

MIRROR

THE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER OF ROSEDALE BIBLE COLLEGE

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Fall 2004

EUROPEAN STUDY-TOUR



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April 29—Departed from the RBC campus at 8:45 a.m.; Arrived in Amsterdam, Netherlands, fifteen hours and three airports later, 5:30 a.m. April 30th Central European Summer Time (11:30 p.m. Eastern Time)

April 30—Met the driver of the chartered tour bus at the airport; boarded the tour bus and rode from Amsterdam to nearby Aalsmeer for a tour of the world's largest flower market; returned to Amsterdam to visit the Rijksmuseum, home to paintings by Rembrandt, Vermeer, and other Dutch artists

May 1—Traveled to the province of Friesland to visit historical sites related to Dutch Anabaptism; toured an old Anabaptist "hidden church" with an exterior made to look like a house in the town of Pingjum; visited the Menno Simons memorial in Witmarsum; also explored a dike on the North Sea, several windmills, and the old-world Dutch town of Giethoorn, which has canals and small boats instead of streets and cars

May 2—Returned to Giethoorn for Sunday morning worship at Doopsgezinde Gemeente Giethoorn (Giethoorn Mennonite Church/Fellowship); traveled to Aachen, Germany, in the afternoon; explored Aachen in small groups; "brawn" was on the menu for the evening meal at the hotel; brawn, *n.* headcheese; headcheese, *n.* luncheon meat made of the edible parts of the head of a pig or calf and molded in its own aspic; aspic, *n.* a savory jelly usually made with meat or fish stock or tomato juice and gelatin, chilled and used in molded dishes or as a garnish

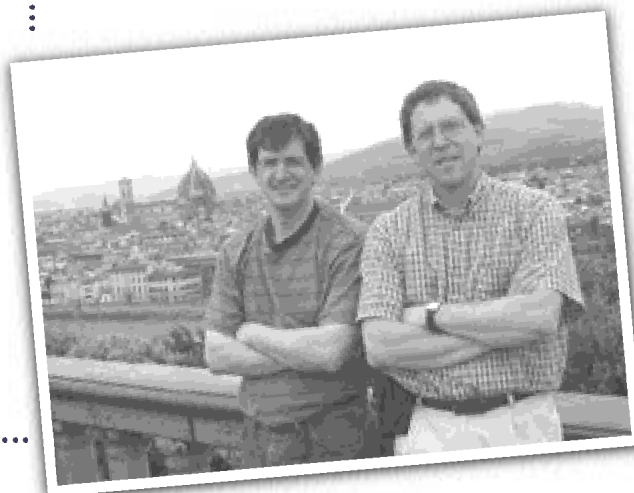
May 3—Traveled from Aachen to Paris, France, in the morning; visited Notre Dame Cathedral in the afternoon and toured the Louvre in the evening

Jon Showalter, who teaches RBC's Anabaptist History and Theology class, and Ken Miller, instructor for Introduction to Humanities,



offered their two classes as a unit during RBC's fifth term 2004 and incorporated a European study-tour as part of the curriculum. Their itinerary included stops at Anabaptist historical sites in the Netherlands, Switzerland and southern Germany as well as visits to museums, cathedrals, and other places of artistic and cultural interest in France and Italy. The classes met for two weeks of intensive study prior to their departure, spent three weeks traveling, and returned to campus several

days before RBC's commencement exercises. The accompanying itinerary is taken from the tour journal.





Canals in Amsterdam



Anabaptist meeting-house, Netherlands



The Louvre, Paris



The Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam



The Austrian Alps

May 4—Visited the Eiffel Tower in the morning; split into smaller groups to explore other sites of interest in Paris such as the Arc de Triomphe (Triumphal Arch) and the Basilique du Sacre Coeur (Sacred Heart Basilica); left Paris en route to Switzerland in the afternoon, stopping in Dijon, France, for the night

May 5—Continued the journey to Switzerland through beautiful scenery in the Alps; brief stop at a Mennonite Church in the Swiss village of Langnau; arrived at the Murri farm, a bed-and-breakfast near Langnau, in time for “a delicious meal of potatoes, peas and carrots, and meat with gravy”

May 6—Visited Trachselwald Castle, where many sixteenth-century Anabaptists were held as prisoners prior to their execution; returned to the Murri farm for the night

May 7—Traveled to nearby Interlaken for a brief stop before heading on to Lauterbrunnen; boarded a cog train en route to the mountain village of Murren; boarded a cable car in Murren to travel to the top of the Schilthorn, a high peak in the Swiss Alps, for a view of the surrounding mountains; unfortunately, encountered limited visibility due to clouds; returned to the Murri farm for the night

May 8—Traveled to Zurich; saw the Grossmünster (where Ulrich Zwingli was pastor), the family houses of Conrad Grebel and Ulrich Zwingli, and the Limmat River, where Felix Manz was drowned; split into smaller groups to explore Zurich; regrouped in the evening and traveled to Allmannshausen Castle near Allmannshausen, Germany

May 9—Attended morning services at a free evangelical church in nearby Starnberg; visited the Dauchau concentration camp in the afternoon; traveled to Salzburg, Austria, in the evening

May 10—Explored Salzburg in the morning; studied the architecture of St. Peter’s Abbey, the College Church, and Hohensalzburg Fortress; also visited various sites related to the filming of *The Sound of Music*; traveled about 2 hours to the town of Mittersill, Austria, in the afternoon and spent the night at the historic Schloss (castle) Mittersill.

May 11—Endured a nine-hour bus trip from Mittersill, Austria, to Florence, Italy

May 12—Studied art, sculpture and architecture in Florence, including Brunelleschi's dome, Florence Cathedral and the Medici palace as well as works by Michelangelo, Raphael, da Vinci, Ghiberti and Botticelli

May 13—Spent the morning in further exploration of Florence; traveled to nearby historic towns of San Gimignano and Siena in the afternoon; returned to Florence for the night

May 14—Traveled from Florence to Rome, Italy, with a brief stop in Pisa to see the Leaning Tower; stopped for lunch on the shore of the Mediterranean; arrived at the hotel in Rome around 7:30 p.m.

May 15—Viewed art and architecture in Rome, starting with the Sistine Chapel and St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican; split into smaller groups around noon to explore the Colosseum, Trajan's Tower and Forum, the Pantheon and other points of interest; a few adventurous souls rented 50cc motor scooters on which to do their exploring

May 16—Attended a church service (mass) at the Pantheon; more exploration of Rome in smaller groups in the afternoon

May 17—Left the hotel in the morning bound for Rosedale; arrived safely, though delayed and rerouted by inclement weather, four airports and twenty-one hours later, 11:30 p.m. Eastern Time (5:30 a.m. May 18th Central European Summer Time)

Personal Reflections

"One of the memorable experiences on this trip was when a pastor from the Swiss Reformed church came and spoke to us," commented student Dano Heatwole. "He had studied about Anabaptists and what all his church had done to them and wanted to be reunited to his brothers in Christ. He wanted to take this chance to apologize and ask forgiveness from us as Mennonites for what his church did to our ancestors. While he was talking I thought about how, so many times, we look for our religious stability only within the Mennonite Church when in fact there are others who are striving to serve God who are our brothers in Christ. The body of Christ spans denominations."

For student Maribeth Nisly, the trip "was an experience I don't think I'll ever forget. It has given me a new appreciation for what the Anabaptists went through for their convictions. I also learned a deeper appreciation for the beauty (and the expense) of cathedrals."



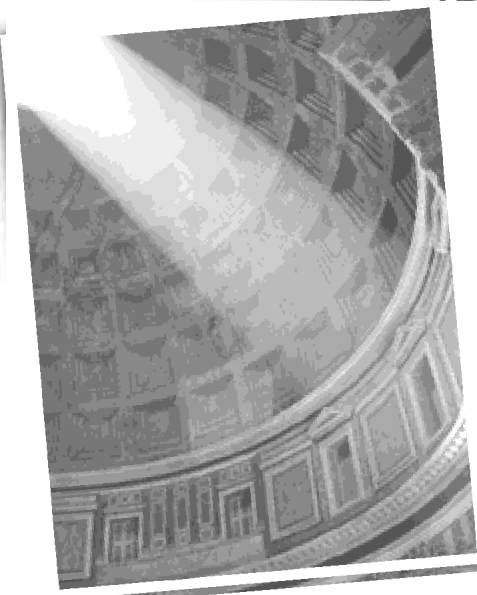
Hohensalzburg Fortress, Salzburg



Dachau Concentration Camp, Germany



Brunelleschi's Dome, Florence



The Pantheon, Rome



The Colosseum, Rome

Rosedale Bible College Names Interim Academic Dean



Philip Barr has been appointed interim academic dean at Rosedale Bible College for the 2004-2005 academic year. He will serve during the sabbatical of current academic dean Jon Showalter.

Barr has served as a missionary relief worker in Sudan under both Tear Fund, a relief organization from his native England, and Mennonite Central Committee. He also spent ten years in Guatemala with Eastern Mennonite Missions, where he worked as an overseer for local churches and assisted in church planting efforts. More recently, He lived in Allensville, Pennsylvania, where he was pastor of Allensville Mennonite Church from 1991-2002.

Barr holds a B.S. in Mathematics and a Graduate Certificate in Education from Leeds University (Leeds, England), a Cambridge Diploma in Religious Studies from Cambridge University (Cambridge, England), a M.Div. from Eastern Mennonite Seminary, and a D.Min. from Fuller Theological Seminary.

Leon Zimmerman, president of Rosedale Bible College, commented, "I am happy to have Phil step into this office for the next year. He has both mission and pastoral experience along with excellent academic credentials."

Commencement at Rosedale Bible College



Twenty-nine students graduated from Rosedale Bible College during the annual spring commencement ceremony on May 20. Seven students received an Associate of Arts in biblical studies, twenty

earned a one-year certificate in biblical studies, and two graduated from the Institute of Pastoral Studies, RBC's two-year pastoral training program. RBC faculty member Eric Kouns presented the commencement address.

Rosedale Bible College Salt and Light Co. Tours Western U.S. and Canada

The Salt and Light Co., RBC's music and drama ensemble, pushed off on a three-week summer tour of the western United States and Canadian provinces immediately following RBC's commencement. On the road from May 21 till June 16, they presented a program entitled *The Ultimate Sacrifice* at churches and prisons in Alberta, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Manitoba, Montana, Minnesota, Ontario, Wisconsin and Wyoming.



2004 Salt & Light Team (Front row, from left): Evan Hostetter, Dion Gingerich, Tony Nisly. (Second row): Melanie Heatwole, Ian Miller, Michelle Root, Jonathan Miller, Ramona Beachy.

Showalters Teaching in China

Jon Showalter and his family traveled to China in July to begin a year-long sabbatical. Showalter, a professor at RBC since 1991 and academic dean since 1996, and his wife, Dawn, will be teaching English in a university setting. The Showalters travel to China under the dual appointment of Eastern Mennonite Missions and Rosedale Mennonite Missions and will work under the direction of the China Educational Exchange, an inter-



Mennonite organization which specializes in placing English teachers in China.

Choral Camp at Rosedale Bible College

Rosedale Bible College's *Choral Camp*, held July 5-16, hosted 240 campers and involved more than 50 music instructors and volunteers in the mission of helping children celebrate music. Campers attended music classes where they learned part singing, music history, music appreciation and music theory. They also experienced a wide array of recreational and enrichment activities which included an old-fashioned four-part harmony hymn sing, a hay ride, a shaving cream fight, plus chapel and campfire meditations.



Choral Camp, which consists of two separate one-week camps, is for children who have completed grades 2 through 8. The camp has been filled to capacity in each of the last five years.

What is the Connection between Theology and Facial Hair?

Two RBC professors are sporting a new look. Reuben Sairs recently grew a "goatee," and Leon Zimmerman now has a full beard. Faculty members Eric Kouns, longtime beard wearer, and Reuben Sairs, newcomer to the unshaven club, give us their opinions on how this new development may influence RBC's theological stance.

Eric Kouns

There is a definite connection between theology and facial hair. In fact, I grew my beard for theological reasons. If someone were to ask me a serious theological question, I would cross my arms, stroke my beard, and look thoughtful. If they persisted in demanding a response, I would simply change the subject by asking, "Say, do you like my new beard?" Now that I have had the beard for several years, that line is becoming shop-worn. And especially now that so many of my colleagues have suddenly been inspired to sport facial hair of their own, I find I can no longer rely on a reference to my "new" beard to rescue me from the clutches of demanding theologues. However, necessity is the mother of invention, and a hirsute chin seems to heighten my powers of creativity. Now, when someone asks me a serious theological question, I cross my arms, stroke my beard, and look thoughtful. If they persist in demanding a response, I simply change the subject by asking, "I've been thinking about shaving off my beard. What do you think?"



Reuben Sairs

The New Testament is of no use in trying to sort out this important question. It doesn't say a word. Fortunately there's lots of facial hair in the Old Testament. "And Joab took Amasa by the beard with the right to kiss him, But Amasa took no heed to the sword that was in Joab's hand..." Of course, there are other memorable beard stories, like the time Hanun shaved off half the beard of David's servants. The text is silent on which half. Do I see the springboard for a whole new phase of youth fashion? After all, low rider pants seem to emulate in an inverse pattern the other side of Hanun's fashion statement. Incidentally, not for a minute am I suggesting the human race routinely humiliates itself with fashion trends. The sagacious Edward Lear is indispensable on this matter.



There was an old man with a beard

Who said: "It is just as I feared!

Two owls and a hen,

Four larks and a wren

Have all built their nests in my beard."

The theological ramifications of Lear's limerick should be obvious to all but the most obtuse reader.

Beards and mustaches have not been a laughing matter in Mennonite/Amish history. Melvin Gingerich's *Mennonite Attire through Four Centuries* gives five pages to subject. Starting in 1568 and ending sometime around...2004, the nonlaughing has continued in some circles. With these important background considerations behind me, I would like to make my small contribution to this venerable topic by answering your question. Please refer to the second sentence of my response.

1970s News

Gary (70-75) and **Diane (79) (Varner) Mininger** live in Dry Fork, West Virginia. Their two daughters, Tracy and Mandy, have finished college, and their son, Travis, recently graduated from high school. Gary writes, "I still enjoy building houses and enjoy our church family and community. Thanks, Rosedale, for who I am today."

1980s News

Naomi (Yoder) Caudill (85,87,88) lives in Ezel, Kentucky. She writes, "Our church building is complete and we moved in (debt-free) in April 2004—nothing short of a miracle. My husband John continues to work for the department of highways, doing quality monitoring for road construction and maintenance projects. Caleb (8) is finishing 2nd grade in our local public school and is looking forward to Bethel Camp this summer. He's a big fan of Southern Gospel bass singers. Joshua (5) is excited about going to school next year. I continue to work as a nursing educator in a local hospital. We stay involved in our church teaching Sunday School and in church organization. God has been so good to us!"

1990s News

Jesse Diller (99,00) recently moved to Alexandria, Virginia. "Life moves on, and there's nothing to do about it except keep up! I've finally graduated from Penn State, with my B.S. in Computer Engineering. I have accepted a position with the US Patent and Trademark Office as a Patent Examiner in the Computer Architecture department, so I've moved. Definitely something new! I'd love to hear from y'all! If you're in the area, give me a ring, you're welcome to stop by!"

Births

Carita (95) (Beachy) and **Tim Battles** of Irwin, Ohio, announce the birth of **Caeden James** on March 28, 2004.

Loretta (89) (Bontrager) and **Wayne Fisher** of Perry, New York, announce the birth of **Leah Morgan** on December 16, 2003. Her sisters are **Alexis**, **Kaitlin** and **Bailey**.

Ryan (Akwachink 96) and **Kris (01) (Shirk) Freed** of Irwin, Ohio, announce the birth of **Kalvary Rose** on June 20, 2004.

Donovan (93) and **Heather Gingerich** of Millersburg, Indiana, announce the birth of **William Lewis** on April 22, 2004. He joins sister **Isabella** and brother **Jack**.

Jeff (99,00,04) and **Angela (98, staff 99) (Zehr) Heatwole** announce the birth of **Julia L'Rae** on February 28, 2004. In honor of Angela's father, **Earl**, who passed away 9 years ago, Julia's middle name is his spelled backward.



William Lewis Gingerich

Robbie (97) and **Karen (95,97) (Groff) Keim** of Charm, Ohio, announce the birth of **Madison Joy** on November 26, 2003. She joins sister **Kayli**.

Jerry (87,88,92,94) and **Dawn (87,90) (Jantzi) Kindy** of Midland, Michigan, announce the birth of **Caleb Lee** on June 29, 2004. He is their first child.

Gerald (91) and **Vicki (91) (Gingerich) King** of Cochranville, Pennsylvania, announce the birth of **Alyssa Ann** on March 28, 2004. She joins **Andrew (4)** and **Abigail (2)**.



Julia L'Rae Heatwole

Kevin (90-91) and Wendy (95) (Byler) Mayer of Rosedale, Ohio, announce the birth of Ellie Jade on June 8, 2004. She joins her brother, Evan (3).



Ellie Jade Mayer

Curtis (84) and Colleen Meyers of Greencastle, Pennsylvania, announce the birth of Clayton Paul on May 9, 2004. He is welcomed by sister Corianna.

Matthew (85) and Mary Overholt of Upton, Massachusetts, announce the birth of Wesley Grant on August 19, 2003. He joins his sister, Emily (3).



Amber Lee Snader

Phil (88) and Laronda (88) (Halteman) Snader of Denver, Pennsylvania, announce the birth of Amber Lee on May 9, 2004. She joins big brother Chad (6) and big sisters Jodi (4) and Danae (2).

Mark (80) and Melody (77,80) (Stoltzfus) Stoltzfus of Honey Brook, Pennsylvania, announce the birth of Brittany Ann on January 30, 2004. She has 3 older brothers and 3 older sisters.

Collette (99) (Heisey) and David Summy of Manns Choice, Pennsylvania, announce the birth of Amber Nicole on July 4, 2004.



Amber Nicole Summy

Tressa (91) and Keith Thomas of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, announce the birth of Brock Anderson on February 9, 2004. He was welcomed by an older brother, Conrad, and two sisters, Alyssa and Danae.

Dean (96) and Cynthia (91,92,94, staff 95,96) (Weaver) Wenger of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, announce the birth of Tara Joy on May 13, 2004. She was welcomed by big brothers Brian (3) and Micah (2).

Matthew (87) and Darlene Yutzy of Plain City, Ohio, announce the birth of Andrew Valentine, on April 7, 2004. Andrew is their first child.

Sabrina Funk (97,98, staff 99) of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, and Jeremy Lehman of Fairplay, Maryland, were married April 17, 2004. They now live in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.



Sabrina Funk and Jeremy Lehman

Jen Nolt (97,00) of Denver, Pennsylvania, and Daryl Weaver were married in July of 2003. They are planning to move to Grenada, West Indies, where they have committed to serving three years with Olive Branch Mennonite Missions.

Ministry Opportunity

Oasis Community Church, a Conservative Mennonite Conference congregation in Lexington, Kentucky, has a ministry opportunity that RBC alumni may want to consider. Oasis is looking for an individual and/or couple to provide leadership in youth and/or worship ministries. Contact Laban Miller, senior pastor, at ldm-mam@juno.com or (859) 278-2412.

Weddings

Greg Helmuth (01,02) of Arthur, Illinois, and Karen Kramer (01,02), also from Arthur, were married September 20, 2003. They now live in Arthur.

Want to read more news of your classmates?

Visit the online alumni reunion at the RBC website.
www.rosedale.edu

MIRROR

THE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER OF ROSEDALE BIBLE COLLEGE

The *MIRROR* is a newsletter of Rosedale Bible College published three times a year.

The mission of Rosedale Bible College is to provide an evangelical junior Bible college education in the Anabaptist/Mennonite tradition that equips students to grow spiritually and academically and to serve effectively in the church and society.

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Alumni News Form

Send us your news—the birth of a future alumnus, a career change, marriage, notable accomplishments or service assignments.

Name _____ Year(s) attended RBC _____

Address _____ Phone # _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

e-mail _____

New Address? (if so, please list **old** address here) _____

News _____

I am enclosing a contribution to RBC in the amount of \$ _____

Reading Aloud

by Leon Zimmerman



Recently I stumbled across a small but significant principle that has impacted me deeply. I attended a meeting for fathers in which the speaker freely handed out a number of challenges. Among them was the encouragement to read the Bible aloud to our children. At that point Naomi and I were finishing a children's

Bible story book and were looking for another to use in our family devotions. I decided to take the speakers challenge.

I began reading, as the speaker suggested, in Genesis, Psalms and Matthew but soon dropped to only Genesis. Time and time again I was startled as I read. A few of my mental ponderings were, "It actually says this! Wow, this is blunt! I don't recall this much repetition. This is powerful! Should I be reading this to an eight year old? I hope the children don't ask a question about this detail."

Something was happening that does not happen when I read silently. I was thinking through the details more deeply, visualizing the accounts more clearly, and I was impacted by the mes-

sage in deeper ways. And, as far as I could determine, all because I was reading aloud!

During the past decade students on numerous Christian college campuses have revived the practice of reading the Bible aloud. In Bible reading marathons they have read without interruption, reading the New Testament in about 22 hours and the whole Bible in 72. Many testify that the exercise has been revolutionary.

Paul encouraged the young minister Timothy to devote himself to the public reading of Scripture.

Cicero, a first century BC orator and philosopher, apologized to a friend because he was not able to read a letter that he had recently received from him because he had a sore throat! He would not read his friend's letter silently. That would have been disrespectful toward his friend. He would wait till the sore throat was gone and then read it, aloud.

What would happen were we to revive the practice of reading the Bible aloud in our personal, family and worship settings? It would take longer and we would need to concentrate more but it would impact us more deeply. I encourage you to take up the challenge.

Parents—if this is addressed to your daughter or son who has established a separate address, please give us the new address. Call (740) 857-1311 or e-mail info@rosedale.edu

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