The Danger Of Dreams

by Anthony Fisher

One of the assignments that Lynette Schrader gave her students in this year’s Third Term Composition class was to write a “remembered events” essay—a true story from their past, written as they remember it. Anthony Fisher wrote “The Danger of Dreams” to fulfill that assignment.

For as long as I can remember, I have loved firearms of all kinds. I loved to hold them, aim them, work their actions, pull their triggers. I got my first gun when I was about eight years old. It was a .22, a rather ancient gun that had been owned by my great-grandfather, and passed down through the generations to me. I was proud of that gun, and I loved nothing better than to take it out in the fields and pick off groundhogs with it. About this time, I began sending off for gun catalogs from every company I could find, and I pored over them for hours, dreaming, imagining...I lived in my dreams more than in the real world.

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Then I would turn the page or pick up another catalog, and I was off again, this time hunting moose in the bogs and evergreens of the Canadian outback, or stalking trophy elk in the Rockies, or even keeping the peace in an imaginary Old West town, with my dual, ivory-handled, nickel-plated revolvers spinning effortlessly on my finge rs, and sending out a rapid-fire hail of bullets, each one finding its mark with unerring accuracy. I lived in my dreams more than in the real world.

When I was twelve, I finally saved up enough money to buy my own shotgun, a Mossberg twenty gauge pump-action, which would be much more useful in my home state of Ohio than a rifle. Now, this gun became the pride of my life. I cleaned it with rigid regularity. I fired it every chance I got, at anything I could hunt: deer, turkeys, squirrels, doves, pigeons. And still, I lived, breathed, ate up, and drank in weaponry and its dealers’ catalogs.

I was fourteen when my dreams caught up with me.

It was a sunny late spring day, resplendent with living warmth and the brilliant green of flour-
ishing life, I was not enjoying it. I was stuck in the house with too much to do. My brothers and I had been given a long list of "Things To Do" and then left alone, expected to show responsibility and do our work on time. We did not feel particularly responsible that morning, however, and the work was progressing very slowly. To pass the time, I took out my shotgun, and began playing with it. I threw it to my shoulder, sighting down the barrel at an imaginary animal standing outside the door. I slipped the safety off and pulled the trigger. I mentally exchanged the metallic "click" of the firing pin hitting nothing but air for an ear-shattering "BOOM" as the heavy rifle fired, placing a 250-grain boat-tail bullet squarely in the heart of the charging grizzly.

"Hey, Anthony, can I try it?" My brother Timothy's voice shattered my reverie.

"Sure, here." I cycled the action on the shotgun, allowing it to dry fire again, and then handed the gun to Timothy. "See, Timmy, you hold the gun here, and then you put your finger here on the trigger, and then you aim and pull the trigger." I helped him place his hands correctly. Standing back, I watched him, in his red T-shirt and blue sweatpants, four years old, hunching his head down to the level of the sights, since he could not hold the gun to his shoulder. He playfully pointed the gun in the general direction of my brother Darren's head and pulled the trigger.

"It won't go," he complained.

"Here, let me try it." "Anthony," Darren's voice cut in. "Come on, we have work to do! We've got to hang up clothes." Darren, twelve, was like that, always irritably doing the right thing at the right time. Now, as I looked in his general direction with disgust, his tanned body bent down into the bowels of the washer, pulling clothes out.

"If you want," I snapped.

I turned back to the task at hand: showing Timothy the ease of firing a gun. "See, Tim, it's easy." I threw the gun to my shoulder with practiced ease, took quick aim at the basement door, and squeezed the trigger.

I have never before or since then experienced a shock as great as the one that tore through me when the shotgun fired. I stood in shocked silence as the glass pane of the storm door splintered into a thousand glittering fragments that tinkled on the gravel. I could not believe what had just happened; that I had actually fired a gun inside the house, blowing out a window.

Darren immediately took control. "Is everyone all right?" "Yes," I managed.

I do not remember much of what anyone else did next. All I can recall is standing silent, staring at the door. I vaguely remember getting a bucket and trying to pick up the many particles of glass strewn around outside the door. I distinctly recollect looking at myself in the mirror, not wanting to look, realizing how close Darren had come to getting his head blown off, seeing over and over again Timothy pointing the loaded shotgun directly at Darren, pulling the trigger. It must have been God that kept the trigger from moving; He is all that stood between mere riveting shock and the terrible, haunting guilt that could have been. I was screaming inside, "I could have killed him; I could have killed him," over and over. God taught me a valuable lesson that day. I have never played with a gun since.
Salt & Light Co. Tours Eastern U.S.

During the week-long break between third and fourth terms, the Salt and Light Company took their music and drama program to the states of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Delaware. Despite a snowstorm which forced the cancellation of one program and the delay of another, their tour was a good one. "I enjoyed using my gifts for God's glory," says Laura Hursh. Tour highlights were a prison service in Pennsylvania and a day of snowmobiling in New York during the blizzard.

RBC Financial Aid

Students attending Rosedale Bible College next year may have a new source of financial aid. RBC recently submitted an application to the U.S. Department of Education requesting approval to participate in Title IV federal student aid programs, which include Pell grants, guaranteed student loans and the work study program. In a recent report to the CMC ministers fellowship in Sarasota, academic dean John Showalter noted that most college students take these sources of funding for granted. "The dilemma for RBC students has been that even though the cost of studying at Rosedale is significantly less than at many other colleges," Showalter observed, "RBC students may end up spending as much out-of-pocket as they would to attend a more expensive school elsewhere, since at most other colleges they have access to federal assistance. We believe this step will make a substantial difference for many of our students."

RBC is eligible to participate in federal assistance programs as a result of its work with the Accrediting Association of Bible Colleges during the past decade. The school expects to hear from the Department of Education by the end of the academic year, and may receive approval in time for current students' request for Pell money for the remainder of this year.

Choral Fest 2003

The biennial High School Choral Festival descends on campus April 25-27. Approximately one hundred ninety students from six schools in the states of Illinois, Iowa, Ohio, Indiana, and Delaware plan to participate in the weekend, which will consist of individual choir rehearsals, rehearsals as a mass choir, and a Sunday afternoon program. James Gallagher, retired music professor and conductor of the Men's Glee Club and Choral College at Ohio State University, will be this year's guest conductor. Mr. Gallagher was also Choral Fest's guest conductor four years ago in 1999.

New Dean of Students

Tim Stauffer will serve as Rosedale Bible College's Dean of Students beginning in August 2003. He will be replacing Mark Miller, who is leaving at the end of the current academic year after serving faithfully as Dean of Students since 1997. Tim, LaRhonda, and their daughter Michelle currently reside on the Rosedale campus, where Tim works in maintenance and LaRhonda is staff house hostess. Tim graduates this spring from Cedarville University with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology.

Talent Show

Rosedale students are blessed with an unusual amount of creativity and talent, and they let it show this year at the annual third term Student Talent Show.

Employment Opportunities

RBC needs a nurse for the 2003-2004 academic year. For more information, email tzimmerman@rosedalebible.org or call (740) 857-1311.

Rosedale Chorale Itinerary 2003

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<td>Pike Mennonite Church, Elida, Ohio</td>
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<td>April 13</td>
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1950's News
Nevin Beachy (53-54) writes, “I have a deep appreciation for the time spent at Berlin Bible School. I am retired after working more than 20 years as administrator of Craighead Nursing Center, Jonesboro, Arkansas. I am now serving part time on the staff of Trinity Church in an administrative capacity. I praise God for His faithfulness!”

1970's News
Duane Harshberger (77-79) lives in Bayertown, Pennsylvania and was licensed to pastor at Shalom Christian Fellowship in February, 2002. He also works full-time with Habitat for Humanity as Associate Support Manager in the Northwest. Richard (76-78) and Linda (Matzler) (77-78) Maust have one daughter, Erica. Richard writes, “After RBI I earned a degree in Pulmonary Care. I am currently working as Chief Information Officer at a local hospital where I also serve as the Director of the Sleep Lab and Neurodiagnostic Departments. We live in central Alabama, midway between Atlanta and Birmingham, and are always up to visitors if you’re traveling through.”

1980’s News
Richard Buckhart (89,90,92) is married to Denise. They live in Manheim, Pennsylvania and have two sons, Ryan James and Bryce Jeremy.
Wes and Linda (Wolter) Heimath (81-83) were married in 1984. Since then, Wes has graduated from Ohio State University and has worked as a carpenter and school teacher and administrator. He is currently an interior trim carpenter, and Linda is a full-time homeschool mom. They have three sons and three girls, ages 1-15, and just finished a major renovation/addition on their home. Wes and Linda attend United Bethel Mennonite Church.

1990’s News
Aram DiGennaro (98) graduated in May, 2002, from the University of Missouri-Rolla with a degree in Psychology. “I was blessed with close relationships and leadership opportunities as president of a very active campus ministry and my church’s college ministry. In my major, I did research in gender stereotyping, how blind people use the web, and testing educational software. Last summer I was an intern with Carlos Hurtado, RMM’s church planter in Southern CA.” Aram is now studying at Eastern Mennonite Seminary.
Carrie (Beary) Miller (96-97) lives with her husband Tim in Nicholasville, Kentucky. After attending Rosedale, she went to Cedarville University, then into REACH, and then back to Cedarville, graduating with a Bachelor’s of Nursing. She and Tim were married in June 2001. Tim is now studying Bible and Theology/Pre-seminary at Asbury College while Carrie works as a nurse on a cardiac floor in a hospital in Lexington.
Phyllis Miller (91-2000) lives in Hilliard, Ohio. She recently took on a new position as Business Manager of Request People, a recruiting and placement agency. “It has been challenging and stretching not only as I learn the position, but as I interact with the people I work with.”

2000’s News
Joel Wickey (99) recently returned from Impact North Ministries in Red Lake, Ontario after serving there for a little over a year. “If you ever get a chance to visit Red Lake or anywhere in Northern Ontario, do it! It is very beautiful, especially in the summertime.” Joel worked in maintenance and also stayed involved in youth ministry among the native people.
Miriam Yoder (94) is in linguistic training with New Tribes Mission. She has completed 4 years of missionary training with New Tribes and hopes to be overseas by January 2004. She writes, “At the moment, I’m not sure what country I’ll end up in, but possibly Papua New Guinea.”

Engagements
Brad Maust (02) and Jessica Jones (02) of Boyertown, Pennsylvania announce their engagement. They are planning a June 2003 wedding.
Kendall Gingerich (99-00) of Plain City, Ohio, and Karen Miller (01-02) from Chouteau, Oklahoma announce their engagement. They will be married June 14, 2003, and plan to live in Plain City, Ohio.

Weddings
Evie Bender (00-01) and Jeremy Bennett, both from Logan, Ohio, were married December 14, 2002. They have built a new home in Logan. Evie is in nursing school, and Jeremy is running a lawn care and landscaping business.
Andrew (00) and Jessica Kline of Newmarket, Pennsylvania, were married April 14, 2001.
Shyann Miller (00) of Sarasota, Florida, married Juan Galvan of Sarasota, Florida on June 15, 2002, at Berlin Christian Fellowship. They now live in Sarasota, where Juan has a job pouring concrete and Shyann works as a waitress.
J.J. Perauto (02) and Dawn Eby (01) of Plain City, Ohio, were married November 16, 2002, at United Bethel Mennonite Church. They are now living in Plain City.

CHORAL CAMP 2003
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Spring

The whirl and twirl of the solar system has been successful again—spring has arrived. We have successfully made another trip around the sun and arrived back at the place where we in the northern hemisphere point toward the sun instead of away from it. The entire process testifies to God’s faithfulness. “As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.”

And perhaps a new springtime is breaking at RBC. There certainly are signs of fresh growth; people showing interest in the college and its programs, renewed interest in supporting the school both morally and financially. And perhaps part of that spring is God stirring your heart to be part of it. Have you checked? The opportunities are many and wonderful. Possibilities range from student scholarship programs to building projects. Give me a call and we’ll talk about it. I’m ready for spring.

Kenneth D. Miller
Director of Financial Development

Willard and Esther Mayer Celebrate 50 Years

It started, like so many other romances, in a Bible class at Rosedale (CMBS in those days). Esther Swartzentruber, one of the students in Bible Survey I, had obviously caught the attention of the Instructor, Willard Mayer, who found out just how obvious it was when the survey reached the book of Esther. Students were so amused by Willard’s enthusiasm for the merits of Queen Esther that he stopped lecturing, turned his back on the class, and wrote his notes on the board!

Willard and Esther were married on June 5, 1953, and for forty-five of their fifty years together, they have been involved in the life of Rosedale, serving variously on the kitchen staff, administration, and faculty of the school.

A celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary is planned for June 3, 2003, at Shiloh Mononite Church. A short program is planned at 5:30, but friends are invited to drop in at any time between 3:00 and 7:00.

Cheryl Stahl (98,01) of Manheim, Pennsylvania married Keith Lehman on September 21, 2002.


Brian Zimmerman (02) of Myerstown, Pennsylvania and Beth Martin (00) of Reinholds, Pennsylvania, were married October 5, 2002.

Births

Greg (95) and Shalita (Troyer) Graber announce the birth of Amanda Joy on February 9, 2003. Amanda was welcomed by proud brother and sister Derek (4) and Ashley (2).

Lynette (Martin) (92) and Dwight Charles announce the birth of Alsha Dawn on October 22, 2002. She joins brothers Trent (4) and Terrel (2).

Dan (95) and Melonie Bontrager announce the birth of Tyler David on September 18, 2002. He joins Trevor (2) and Ashlyn (1).

Edwin (91) and Melissa (91) Dohrner announce the birth of Cadon Lyle on April 12, 2002. He joins his big sister, Hannah (3). “We are enjoying him so much. We thank God for our two adorable children!”

Rhonda (Halleman) (90) and Doug Hartler announce the birth of Joshua David on July 3, 2002. His older siblings are Katherine (2), Benjamin (5), and Cole (7).

Audrey (Zimmerman) (93) and Robert Konag announce the birth of Jesse Ian on August 2, 2002. Jesse joins brother Josiah (3).

Andrea (00) and Jessica Kline announce the birth of Allison Jane on December 10, 2002.

Janelle (Clemmer) (87, 89) and Nate (89) Miller announce the birth of Maranatha Dawn on July 27, 2002. She is much loved by Alisha (11), Joel (9), Philip (7), Obadiah (4), and Hodassah (2).

Tonya (Troyer) (91) and Keith Miller announce the birth of Tiona Joy on November 16, 2002. Her two big sisters, Nicole and Paige, are very proud of her.

David (87, 89, 90, 91) and Katrin (Goscho) (96) Myers announce the birth of Michael David on July 27, 2001. He joins big sister Kaitlyn Joy.

Mark (97, 98, 99) and Megan (Miller) (99) Sarver announce the birth of Cole Braden on December 11, 2002. "God has shown us that sleep just really isn’t necessary anymore.”

Rhonda (Nisly) (94, 95) and Matthew Staubbaugh announce the twin births of Aimee Caroline and Sierra Danielle on October 31, 2002. Sibling Cathryn (2) is glad to be a big sister.
Duane (86,87) and Judy Roth announce the birth of Stephen Clair on November 20, 2002. He was welcomed by brothers David and Jonathan.

Dean (96) and Cynthia (91,92,94, staff 95,96) Wengen announce the birth of Micah Dean on October 2, 2002. He is their first born, but has a foster brother, Brian (2).

Sandra (Hochstetler) (83-85) and Greg Stelzer announce the birth of Jennifer Anne on February 15, 2002. Her older siblings are Stephen (11) and Daniele (5).

Ryan (95) and Katrina (95,96) Schrock announce the birth of Nikolaus Ryan on August 13, 2002. He was welcomed by his big sister, Destiny Joy (2).

Koyo (Bowman) (83,89,90) and Kirk Wilmer announce the birth of Grace Elizabeth on December 26, 2002.


Nate (90,91) and Grace (Kauffman) (90,92) Yoder announce the birth of Kory Lamar on November 11, 2002. He joins his older sister Hannah (2) and older brother Kyle (1).
Reflections

True Spirituality
by Leon Zimmerman

I enjoy reading newsletters from other colleges. Christian ones in particular. I pay close attention to what they have to say regarding the spiritual atmosphere on their campuses. Recently one school wrote of a revival on their campus. It was deep-seated in that it concluded with much confession of sin and a bonfire. Music CDs, sports items, makeup and clothes were consumed in the flames. Another school referenced a heightened sensitivity among students regarding the injustices shown toward the children of Romania. A third school depicted a new realization of the spiritual warfare that Christians encounter. Students were praying much more and even cast out a few demons.

Each institution makes claims to significant strides toward a deeper spirituality and, so it seems, promises a Christian experience that is a cut above the norm. Students testify to having the deepest spiritual encounters of their lives.

So what is true spirituality? Is it living life by some set of favored rules? Is it an ongoing striving toward ridding oneself of sin? Is it a deep surrender to the Holy Spirit's enablement? Is it an attempt to bring justice and equality to this fallen world?

We need to depict the Christian life as clearly as we know how. If we present it in overly idealized terms, no one will be able to attain and maintain it. On the other hand, if our expectations are low, we will produce a bland imitation of the faith of the apostles.

So what is true spirituality? It is all those things I read about in the newsletters. And it is more. It is clearly identifying with Jesus Christ in his death and resurrection in such a way that we experience a personal death and resurrection. In the spirit of our Anabaptist forefathers, it is a daily walk with Jesus that includes crying to self and living a holy life. It is living for Jesus when no one else is watching. Or, as James the brother of Jesus put it, it is to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world; none of these things spin all that well in a newsletter.