," said Coach Robert Pugh.

## Alumnus revamps Trojan Shop, mail room

Alumnus Les Harter '55 spent many days in January and March designing, painting and refurbishing the Trojan Shop and the mail room. Mr. Harter wanted to give the students a more "professional" place to purchase school merchandise.

The shop, visible upon first entering the Main Building, is now painted blue with orange trim along with decals of Trojan heads designed by Mr. Bill Wright. Shelving systems were added inside.

The Trojan Shop now offers a wider variety of Trojan products. Along with the standard fare of hoodies, T-shirts and caps, other items such as baby clothing, backpacks, and athletic shorts are available.

The mail room also features a new paint job and a stenciled identification.

Upon entering the Main Building, visitors now have a clear sense of location. They are obviously in Blue and Orange country.



## Literary symposium features poet Andrea Budy

At the 6th Annual Literary Symposium held Feb. 21 Mrs. Andrea Hollander Budy was the guest speaker.

Mrs. Budy, an acclaimed poet and teacher at Lyon College, has received numerous awards and fellowships, including the D.H. Lawrence Fellowship and the Runes Poetry Award.

Copies of her last volume of poetry, *Woman in the Painting*, were available for students, faculty and others to read.

In the morning a writing workshop was held by Mrs. Budy for student poets-in-training. The sixteen students who submitted original poems to the writing contest discussed poetry with the guest speaker at the morning session.

At the afternoon session, Mrs. Budy discussed the importance and definition of poetry. She was then presented the Subiaco Award for Literary Merit.

The winners of the student writing contest were first place and \$100 Taylor Johns (9); second place and \$75 Will Kluempers (11); and third place and \$50 Dong Won Park (10).

Reagan Ryu (11) and Michael Bush (11) received honorable mention.



Poet in residence at Lyons College, Mrs. Andrea Budy speaks to poetry contest winner Taylor Johns in the morning session of the 6th Annual Literary Symposium held Feb. 21.

# Teacher-of-the-Year award goes to Mr. Gary Kinney

Often when Subiaco students are asked who their favorite teacher is, the reply is Mr. Gary Kinney – and the Paris Area Chamber of Commerce agrees. Mr. Kinney, who has taught biology at Subiaco Academy since 1980, has been awarded the 2007 Educator of the Year award by the Paris Area Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Kinney's first teaching job was in 1973 at Fuller Junior High in Little Rock. After a few years, Mr. Kinney sought to live in "the prettiest part" of Arkansas and found his way to Subiaco Academy. "I got lucky," he said. "I don't think I'd teach anywhere else. You won't find nicer people than at Subiaco – especially the student body."

When Mr. Kinney settled in as biology teacher at Subiaco in 1981, he became an instant celebrity and mentor. Headmaster Roy Goetz said, "Whenever alumni visit, Mr. Kinney is always the first teacher they want to see."

According to students, Mr. Kinney brings life to biology. After all, his teaching formula is to instill a college-preparatory curriculum in his classroom while creating interest in the subject. Mr. Kinney's classroom, furnished with caged snakes, centipedes, mice and exotic insects, is not his only one. On occasions he shifts his class outdoors where students are challenged to identify trees, plants, animals and take notice of the phenomenon of life.

Also, Mr. Kinney annually assists in hikes through the Ozark Mountains and kayaking trips down the Buffalo River. In 2005 he helped on a Grand Canyon field trip. Even out of the classroom, Mr. Kinney is a true outdoorsman and entertainer. He loves to listen and play music (he performs as a musician at Subiaco's Fine Arts Festival and Spring Carnival) and to be outdoors – especially on moving water. To Mr. Kinney, moving water resembles freedom, and he believes that "other than my children, there's nothing more important to me than being free and out in the world."

When Mr. Kinney is not helping students piece together the puzzle of education, he serves as the "voice of the Trojans" at sporting events. "It's fun and an honor to be a part of Trojan athletics," he said. Although games sometimes stretch late into the evening, Mr. Kinney is always present.

Incoming students to Subiaco have much to look forward to because Mr. Kinney says that he is here to stay. Mr. Kinney thinks of Subiaco Academy as "a big family."



*Headmaster Roy Goetz presenting Mr. Gary Kinney the Logan County Chamber of Commerce Teacher-of-the-Year award*

# Academy Quiz Bowl team placed first in region

The Quiz Bowl team placed first at the 4A Southwest Regional tournament hosted by Subiaco Academy March 11. They now advance to the 4A state tournament in Dardanelle April 4. The members are (left to right) Chance Kidd, Josh Stewart, Kenneth Knight, Will Kluempers, Nehemiah Stephens (holding trophy), Matthew Sharum, James Kyle, Blake Wallis and Tyler Carr. The team is coached by Ms. Alane Freerksen.

Senior Matthew Sharum was named MVP of the regional tournament.



## Alumni

### Plan for 2008 Reunion Announced

Registration packets have been sent out for the 2008 reunion. Class contact people are working and preparations are well under way for an outstanding reunion on May 30, 31, and June 1st.

Events will begin with the Fr. Harold Memorial Golf Tournament, which will be held at the Lions Den Golf Club in Dardanelle on Friday, May 30 at 11 a.m. Josh Tritt '00 is chairman of the golf committee. Registration for the reunion will begin Friday afternoon and will be followed by a buffet dinner in Centenary Hall that evening.

Saturday will feature a general meeting, a reunion Mass at which time the Distinguished Alumnus award will be given and the evening will end with a Casino Night manned by the Knights of Columbus of Ft. Smith.

Reunion will close with a thanksgiving breakfast on Sunday morning.

The Board of Directors of the Alumni Association has reinstated the 200 Club this year with a couple of changes. Two hundred chances will be sold at \$200.00 each. Instead of a bond the grand prize will be a John Deere Gator TS vehicle. The change was necessitated by new Arkansas laws regarding raffles.



*Above (l) Br. Louis '48 and Joe Bezner '36, (r) John Robbins '65 and Raymond Saranie '65, below, Knights of Columbus member, Henry Moore '70 deals during Casino Night*



### Gary Kinney named Honorary Alumnus

At the Alumni Board of Director's meeting in January, Abbot Jerome announced that he would confer on Gary Kinney an honorary membership in the Subiaco Alumni Association. Mr. Kinney has taught Biology, Earth and Space Science, and General Science in the Academy over the last 26 years. The students he has taught number well over 1,000.

Gary graduated from Bryant High School in Bryant, AR, in 1966 and received his BS from Henderson State University in Arkadelphia. He did graduate work at Arkansas State and Arkansas Tech University.

In addition to teaching responsibilities he is the voice of the Trojans over the PA system at football and basketball games. His outside love, though, is music. He enjoys playing the blues and country music on his guitar and harmonica and is always ready for a "jam session." He has a longstanding date with Br. Ephrem on the tennis court, but they never tell who has won.

Kinney was recently named Outstanding Teacher in Logan County by the Paris Area Chamber of Commerce.

He has two sons, Dana '94 and Jessie '99 and a daughter Vanessa.

# Where are they now?

**Ed Spivey '83** completed his MBA in finance from George Washington University in 2004. He then worked as a real estate advisory associate for Basile Baumann Probst and Associates in Annapolis, MD, where he was engaged in public finance evaluations for municipalities as well as real estate development planning involving public/private partnerships. He recently took a new position with Lerner Enterprises, the Washington, DC, region's largest real estate development firm.

**Hubert Castillo '82** brought us up to date on his brothers. **Ruben '80** is presently living and working in Panama City, Panama, in the real estate and development business. **Alexi '86** is still living in Nigata, Japan, but will soon return to the states. **Edwin '89** is single and doing well in South Florida, working for **Marc Lacerte's '82** drywall business. Hubert is partners with Marc in a stucco company doing exterior finishes on jobs throughout the state of Florida.

**Pat Wardlaw '46** contributed prints of the Stations of the Cross, which are now on display in an Abbey hallway. The original oil paintings by Ted De Grazia are located in the St. Thomas More Chapel at the University of Arizona.

**Dr. B. J. Tougas '91** added his name to a growing list from the class of '91 who are contributing to the class's scholarship fund. He has moved his practice to Roland, OK.

**Sue and Dave Chamberlain '54** own the Caribou Lodge and Motel in Soda Springs, Idaho.

**Mundo Harbaugh '87** shot a few boars in Malakof, TX, in December. One was roasted whole for the family's Cuban Christmas dinner.

**Nick Choffel '03** has been accepted to the NFO (Naval Flight Officer) Training program in Florida beginning in the summer.

**Jason Priakos '90** has worked for Cognos Corporation as the Partner Development Manager for the South Central Region. Cognos will be acquired by IBM on May 1st of this year so he will soon be working for Big Blue. He and two other investors bought a local home theatre business. The company is growing rapidly and now has 4 full-time employees and 2 vans.

**Jack Stallings '77** says that all is well on his side of the water. He is still working in Baghdad.

**Tony Beck '83** and family are living in Tampa, Florida, being stationed there with the Army Central Command. They just returned from a tour of



*Marc Lacerte, Hubert Castillo and Eric Lacerte on a recent visit*

duty in Korea.

**Pat Flippo '71** got some "ink" in the January 27, 2008, issue of the Arkansas Democrat Gazette. The article in the business section noted that Flippo, owner of Flippo's Senior Social Center in Johnson (north of Fayetteville), said that Washington County has the demographics to support his facility, which is licensed to care for nine patients.

**Lt. Ben Freeman '99** has returned from a fifteen-month deployment to Iraq. Even though he was in eight different vehicles struck by IEDs, he came through it unharmed. While there he was promoted to 1st LT and has been informed that he will soon be promoted to Captain. That having been said, it is almost certain that he will leave the service after his enlistment is up.

**Anna and Joe Bezner '36** were on campus in February to visit Joe's classmate, Fr. Paul. They noted that they would soon celebrate their 63rd wedding anniversary.

**Augie and Susie Harder '55**, on a visit to Ft. Smith, picked up **John Walter '57** and made a trip to Subiaco to visit Fr. Nicholas and Fr. Placidus.

**Paul Valbuena '88** is a practicing psychiatrist, specializing in child and adolescent psychiatry in Kalamazoo, MI. He recently ran into **Mark Wolf '88** in the lobby of a local hotel. Mark is a lawyer in Dallas. They are looking forward to their twentieth reunion this spring.

**Tony Passarella '65** reports that he is expecting his fifth grandchild. He says that Fr. Nick would love a couple of the kids because they aren't afraid of anything.

**Michael Gaskell '07**, upon reading of the appointment of Mike Burke as new Headmaster, sent the following message to Mr. Burke. "I am a freshman at UD and I just read my Subiaco Alumni Newsletter and saw that you will be going to Subi to take the position of headmaster. Congratulations! I hope you know how awesome a place Subi is. My four years there were the best of my life and that is not an uncommon tale from any grad."

**Michael '80, Paul '84** and Charles Watts enjoyed watching their nephew Reggie Hovas score points in the Trojan 63-38 Senior Night victory over Dover.

**Eric Tsai '01** (Taiwan), **Mikey Pinedo '00** (Curacao), and **Joad Lopez '99** (Curacao-Cuba) are working on a project together, ERIC.com, an Internet based system. In a recent conversation with Chandra Rush, they reported "all doing very well and they are so very grateful for their 'Subiaco experience.'"

**Andrew Pinedo '98** works for the family Coca-Cola business on the island of Curacao. He loves marketing their new locally developed product, which has really taken off and is now being expanded into other areas of the Netherlands.

**Alex Pinedo '98** attended the Savannah College of Art and Design, majoring in fashion design. He had a shop in Amsterdam called Alexander Sergio Pineda Coutures, which he operated for three years. Now he has a program which provides opportunities for young designers to get recognition for their work.

**Vincent Tate '86** donated two bronze sculptures and a large framed print to the Abbey in late February. He then shared lunch with the monks in the monastic refectory.

**LaTreal Frazier '01** graduated from Vanderbilt with a degree in Human and Organizational Development. He works for a company that provides support to our troops. Frazier is currently in Iraq as a morale booster.

Southeastern Louisiana University English professor **James Walter '61** has written a book *Reading Marriage in the American Romance: Remembering Love as Destiny*. The book examines modern and postmodern romance novels including Hawthorne's *The House of the Seven Gables*, James's *The Beast in the Jungle*, Morrison's *Beloved*, Percy's *The Thanatos Syndrome*, and Frazier's *Cold Mountain*.

Walter is a graduate of the University of Dallas, where he earned his Bachelor, Masters and Doctoral degrees. He was the 1991 recipient of one of Southeastern's highest faculty honors, the President's Award for Excellence in Teaching. Also at Southeastern, he directed two major National Endowment for the Humanities grants for development of the honors curriculum, cited as "Exemplary" in the NEH publication *Fifty Hours: A Core Curriculum for College Students*.

Walter is the author of numerous articles and book chapters on American fiction, Shakespeare, Dante, genre, teaching, writing and liberal education. He has been published in journals such as *PMLA*, *Southern Review*, *Southern Literary Journal*, *Twentieth-Century Literature*, *Emerson Society Quarterly*, *Hopkins Quarterly*, *South Atlantic Quarterly*, and *Christianity and Literature*. He is a past member of the board of directors of the Association of Core Texts and Courses.

**Abbot Jerome Kodell** heard from **Chuck Burns '66** from Southampton, England, who was setting up a new office for his company.

**Drew Daniel '76** was featured in the Outdoor Section of the February 21 edition of the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, proudly displaying a 24" brown trout he had caught on a cold February morning on the White River.

**Les Harter '55** has redecorated the Academy shirt shop, mailroom and west entrance foyer. This area features lots of orange and blue, along with Trojan heads furnished by the art department.



## Obituaries

**Robert Leo Byrne, Sr. '46** of Little Rock died January 4, 2008. Mr. Byrne was employed in the family-owned business, Paragon Printing, for forty-five years. After retiring, he enjoyed part-time employment with Sticky Finger Restaurant.

He was a member of Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church where he served on the pastoral council and was an usher. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus.

He is survived by his wife of fifty-five years Rose Marie; three sons, Robert L., Jr, Kenny and Steve; five daughters, Bev, Angela, Ginny, Barbara, and Brenda; two brothers, Raymond and Richard; eleven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

**Angelo Rossi '47** died in Jacksonville, AR, on February 22, 2008. He was a decorated soldier in the Korean War. He worked for Falstaff Brewery for fourteen years before opening Mary's Liquor, which he and his wife owned and operated for 32 years.

He married Mary Ann Bellinghausen in 1954. He was a member of St. Anne Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus.

He is survived by his wife Mary Ann; a brother, Pete; two sisters, Bernadine Noll, and Sr. Elizabeth Rossi; three daughters, Charlotte Paladino, Virginia Latta and Virginia Harrell; one son Dennis; ten grandchildren; three great-grandchildren and has one great-great-grandchild on the way.

**George Leo Neumeier '66** of Paris died February 6, 2008, in Ft. Smith. He was the owner-operator of Neumeier's Garage in Paris. George was widely known for his generous spirit and his wizardry around engines.

He is survived by his spouse Kay; a daughter Bethany Neumeier; a son Craig Neumeier; a brother Tommy and four grandchildren.

## Development

### Development Director's Message

On March 15 we welcomed some 175 friends and relatives of Fr. Paul Hoedebeck to a celebration of his life. Fr. Paul is on the verge of completing 70 years as a monk of Subiaco Abbey and it became very clear as we prepared for this event that many people wanted to share in congratulating him.

Over the years Fr. Paul has either directed or had a major hand in just about everything that has happened around here. When I came to school in 1955 he took care of us when we were sick, he managed the student dining room and he was the Master of Ceremonies at all big liturgical celebrations. He also taught in the classroom and many of us got a chance to help him in the development office, stuffing envelopes that would go out as appeals for help in completing the new Abbey Church, the Abbey Annex, Coury House, Heard Hall, Rebsamen Stadium, the Fr. Louis and Oskar Rust fieldhouse complex or Martha Rush and T.J. Arnold libraries - all major building projects that Fr. Paul had a hand in seeing completed.

Fr. Paul was born in Muenster, TX, and came to Subiaco to graduate with the class of 1936. He entered the monastery and made his profession of vows on

September 15, 1938. Even before his ordination to the priesthood in 1943, Fr. Paul was appointed to his first job as Master of Ceremonies, and he never looked back.

During the last year there has been a major effort to honor Fr. Paul for all that he has done here at Subiaco. Members of his family and alumni who have known Fr. Paul have initiated an endowment fund that will serve in the future to continue the work that he has been involved in here at the Abbey. The fund will be called the Fr. Paul Church Maintenance Fund, and will be used



*Fr. Paul greeting one of many who came*

to maintain St. Benedict Church, on which Fr. Paul spent so much of his efforts raising funds so that it could be completed.

St. Benedict Church was completed in 1959. During the coming year we plan to do some needed repairs. The main doors of the church have been repaired so often that there is nothing that we can do now but replace them.

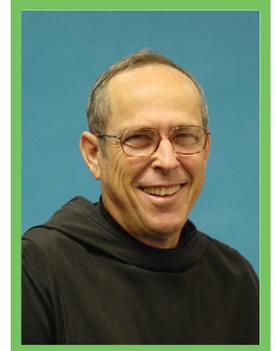
Another need is an upgrade of the bell system, and this is currently under study. Parts are no longer available to repair the mechanical "works" that run the bells so a new computerized system will be needed.

The fund that is being set up in honor of Fr. Paul will serve over the years ahead to continue to address needed maintenance as it comes up.

Thanks to all who helped celebrate with Fr. Paul, and thanks to all of you.

God Bless You!

*Fr. Richard Wolf* 078



### Development Tool Chest

As you consider giving and supporting the ministry of Subiaco Abbey and Academy, please know that we want to help you be the best steward possible. There are several "typical" ways that our supporters use to assist the institution.

1. Cash
2. Appreciated stock
3. Insurance policies
4. Real property or Royalties
5. Annuities
6. Charitable trusts
7. Employer matching gift programs
8. Bequest by estate planning, "Your Will"

For all estate planning, our legal name is:

**Subiaco Abbey**

# Some or our Recent Memorials

There are times when everyone wants to do something with lasting spiritual meaning for his or her loved ones. Subiaco Abbey provides such a way. Loved ones can be remembered daily in the monks' Divine Office and their Masses through the Memorial Enrollment Program. To make this possible the abbey offers two types of memorial cards that will be sent to the family or friend that you specify. One would be sent to the family of a deceased person, and a second would be sent to a living person being remembered. Living memorials include anniversaries, birthdays, or other occasions.

Honor/memorial	Donor	Honor/memorial	Donor	Honor/memorial	Donor
Mr. Henry Anhalt	M/M William P. Anhalt		M/M James C. Troxler	James Pintkowski	M/M Marty Nelson
	Mrs. Janie Calvert	Agnes Hellinger	Mr. Pete Hellinger	Mr. Bob Pitts	Mrs. Jo Anne Jennings
	Ms. Sissi Bennett	Mr. Lennie Hermes	M/M Ray Lindemann	Frank Plugge	M/M Leo E. Lazzo
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M/M Kenneth T. Bartsch	M/M Lawrence J. Wewers	Mr. Eugene Hoedebeck	<b>Many Donors</b>	Mr. & Mrs. Leon Raible	Mrs. Lynda Wexler
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To request a Memorial, clip, fill in coupon, and mail.  
 Enclosed is my memorial gift to continue the works of Subiaco Abbey \$ \_\_\_\_\_

My Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_ (Name) (or) In Honor Of: \_\_\_\_\_ (Name)

Commemorating: (Anniversary, Birthday, Special Occasion) \_\_\_\_\_

Send special card to: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Subiaco Abbey, 405 N. Subiaco Avenue, Subiaco, AR 72865-9798

# Margaret Schmitt Bequest

by Fr. Richard Walz, OSB

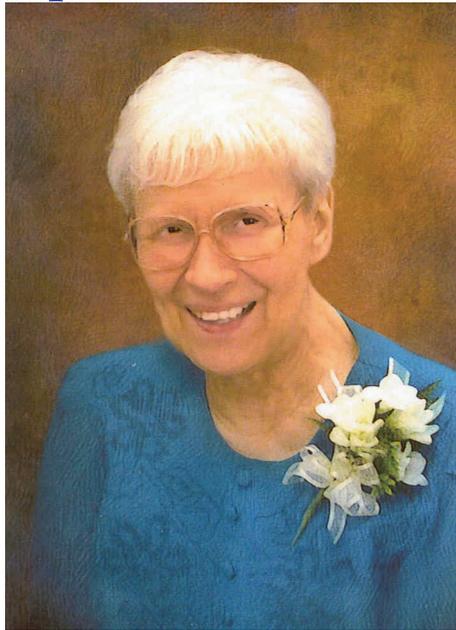
Subiaco Abbey and Academy is one of several area institutions remembered in the estate of Margaret Schmitt, aunt of Br. Jude Schmitt.

A recent article in a Ft. Smith, AR, paper called Margaret an “accidental millionaire.” She never married and was one of those people who worked for Wal-Mart in the early days, acquiring stock in the company and never having to sell it. But Margaret found a good use for this appreciated stock, which she directed to be divided between her church, St. Boniface, in Ft. Smith and St. Scholastica Monastery also in Ft. Smith as well as several Catholic educational institutions - Subiaco Abbey, her primary school at St. Boniface and Trinity Junior High School in Ft. Smith.

Cathy, a niece of Margaret’s, was quoted in the Ft. Smith paper as saying that her aunt felt like the Wal-Mart stock was a “gift from God,” and she wanted to pass it on to people who needed it.

Br. Jude tells us that his aunt was especially interested in the religious of Subiaco Abbey and St. Scholastica Monastery. She also had a great interest in furthering Catholic education which explains her gifts to the various Catholic schools, including Subiaco.

Her gift to Subiaco has been used to endow a fund in her name. “The Margaret Schmitt Fund” will be used to



Margaret Schmitt

further monk education, grant student aid assistance, and support other Abbey and Academy projects. One of the uses of the fund will be to assist Br. Jude in his work in the area of technology and computer related fields here.

If Subiaco is one of your charitable concerns, and we certainly hope it is, we encourage you to think of including Subiaco Abbey and Academy in your estate plans. Margaret Schmitt, as well as many others down through the years, have included Subiaco in their estate plans and it continues to make a major difference in our ability to carry on our work and mission.

# Memorials

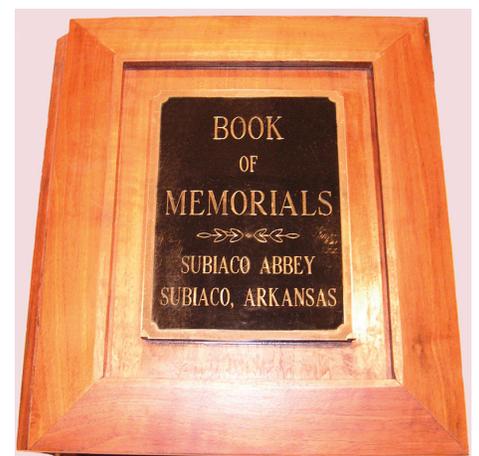
Often obituaries suggest that in lieu of flowers contributions may be made to a deceased person’s favorite charities.

During the past several months we have been notified on several occasions that Subiaco Abbey and/or Academy has been named as a favorite charity. We appreciate this and are thankful to those who contribute in memory of their loved ones. Flowers are beautiful, but very temporary. A gift to a person’s favorite charity will have a lasting effect.

Here at Subiaco we enroll the deceased person in our Book of Memorials and remember him/her in our daily Masses and prayers. This book is kept near the St. Benedict chapel in our Abbey Church.

On the facing page of this Abbey Message we list some 125 memorial gifts that were made during the past three months.

It is truly a wonderful way to remember our loved ones when we offer a lasting memorial in the form of a gift to Subiaco Abbey or Academy, where it will continue to support the works of Subiaco in the years to come.



## PRAYER HOTLINE

Let us join you in praying for your needs.

The telephone number to call is:

1-800-350-5889

## Upcoming Retreats and Events at Coury House

### May

- 6-7 Stephen Ministerial Retreat, Bella Vista
- 9-11 DOLR Diaconate Anniversary Retreat
- 17 Subiaco Academy Graduation
- 20-23 Just Communities, NW Arkansas
- 30-Ju 1 Subiaco Academy Alumni Weekend

### June

- 2-5 Priests Retreat, Diocese of Little Rock
- 6-8 Knights of Columbus Retreat
- 9-13 Subiaco Abbey Monastic Retreat
- 18-22 Prince of Peace Retreat

### July

- 3-7 Vocation Discernment Retreat
- 4-6 Ladd Family Reunion
- 11-13 Diaconate Formation Retreat, Tulsa, OK
- 17-20 Painter Family Reunion
- 21-23 Muenster, TX, Knights of Columbus
- 25-27 St. Edward, Texarkana, AR, Youth Retreat
- 29-31 Catholic School Principals Retreat, DOLR

Coury House Weekend Retreat rates include two nights and six meals.

A shared room: \$100. Private room: \$150. Married Couple: \$195.

Rates for private retreats, days of recollection,  
and special groups are available upon request.

For more information or reservations, contact us at:  
479-934-4411 or 479-934-1290 or FAX: 479-934-4040

The Coury House Book Store and Gift Shop  
offers quality religious articles and books for spiritual growth and direction.

Call Donna Forst at: 479-934-4411 or 479-934-1292

Check our web site: [www.subi.org](http://www.subi.org) or e-mail us at: [couryhouse@subi.org](mailto:couryhouse@subi.org)  
or [chgifs@subi.org](mailto:chgifs@subi.org)

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