



# The Circuit Rider

Life in the Big Bend Episcopal Mission – January 2005

## Charles and Nicolette Receive Blessing

On Saturday December 18th at St. David's Episcopal Church in San Antonio, the marriage of Charles and Nicolette Blizzard was blessed by the Church. Charles Blizzard is a seminary



student from St. James', Alpine. He graduated from Sul Ross State University and is attending Trinity Seminary in Pennsylvania. His wife, Nicolette, is a

linguist in the Air Force, is currently stationed in San Angelo, and is studying Arabic.

Staying true to his personality, Charles kept things lively and entertaining right down to his bugs bunny socks.



## Standing Committees Approve Steenson Election

The Diocesan office has received word that enough Standing Committee consents have been received to clear the way for the consecration of Jeffrey Steenson as Bishop Coajutor. The Cathedral Church of St. John in Albuquerque, will host the consecration which will be held on Saturday, January 15, 2005, at 10:30 a.m. Plans are being made for a web cast of the consecration. Details will be published in the Sunday bulletin when they become available.



Paul Logan, a staff writer for the *Albuquerque Journal*, writes that Jeffrey Steenson is the son of a North Dakota farmer and pilot. His father was killed in an accident in his private plane a year or two ago. Jeffrey is also a pilot and is building a four seat single-engine aircraft in his garage in Albuquerque. He describes his hobby of flying as "very deeply spiritual" and "touching the face of God." In reflecting on our state of affairs he says, "Whatever our problems are, we need to learn to try and solve them in the communities we find ourselves in. We do better when we quietly and patiently wait for God." The full article is available at [www.abqjournal.com](http://www.abqjournal.com).

***Do not grow old, no matter how long you live. Never cease to stand like curious children before the great mystery into which we are born.***

- Albert Einstein via the Joyfulnoise Letter



Plans for the annual retreat at Terlingua Ranch are shaping up. This year's theme will be **"Give it up and get a life - Discovering New Life in Community."** During the retreat we will explore how giving up our own "agendas" can free us to see other peoples perspective, and strengthen our community of faith.

### Tentative Retreat Schedule

#### Friday, February 11th

5:00-6:00pm Arrival & Happy Hour  
6:00pm Dinner  
7:00pm-9:00pm First Session

#### Saturday, February 12th

8:00am Breakfast  
9:00am-noon Second Session  
12:00 noon Lunch  
Afternoon - Natural Horsemanship demonstration or free time.  
6:00pm Dinner  
7:00-9:00pm Third Session

#### Sunday, February 13th

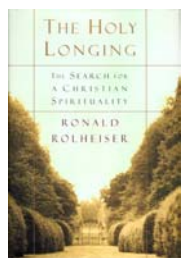
8:00am Breakfast  
9:00-10:30am Final Session  
11:00am Holy Eucharist

On Saturday afternoon, Seth and Judy invite you to watch a demonstration of Natural Horsemanship and see how life in community for horses compares to life in community for us.

Except for any charge you may incur for lodging and meals, there is no cost to attend the retreat. Rooms at Terlingua Ranch Lodge are available for \$48.00 per night. Call 432-371-2416 for room reservations. RV. spaces are available. For scholarship assistance contact the Vicar.

## New Study Group at St. James'

Charlotte Harris will be leading a new study group starting on Sunday, January 9th at 10:00am. The first meeting will be an organizational meeting. Suggestions about format and structure are welcome. Charlotte is proposing that the group start by reading the Ronald Rolheiser book, *The Holy Longing* and meet every Sunday morning in the St. James' parish hall for a 45 minute discussion before church.



“Ronald Rolheiser makes sense of what is frequently a misunderstood word: “spirituality.” This book is for those searching to understand what Christian spirituality means and how to apply it to their own lives. At the core of the book is an explanation of God and the Church in a world that more often than not doubts the credibility of both.”

**Last Month's Question:** What is the Christian hope?

**Answer:** The Christian hope is to live with confidence in newness and fullness of life, and to await the coming of Christ in glory, and the completion of God's purpose for the world.

**This Month's Question:** What do we mean by heaven and hell?

## Welcome Back Bill Smith

After an absence of several months, Bill Smith will be back on the organ bench at St. Paul's. Over the years Bill has played at both St. Paul's and St. James'. Initially, he will be commuting from his home in Sanderson. Welcome back Bill.



*A 104-year-old woman was asked by a reporter, “What do you think is the best thing about being 104?” “No peer pressure,” she replied.*

*from the Joyfulnoise Letter*

## Otra Vez Workers Make it all Possible



Shannon Carter



Betty Reed



Marsha Geffert



Betty Statham



Ruth Oakes



Lynna Waits



Cliff and Maxine

The Big Bend Mission Otra Vez Thrift Shop operates entirely with volunteer help. We are fortunate to have so many volunteers that work every week to get the shop ready and help out on Saturdays when the shop is open. From the beginning, Cliff and Maxine Haislip have worked tirelessly to see that the shop is organized and run in an attractive and professional manner. The most time consuming weekly activities are sorting and preparing items for the shop. Maxine is joined by several volunteers who come together once a week and spend most of the day sorting and transporting items. Because of generous donations and because of the hard work of the volunteers, the shop offers many new items each week. Fresh inventory brings customers back week after week. Many thanks to Shannon Carter, Marsha Geffert, Ruth Oakes, Betty Reed, Betty Statham, and Lynna Waits.

## The Happy Hookers are at it Again



The St. Paul's knitting group affectionately known as the “Happy Hookers” is at it again. They are making scarves and hats for seamen and shawls. The shawls are frequently made with specific people in mind who are ill or in difficulty to let them know they are in our prayers. The group in the photo is modeling the Hooker's wares.

The happy hookers this year are Libi Rhodes, Shere Whitley, Don Viator, Greta Murray, Kate McKenna, and Aurie West.

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS



“If home-schooled kids mess up, can they be expelled from the family?”

from *The Joyful Noiseletter*  
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