

Golden Age Newsletter - January 2020 Issue

Richard Buessing and Carol Pobanz
January 8, 2022

Dear Golden Age Newsletter Subscribers!

God bless you and your families as we begin this historic new year of 2022!


Following is the January 2022 issue of the newsletter. We hope you enjoy it! Our mission is to help keep Senior Unification Members (60 years plus) connected through sharing God's love - what is positive in our lives as a result of finding Heavenly Parent and True Parents.

The motto of the Golden Age Newsletter is "This is the Dawning of our New Age". We are always in the process of redefining ourselves as we grow older and as we add experiences to our lives. Therefore, we must consider how God can use us even when we may be decreasing in our physical capabilities!

We invite you to share your own article with us for inclusion in a future issue of the newsletter. See more at [Sharing Articles with the Golden Age Newsletter](#). Please also share the goods news about the newsletter with your friends. They can subscribe at [Golden Age Newsletter Free Subscription Form](#).

Thank you!

Rev. Richard Buessing
Carol Pobanz
Senior Pastors Association (SPA)



Golden Age Club

Featured Article

Getting to Know Nora Spurgin
Author & Former President of WFWP
featured in the Clermont Neighbors Magazine



Nora Spurgin grew up in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania as the oldest of nine children in a conservative Mennonite home. It was a life rich in family activity, experiences on the family farm, and a strong sense of Christian values. Because Nora's parents believed that higher education may corrupt her faith, she did not attend high school beyond ninth grade. At age 21, she took a GED test, got a high school diploma to go on to Eastern Mennonite College.

Her husband, Dr. Hugh Spurgin, grew up on Indiana. Nora is 82 and Hugh is 76. The pair met in Washington D.C. where Nora was a psychiatric social worker in St. Elizabeth Hospital and Hugh was a budget analyst at the U.S. Department of Navy. The couple was married in 1970 in Seoul, Korea in an international mass wedding of 777 couples organized by the Unification Church. Only seven couples were American. The couple loved getting to share their vows with many other couples from around the world. This past October, they celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

[To view the whole article, please click here!](#)

Anniversary Tour

40-Year Blessing Anniversary Cruise



Celebrate your Blessing of 40 years together with other Blessed Couples on a 7-day Caribbean cruise that you won't forget.

June 25 - July 2, 2022

*For more information,
please click here*
www.highnoon.org/cruise/

History Bytes

Prehistoric Fundraising

by John Hessel



In the early 1970s, Philip and Vivien Burley were the leaders of the Bronx church, which was on the west side at 3000 Netherland Ave. There were about 20 of us at the center, except when True Parents came in preparation for the three-day Lincoln Center speech at Alice Tully Hall. About that time, Philip asked eight of us to quit our jobs and form a fundraising team. We made candles in the garage, filling glasses with hot wax, color, and scent, and poked in a wick as the top cooled and hardened.

This was a big gamble, since our salaries were important to the operation of the church center. Philip asked me to lead the team, and said to me: "If this works, you will get the credit. If it doesn't, I will get the blame". It worked.

In New York City, there was a sidewalk game called *three card Monty*, where a man with three playing cards would shuffle them around a piece of cardboard placed on a garbage can, and say "Where's the Ace?" As he shuffled the cards, his secret partner would pretend to be a passerby, and would bet \$10 that he could follow the ace as the dealer moved the card around. He would lose an easy one, and then intended audience would think it was simple to follow, and jump in to make an easy 10 bucks, but they would usually lose. We would huddle to pray in the morning on 34th St. in front of Macy's before starting the day and, as we prayed, we could feel other people's breath on our necks and bodies, pushing our shoulders as they leaned in to see what we were looking down at. Sorry, no Three-card Monty here!

I would park the van on 33rd St while we fundraised at 34th and Broadway. One time, as I headed for the van to get more product, I saw it moving down the street, with the front end up in the air behind a tow truck. Due to heavy traffic, I was able to run and catch up with the truck. I jumped up on the step at the driver's door, and told the driver, "Sir, you can't take this van! This is a church van, and we are using it to raise funds for our church. If you do this, it's like taking money out of the offering basket!" This elderly black man thought for minute, and said, "Boy, the Lord was with you today," and he released the van.



Culture & The Arts

Making Films for Peace

by Kate Tsubata



Living with God's voice urging you to take responsibility in numerous ways throughout your day can be challenging. Over the years, this has happened to our family on issues ranging from drugs in our community, a rash of strip clubs, or the spread of HIV and AIDS.

In 2017, stunned by the division and hostility spreading violence around our nation, our family decided to create a film bringing together world dance with Beethoven's Symphony No. 9. We felt that we needed to create cultural and entertainment products that uplifted all people, and dissolved the false barriers that try to divide us.

Over the next two years, we prepared, filmed, edited and released that film, *Dancing Joy*. Obstacles of every kind arose, but miracles occurred. We learned that when we act, with God, to do even the most impossible goal, a tsunami of divine power is unleashed.

The power of a family—all generations—working together to achieve something of benefit to humanity is unstoppable. Our family has made four independent feature films, and we're ready to make many more. I invite you to look inside at the dreams and visions God has planted in your own heart, and to exert faith in God's complete availability to enable you to make those dreams come true.



For more information on how such a project came into existence, check our website: www.dancingjoymovie.com, and look at the blog and vlog entries. Blessings to all who dare to take responsibility to add value to the world around them!



Music Makes The heart Grow Fonder

by Peter Reiner

God blessed me from birth with a natural inclination towards music. My mom says I was singing before I was talking. I wrote my first song when I was 10 years old and I still remember it! I've always loved singing, acting and performing, but especially songwriting. Something about songwriting fits with my psyche – the "puzzle" of

figuring out how to match words to a melody. Or just the melody alone, trying to make it as beautiful and interesting as possible.

I've always believed one thing about art – any art – that it should be “for the sake of others.” God's creation is for the sake of others and draws our awe *because* we know innately that it is there for our sake. I love having the audience in mind when I create, thinking about how “they will love this” or “this will go over well.” A painter friend of mine recently posted one of his works on Facebook and received the comment “I love it!” His reply was: “Me too!” Because we, the creators, are also part of the audience, we should also love what we do, or rather what God does through us and with us.

I am not particularly talented in the mechanics of music. I am almost completely self-taught. Sometimes I wonder and wish I could have studied more formally and become adept at technique – I think it would have enhanced my music greatly. But, on the other hand, I have been told by those who are more technically inclined that my music has a simplicity they wish they had. So, I guess it goes both ways.

My music has been dramatically transformed by the Principle. Here's an example – before I joined the UC Movement, I wrote a song called “Love Ends with You.” After joining, I rewrote the lyrics to the much more appropriate “Love Starts with You.” I remember, years ago, I was at Cheong Pyeong and received an insight from God to “write music that could be played in the ideal world.” We know that is not the case today – many, many songs, movies and books will not make it through the gates of Heaven.

Thank you to God and True Parents who have given all so that heavenly culture would eventually become embedded on earth! One of my frustrations, though, is that I want “eventually” to come quicker! I have known many with musical inclinations in the church who succumbed to these frustrations and left, or became inactive, in an attempt to realize their musical dreams sooner. I'm not sure what path this has led to for those individuals, but to some extent I am grateful I could resist these urges, as an offering to God.

It's somewhat of a paradox – we are taught to “follow our passions and dreams” but – at least for first generation Unificationists – that has always had to be tempered with “the mission,” which we also felt was so vital, the mission to witness and spread the joy of knowledge of the Principle to others. In the late 1980s, in an attempt to create a “crossover” of my musical passion with the mission, I wrote a “musical” of nine songs that tell the story of the Divine Principle – Creation, Fall and Restoration. It's called *The Revelation*.

I have had a longing to produce *The Revelation* properly and professionally, but have as yet been unable to do so, primarily due to financial constraints. Still working on it! God showed me tremendous love in a dream many years ago. In the dream, I was following True Father in a dark and cold tunnel. It was muddy, and sometimes we had to crawl. But we finally emerged into this beautiful, large, well-lit room. Everywhere I could see beautiful musical instruments and recording equipment. Then True Father turned to me and said, “This is all yours.” Wow! This dream has gotten me through a lot of tough times!

I'm not ready to share *The Revelation* yet, but I was privileged to

receive the second-place award in a recent Holy Song Competition for a song I wrote called "Our Prayer." Here is the song as we performed it at Belvedere a while back: youtu.be/-qQJTQiHB_c.

Thank you again to God and True Parents, through whom all of this has been made possible!



Healthy Living

"Autobiography is Like Chocolate for the Brain" - Write Your Own Memorial

contributed by Marjorie Buessing



This two months ago my mother passed on to her eternal life at the age of 96! It was peaceful and she was comfortable. Her last few days brought my sisters and brother together on a new and deeper level. For those of you who have had a family member pass from this world, you know there is a flurry of things to take care of right away. Extended family and friends need to be notified and a number of organizations like the Social Security Administration need to be updated.

One gift our mother gave us was that she had written her own obituary. She had left it with the funeral service and, when they received her, they gave it to us. It included all the things that were important to her, e.g., how in her junior year, all the young men in high school left on Dec 7 and enlisted. Her graduating class was almost entirely women! We never would have thought to include that in her obituary, but it had a big impact in her life. My siblings and I simply had to add the date of her passing and update the number of great-grandchildren and add the great-great grandchild. (Yes, five generations and we got a picture of them together before she left!)

Reflecting on my experience those months ago, I see how prescient my brother Dr. Bill Selig was when he advised us to write our own memorial life story in a webinar he hosted for the Blessed Family Ministry some years back. I know that, if my siblings and I had written about our mother, we could not have captured what was important to her for us to remember. It was her final way of touching our hearts.

For further understanding of the value of writing a life review see:
truestorieswelltold.com/2012/04/05/autobiography-is-like-chocolate-for-the-brain/

After-Party Holiday Bean Soup

by Marjorie Buessing



I hope you didn't throw the carcass out but put it in the freezer!

I love holidays and family get-togethers and the excitement of lots of people especially of different ages getting together. I also love soups! It turns out they go together very well!

It doesn't matter if someone gets stuck in traffic and comes late, if they arrive hungry the soup can be hot and with a nice slice of toast I have a warm and welcoming meal that hits the spot. Then I can just sit down and hear about their adventures.

This soup is flexible! It never comes out exactly the same and depends a lot on what you serve at the holiday you just celebrated, but it is always warm and yummy, and keeps the goodness of the holiday with me a little longer.

[**To view the complete article, please click here!**](#)

Unification Thoughts

Rearing Monarchs - Part 5

by Prof. Gerry Servito

Welcome Back!

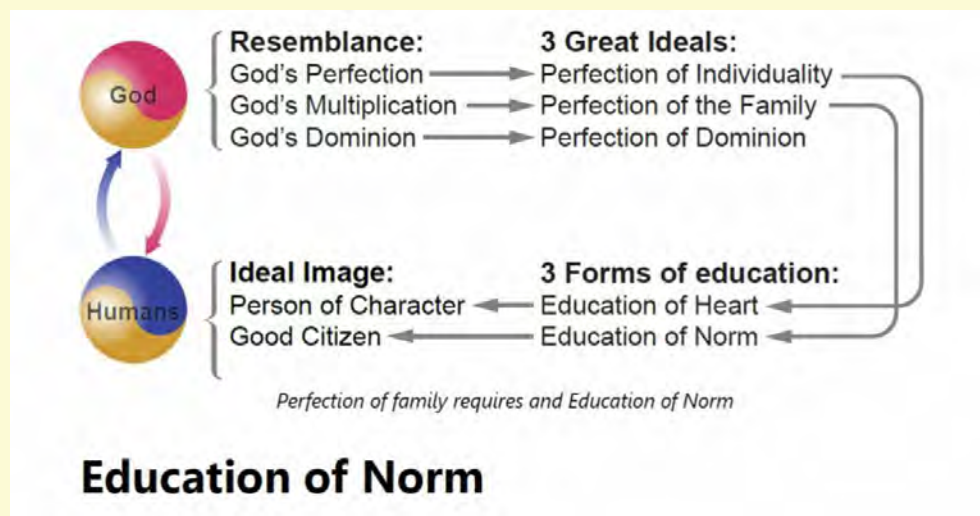
Blessed and peaceful New Year to you and yours. And thank you for your continued interest in these *Unification Thoughts*.

In case you're joining us for the first time, the focus of this series for we Golden Agers is to look into the remarkable role of grandparents in a family. This article is the seventh in the series and its foundation points are here - [*Realms of True Love*](#) and here - [*Three Great Kingships*](#). If you take a look at those two links, you'll understand the *perspective* of the preceding seven articles, if not the details.

Summary of UT Education

So then, picking up from where we left off: In [December](#), we'd introduced the **most** essential education that a child needs: an education of the heart. And by that, it specifically means an education about the *Three Hearts of God*. As the Principle textbooks mention, this is one of its core tasks. This is the key for a child to achieve their first blessing. So a main task of a grandparent is just that - to educate a child to understand God's heart.

Having covered that first form of education, we now move on to the second one, the Education of Norm:



[To view the complete file, please click here!](#)

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Sharing Articles with the Golden Age Newsletter

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

Thank you for your supportive response to the Golden Age Newsletter! Its purpose is to help our beloved Senior Unification Members (60 years plus) stay connected through sharing God's love – what is positive in our lives as a result of finding Heavenly Parent and True Parents.

We welcome you to share your own article with us for inclusion in a future issue of the newsletter. Following are the monthly sections to guide your contribution.

Newsletter Sections

1. Basic Message of Inspiration – helping others feel hope and inspiration for the establishment of Cheon Il Guk.
2. History Byte – a short article on a positive memory, a funny or affectionate story about experiences in the church with True Parents or with brothers and sisters.
3. Arts and Culture – a sharing about one's talents, hobbies or interests and how this relates to sharing God's love (to family, community, nation or world).
4. Health – an article that relates to health (physical or mental), possibly providing a link to an article you think might be interesting or important to other seniors.
5. Recipe – preferably a healthy recipe along with 2-3 paragraphs about what makes it a good or memorable recipe.
6. "Unification Thoughts" – the final section written by Gerry Servito.

We look forward to hearing from you! Please send your article to Carol Pobanz, our publisher at carolpobanz@gmail.com.

Thank you and God bless you!

Rev. Richard Buessing

Carol Pobanz

Senior Pastors Association (SPA)