

THIRD ANNUAL

McBride Alumni SUMMER RETREAT

JUNE 2 - 4, 1989
Friday Evening - Sunday Noon
PERPETUAL HELP RETREAT HOUSE
Oconomowoc, Wisconsin

This Year's Theme:

SERENITY . . . BEYOND THE PRAYER

DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY to take time out, to relax and reflect, to bolster your spirits and the spirit of your program. Join your fellow alums in a weekend of retreat on the wooded shores of Crooked Lake, just minutes from Milwaukee but far from the rush of everyday living. There's inspiration and rejuvenation, fellowship and sharing. If you've attended before, you know the feeling; if this is your first, see what all you've been missing. Either way, it's a memorable time to treasure!

NEW LOW FEE!
\$70 COVERS EVERYTHING

The Lowest Rate Ever For a McBride Alumni Retreat

Two nights' lodging and five sumptuous meals are included in the low fee of \$70. But space is limited, so don't delay. A program schedule and other details, along with a map, will be mailed with your registration confirmation. There is no rate differential, but double rooms (twin beds) are available for those wishing to share a room; simply indicate below. Sign-in begins at 5 p.m., dinner at 6:30 followed by the opening program.

Make Check Payable To:
The McBride Foundation

Mail To:
Jean Vila
9050 N. Pelham Pkwy.
Milwaukee, WI 53217
(414) 352-6023

Deadline:
May 26, 1989
SPACE LIMITED

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

Sharing Room With: _____
(Optional)

The Moving Finger

McBRIDE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION & FOUNDATION

Vol. V, No. 2

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Spring, 1989

Annual Picnic September 10

Congratulations to all of you who passed the little test included in the last edition of The Moving Finger. The 5th annual McBride Alumni Renewal and Picnic will be held Sunday, September 10, NOT the day that was listed.

The wrong date was, of course, published intentionally. Editors do things like that to measure the alertness of their readers. Sure they do. And if you believe that, you probably believe that "one little drink won't hurt."

Once again, that date is Sunday, September 10, for the 1989 annual get-together. All the details will be included in a future mailing.

Lakeside Setting Awaits Alums Making Retreat

Serenity.

Symbolic of recovery, and even of Alcoholics Anonymous itself, this word of many meanings has been designated as the theme for this year's annual McBride Alumni Retreat, set for June 2-4 at Perpetual Help Retreat House.

(Registration instructions and a form are found on the back page of this newsletter. You must be signed-up and paid by **Friday, May 26.**)

"The Serenity Prayer is just a beginning," explained Jean Vila, Alumni Board member and chairperson of the 1989 retreat. "The more you think about it, the more different ways that it can be described."

And that's what a retreat is all about: Taking the time to look beyond the everyday,

taken-for-granted aspects of that ongoing experience we cherish and call recovery. It's a time to focus on the positive, the fellowship and sharing that builds lasting and rewarding sobriety.

This will be the McBride Alumni's third visit to the idyllic setting on the pine-covered shores of Crooked Lake southwest of Oconomowoc.

Barring unforeseen scheduling difficulties, it will be the site of all future retreats, as well. Already slated for next January is the third annual Winter Retreat, an event that has been held at West Bend (December, 1987) and Madison (December, 1988) in the past.

Earlier this year, in response to many requests, the Board decided on the Perpetual Help Retreat House as a permanent home for all McBride retreats.

As a further move to make the events as accessible as possible, the Board, at its April meeting, also voted to lower the registration fee to \$70 (the rates previously have ranged from \$75 to \$100), with any shortfall to be covered by the Alumni treasury.

It was pointed out that, in years past, many Alumni members have seen the

(continued on Page 3)

Duffer Outing May 21

Spring is here; can golf be far behind?

It may not have been an artistic success but the first "Greater McBride Open" (GMO) last fall was enough to inspire calls for an encore and the date has been set: **Sunday, May 21, at Paganica Golf Course** in Oconomowoc. Since we'll be teeing off at 10 a.m., we may even finish up before dark this time around.

It's definitely a duffer's delight, so don't let a three-digit handicap hold you back. Fun takes precedence over par in this season-opening event. There will be prizes and trophies for appropriate achievements, and golfers at all levels of prowess will have a shot at recognition.

This is a McBride Alumni event but spouses and

(Continued on Page 2)

Distance No Barrier If Connections Made

Madison-area alums have not been forgotten!

Some time back, there was talk of forming a satellite McBride Alumni group to accommodate the growing number of "graduates" in the central part of the state, but there have been problems in getting the project off the ground.

Bill Finnegan hopes to relight that fire.

"I'm not sure what form it might take," he said, "but if we could get a few folks together to talk it over, I'm sure something would take shape."

Suggestions have ranged from a monthly luncheon or dinner to the formation of a regular weekly AA group, with an opportunity for Alumni to get together before or after meetings. Events such as a golf outing are other possibilities.

Alums within driving distance, and who have an interest in taking part, should give Bill a call in Verona at (608) 833-3507.

Sheila Sorkin in Evansville, (608) 882-5872, is the area representative on the Board of Directors and is also a contact for information on Alumni activities.

Green Bay Area Also Needs Help

And on the subject of satellites... What's happening in the Green Bay area? There's a pretty good contingent in that part of the state, too, and interest in getting together was heard about a year ago. Several folks were contacted but nothing developed. If someone would follow Bill Finnegan's lead, perhaps the spark could be rekindled.

The Board of Directors would like to have a representative from that area, as well. Attendance at all meetings would not be necessary, but it would be good to have a "northeast voice" in Board decisions.

Anyone interested in serving in that capacity should contact a director.

Alumni Policy On Confidentiality

The McBride Alumni mailing list is held in strictest confidence. An individual address or phone number (when available) may be obtained, however, by a fellow alum with proper cause. Contact a Board member.

Anyone wishing to exclude his/her name from even that limited and restricted access should contact the editor.

Golf Outing Set May 21

(Continued from Page 1) others (significant or otherwise) are welcome.

Since this is intended as a "mixer," getting together with new friends as well as old, foursomes will be drawn at random unless special requests are made.

In order to assure an on-time start, players should be there by at least 9:30 a.m. Paganica is at the south edge of Oconomowoc, about half an hour from Milwaukee.

There's a picnic area with tables at the course, and a cookout is planned for all attending. Green fees are \$17 per person (carts extra) and \$3 will cover hot dogs, brats and a few extras.

To get your name on the leader board, and to get a map and other info, call **Tom Dutton at 781-5156.**

Make your check for \$20 (per player) out to Tom and mail it to him at 3365 Town Trail, Brookfield, WI 53005. Absolute deadline for reservations is **Tuesday, May 16.** Advance payment required.

The Year At A Glance

- Sunday Brunch* May 7
- 'GMO' Golf Outing May 21
- Sunday Brunch* June 4
- 3rd Annual Summer Retreat June 2-4
- Annual Meeting, Renewal
- And Picnic September 10
- McBride 5th Anniversary
- Speaker Program Mid-November
- '90 Winter Retreat January 7, 1990

* Brunch First Sunday Every Month at 76 Club

Retreat Offers Weekend of Serenity

(Continued From Page 1) retreat as an incentive to contribute to the McBride Alumni Foundation. "Fellowships" are then made available to recently discharged alums who need financial assistance to attend.

The fee covers room with bath both nights, evening meals Friday and Saturday, breakfasts Saturday and Sunday and luncheon on Saturday. Coffee is free and available around the clock and soda machines are conveniently located.

The Perpetual Help campus is located in Waukesha County on Old Highway 30 just south of I-94, about 30 minutes from downtown Milwaukee. (Registrants will receive maps and travel directions.)

Barta Fills Board Vacancy

Richard Barta has been named to the Board of Directors of the McBride Alumni Association and Foundation.

The appointment, approved by the Board at its April meeting, was to fill a vacancy left when other commitments prompted the resignation of Sherm Johnson. The term expires at the close of the current fiscal year, August 31.

The Moving Finger is published quarterly by and for the McBride Alumni Association. Please send address and telephone corrections to:
The McBride Foundation
17935 Country Lane
Brookfield, WI 53005
Ken Zimmerman
Editor

The retreat will open with a sign-in coffee hour beginning at 5 p.m. Friday. A buffet dinner will be served at 6:30 and the opening program will follow. The weekend's featured speaker this year will be **Dr. Luke S.** from McBride.

Meetings and discussion groups are held throughout the weekend, with a "free time" open period Saturday afternoon. A special closing program will be held just before noon Sunday.

Participants are, of course, invited to attend all sessions but everyone is free to schedule his or her own time on the scenic grounds. Yes, swimming in the lake is permitted.

What takes place at a retreat? This paragraph, from the Summer, 1987,

Moving Finger paints a pretty good picture:

"In groups and in two's and three's, we talked about the Steps, about problems, about joys and newfound understanding. Over meals and over coffee, we shared. We put old things in new perspective and found how, at the same time, we can be so unique yet so similar. We laughed about many of the things that once made us cry. And, at times, we cried. We spoke of hopes that had materialized, and new hopes that only now are taking shape. We talked and talked and talked."

McBride Event Now Independent

After four years as a special open meeting of the Tuesday Night Professionals in AA Group, the McBride Anniversary observance in November will now be a free-standing event.

At a meeting of members of the Tuesday Group and the McBride Board, the change was made to avoid any possible conflict with AA Traditions.

As in the past, the speaker meeting will be at the Medical College of Wisconsin and will be open to the public. It will probably be held on a Tuesday evening and a special invitation will be extended to all regular attendees of the Tuesday Night AA Group. The McBride Auditorium will be open, however, and will be available for anyone preferring a regular closed meeting.

The speaker and other details of The McBride Center's Fifth Anniversary Observance, will be announced at a later date.