

Norah's address

Box 2259, El Granada Co. (???)
94018

Norah Buyers, composer of

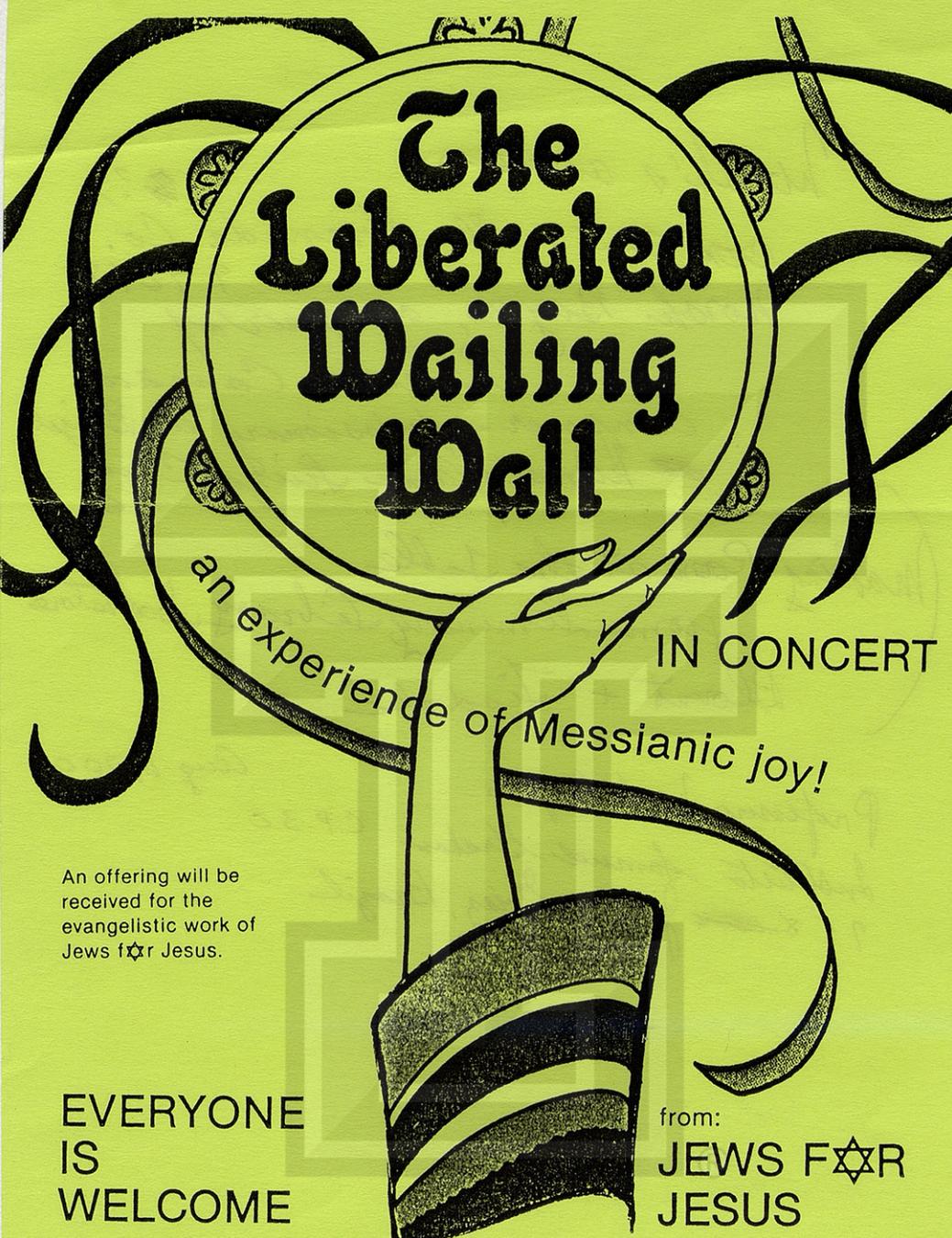
A Nova Canção
composer + missionary to Brazil
Hom de plume Suíça Cruz

Making Room at the Table
from Seminary Library bookstore
Blount + Tisdale

Professora Norah Buyers

Aug 6, 2001

Instituto Samuel Gresham CP 30
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Matthew Ristuccia, Pastor
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before 2002

Dear Raquel,

I just heard that the UCC hymnal has been published! I hope to receive a copy before long. A Mr. Daniel Erdman from Arizona is planning to visit me in the near future. His church already has Mil Voces, and evidently wants to use the interdenominational one as well.

He is wondering about the best ways to use some of the new hymns in the most effective ways. Naturally, I invited him to drop in when he is in this part of the country (July - August). I am looking forward to meeting him.

When I moved to Princeton, one thing that particularly pleased me was the closeness of the Choir College to our house. It came in handy last night.

During dinner we were looking at the brochure telling about the Choir College plans for the summer, and noticed that there is a full program for the summer, most of it free. Last night's concert was a recital in Spanish by a former student at eight o'clock. We talked about attending and decided that it wasn't too late -- it was still ten minutes before eight. I changed my shirt, Barbara and I jumped into the car, drove to the Choir College, and were in good seats in the concert hall upstairs, before the program started. We both enjoyed it very much.

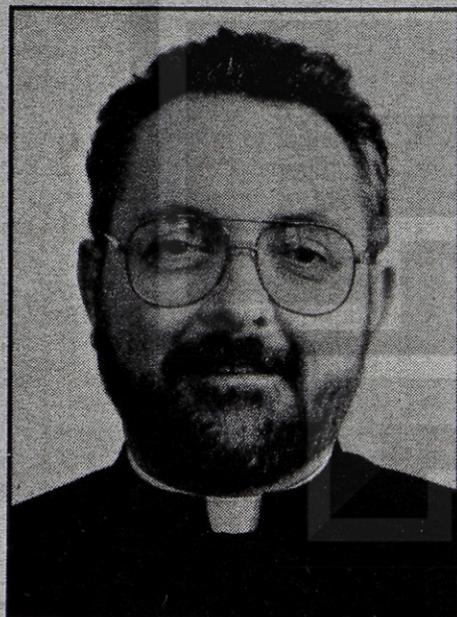
We all are praying about your hand, and asking that the surgery will be successful. God bless you and David and David II in every way. With love,

®

COMPOSER PROFILE

"Music has always been in my blood," says John Schiavone, who has been composing music for worship for over twenty years. His first recording with OCP, *O How Blest*, is scheduled for release this year; many of the selections have been written in response to the multilingual needs of the Church in Southern California.

A native-born Southern Californian, Schiavone was ordained in 1973 as a priest of the diocese of Los Angeles. He combines both pastoral and musical ministries as part-time associate pastor at Saints Peter and Paul Church in Wilmington, CA, and on the staff of the Office for Worship of the Los Angeles



John Schiavone

Archdiocese as music and liturgy consultant.

Proud of his Italian ancestry, Schiavone

comes from a music-loving family; his grandfather was an opera-lover and his parents have always been in the parish choir. As a young boy in the 1950s, Schiavone loved the ceremony and music of High Mass, an attraction which drew him into the priesthood and into music.

"As soon as I started reading music, I tried to write it," he admits. A formative

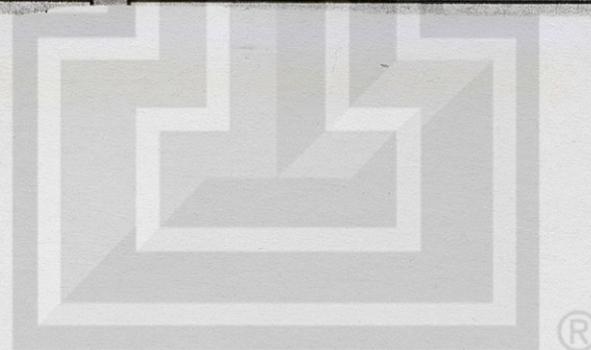
"I want to keep that 'church' sound in my music . . . yet . . . make it accessible to the average worshiper."

experience was singing in the glee club in minor seminary. Exposure to Gregorian chant and the great masters — Palestrina, Victoria, Bach and Handel — as well as modern composers like Flor Peeters and Ralph Vaughan Williams have given him his musical vocabulary. "I want to keep that 'church' sound in my music and, at the same

time, make it accessible to the average worshiper."

Schiavone received a Master of Arts in Music degree in 1982 from the Rensselaer Program of Church Music and Liturgy at St. Joseph's College, Rensselaer, Indiana. His oratorio, *Mary's Triptych*, was performed and recorded in 1983 by the Camerata of Los Angeles; three of his more recent compositions were commissioned and used for the visit of Pope John Paul II to Los Angeles in 1987. Many of his responsorial psalms, hymns and Mass settings are included in the hymnals *Flor y Canto and Worship III*. In 1991, Schiavone was the recipient of the *Laudatus* award, the highest award given by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles for excellence in liturgy, music and the arts.

Schiavone comments, "I consider myself one of the pioneers in a time of change. To make the vision of the Second Vatican Council a reality in the life and worship of today's Church remains an exciting challenge."



Dr. Albert T. Platt
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BILLY GRAHAM CAMPAIGN

During November 12-17, the city of Buenos Aires hosted Dr. Billy Graham in an evangelistic campaign which was broadcast by satellite to all of Latin America. With an estimated television audience of 70 million persons including 5 million who watched the meetings in theaters and sports stadiums throughout South America, it has been called the biggest evangelistic campaign of the century. In the Buenos Aires stadium alone, the local attendance totaled more than 280,000 persons and more than 16,000 decisions were registered. Both Bruce and Nancy were involved playing violin in the campaign orchestra which began rehearsals in September. Just 3 weeks prior to the campaign, however, Bruce was asked to step in and serve as the conductor of the orchestra. The 36-member instrumental group not only provided worship music but also accompanied the 4,000-voice choir during each service.

WORSHIP CONGRESS



varying perspectives concerning the worship leader's role and his relationship to others in ministry.

A second **National Worship Congress** was held in Buenos Aires during Nov. 1-3. The Seminary's auditorium was filled to capacity during the first evening which featured a "Choral Music Festival" honoring musicians, past and present, who have made an impact on church music in the Argentine Baptist churches. Other sessions featured the presentation of new musical materials and

URBAN EVANGELISM UPDATE

The Flores Norte congregation (now known as "Villa Mitre"), one of five new churches being organized in the city of Buenos Aires as part of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's special urban evangelism project, plans to complete the first stage of construction on its worship center by June, 1992.

The construction is designed to allow continued expansion by adding other modules thereby avoiding costly remodeling. The group continues meeting in a tent on loan from the Federal Capital Association of Baptist churches. Unlike the other strategic properties purchased for the remaining four congregations, Villa Mitre's land contained no existing structure.

FAMILY NEWS

Daniel, Andy and Amy finished the Argentine school year in December and are looking forward to experiencing school in the USA during their furlough.



Upon returning to Argentina in June they will change to a new school in which their morning classes will be taught in English and their afternoon classes in Spanish. **Daniel's** interests (12 years old) are focused on computer games, although he knows his way around both word processors and electronic spreadsheets. **Amy** and **Andy** (soon to be 10 years old) both enjoy instrumental lessons on the violin and cornet respectively, although Andy prefers to practice artistic gymnastics! All three participate in the family's musical programs with Daniel accompanying his brother and sister at the piano. **Bruce & Nancy** were asked to present a duo-piano recital in October and plan to maintain their repertory "in their fingers" in order to present programs during furlough.

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

"**Soli Deo Gloria**" continued its activities and experienced growth during the year as new musicians were added to the orchestra. Bruce & Nancy will be searching for new arrangements while on furlough to expand the ensemble's repertory.

CHURCH MUSIC MINISTRY

Nancy was named coordinator of their church's music ministry during 1991-92. Not only was she responsible for the worship program assignments but also for the planning of several activities

including concerts presented by guest musicians. She also coordinated the worship sessions for the church's annual week-end retreat which was held at a camp outside of Buenos Aires.

SANTIAGO, CHILE



In late February, the Muskrats drove to Santiago where Bruce attended a conference for Mission Treasurers and Administrators. Nancy and the children enjoyed their vacation staying cool in Santiago's mountain-top pool. The Muskrats shared a roomy mission hospitality apartment with Chile missionaries Bill & Linda Clark (and their three children). Both missionary couples were appointed in August, 1977. The two families all took a day to visit Viña del Mar, Chile's sea-side resort, and all six children enjoyed playing together during the "reunion".

TREASURER'S CORNER

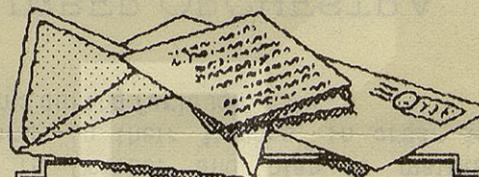
In setting up the Mission's new local area network (LAN) system, Bruce learned to appreciate more fully many of the "fruits of the Holy Spirit" (long-suffering, faith, meekness). Joy and peace, however, finally triumphed. While the family is on furlough Bruce plans to look for new printers to add to the network and suitable software that will help streamline the day-to-day operation of the Mission office.



FURLOUGH CALENDAR

Partial listing of planned engagements:

Jan 25 - Feb 1	Bryan, TX
Mar 10	Fort Worth, TX
Mar 21 - Mar 30	Salem, KY (Bruce)
Mar 22 - Mar 23	MissionsFest Missouri (Nancy)
Apr 3 - Apr 4	Manhattan, KS WMU (Nancy)
Apr 4 - Apr 13	Gurdon, AR (Bruce)
Apr 27 - May 2	Kansas/Nebraska Retreat
May 1 - May 10	Richmond, VA/Washington, D.C.



Cards & Letters

During the Muskrats' furlough (Dec 15 to May 31), mail may be addressed as follows:

Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Muskrat
c/o First Southern Baptist Church
1912 S. Gage
Topeka, Kansas 66604

Argentine mailing address after June 1:

Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Muskrat
Argentine Baptist Mission
Bolaños 141
1407 Capital Federal, ARGENTINA

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"Take me home to Kansas. . ."

First Southern Baptist Church of Topeka, Kansas provided the missionary home which served as the Muskrats' home base during their recent furlough. When the children learned that



the family was going to live in "The Land of Oz" country, Andy began thinking constantly about storms and tornados. Thankfully, none occurred! All three children were active in RA's and GA's (the denomination's missions education organizations), played handbells, and sang in the children's choir. They participated at all levels of the Kansas/Nebraska Baptist Convention's Bible Drill. Bruce and Nancy sang in the adult choir, played in various handbell groups, and were frequently asked to play the piano and organ for the worship services. The entire family presented programs at associational meetings and in several churches in Kansas, Missouri, Texas and Oklahoma. Bruce and Nancy were the featured musicians for the Kansas/Nebraska Women's Missionary Union Conference and the State Convention's Minister and Spouse retreat.

Shocking Return

Although this was the Muskrats' fourth furlough, the return to "the field" was still a culture shock: readjusting to noisy traffic congestion, unreliable telephones and the inevitable "withdrawal" symptoms due to the unavailability of Mexican food, Christian bookstores, Wal-Mart specials and, of course, Dr. Pepper. In spite of Argentina's new currency and stable exchange rate the weekly trips to the supermarket proved to be about 30-40% more expensive than they were just six months before. Perhaps the biggest "shock" of all was receiving an electricity bill of nearly \$1,400. It seems that the electric company had installed a new meter over 4 years ago but had failed to notify the billing department. The new meter had accumulated more than 34,000 kilowatts, none of which had been billed! Although the amounts paid on the non-existent meter were taken into consideration in adjusting the bill, the final total is yet to be calculated!

Getting Settled

The Muskrats arrived at home in Buenos Aires on June 2nd with their suitcases packed with clothes appropriate

for South America's winter season; still inside their closets, however, were the summer clothes they had been using when the family left in December. It took Bruce and Nancy ten days of emptying, sorting and repacking the suitcases and closets before they could finally sleep in their own bedroom. While arranging the clothes in Amy's built-in closets, Nancy noticed that every time she pulled out the bottom drawer, traces of dirt appeared on the floor. Upon removing the drawer completely, they discovered a mound of dirt (almost 20 pounds!) that the ants had carried into the house during the family's absence.

Duo-Piano Recitals

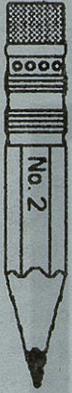
Bruce and Nancy presented two duo-piano recitals while in the States. On March 6, they honored Mary Helen Harutun, their childhood piano teacher, in a recital at Missouri Southern College in Joplin, Missouri. The program ended with a rather humorous rendition of the very first duet they performed together more than 30 years ago. A similar program was presented the following week at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Ft. Worth, Texas. While in Ft. Worth, Nancy also assisted in the Master's level piano recital of Oscar Dressler, a former student of the Muskrats in the Buenos Aires seminary.

Surprise Vacation



In mid-March, Bruce and Nancy visited Great Britain along with friends from Ft. Worth, Dr. & Mrs. William A. (Budd) Smith. In addition to making two trips by "coach" (bus) into London from Oxford, they traveled by car through much of the rolling English and Scottish countryside. The manor homes, historic Norman and Gothic churches, stone fences, "cream" tea, thatch-roofed houses, breath-taking castles and cathedrals, and the ever-present flocks of sheep will be remembered for many years to come. They visited William Carey's church and cobbler's shop next door in the little town of Moulton, from which the modern missionary movement began exactly 200 years ago. They also visited the grave of John Newton (author of "Amazing Grace") in Olney, where he pastored. It was especially interesting for the Muskrats to browse in Harrod's department store in London since the only other Harrod's in the world is found in Buenos Aires. One of the highlights of their trip was staying with two different families (bed and breakfast) near Edinburgh, Scotland.

When's School Over, Mom?



This past December, Daniel, Amy, and Andy completed the Argentine school year at "Colegio Ward". Their "summer" vacation was cut short, however, when they were enrolled in the Topeka public schools upon arriving stateside the following week. In addition to their regular school activities, Andy enjoyed a weekly gymnastics program and Amy played violin in the all-city school orchestra. She was one of only two 4th graders who were asked to play in the group. Daniel, because of his bilingual background, was the only 6th grader allowed to take a French class scheduled for 7th and 8th grade students. He was also selected to serve as a legislative "page" for one of the sessions of the Kansas State House of Representatives. After the children completed the school year on May 29, they lost their summer vacation again when they had to enroll in school in Argentina, where classes had already begun three months earlier. Although they have now been in school without an extended break since March of last year, they are enjoying their new bi-lingual school. The St. Andrew's Scots School is located on the north side of Buenos Aires, a 45-minute drive across town. The children leave for school at 7:10 in the morning and arrive home at 5:30 in the afternoon. Morning subjects are taught in "British-style" English while afternoon subjects are in Spanish. The regulation uniforms for each include grey slacks or skirt, light blue shirt, tie and blazer, plus sports uniforms, soccer shoes, hockey sticks, etc.

Call to Prayer

As the Muskrats begin a new term of missionary service in Argentina, they request that you pray for the following:

Children's adjustment in the new school setting
Bruce's ability to manage the dual responsibilities as mission treasurer and seminary music professor

Nancy's time management between home responsibilities, seminary classes and local church music ministry

Seminary students facing hardships in meeting their financial obligations

Reorganization of the evangelical chamber orchestra, "Soli Deo Gloria"

Resources to complete the interior of the Flores Baptist Church and the first stage construction of a church building for its mission point, "Villa Mitre"

Search Committee for the new President of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Trax Mailbox:

Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Muskrat
Argentine Baptist Mission
Bolaños 141
1407 Capital Federal, ARGENTINA

tel. 011-541-69-7658 (home)
011-541-67-7676 (office)
011-541-67-7817 (FAX)

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"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace..."

Amid the uncertainties which surround the continued reports of tension within the Southern Baptist Convention at large, and more recently, between a small number of Foreign Mission Board trustees and Board staff, Bruce and Nancy, along with the nearly 4,000 other SBC foreign missionaries who serve around the world, claim this great promise (Isa. 26:3) as they prayerfully avoid dwelling on events and attitudes which, to a lost world, reflect little more than petty struggles for power and control of the denomination. The Muskrats rejoice instead by following the Apostle Paul's instructions to think on those things that are *true, honest, just, pure, lovely, and of good report* (Phil. 4:8), *forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, pressing toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus* (Phil. 3:13-14). Although the needs from the world's mission fields are greater than ever before, Southern Baptists have not appreciably increased their level of missions support over the last few years. Indeed, it would be a great tragedy if Southern Baptists allow themselves to be distracted by internal divisions away from their Biblical mandate to share the redeeming message of Jesus with a world already tearing itself apart by sin and hate.

International Women's Retreat

Upon returning to Argentina following the family's six-month furlough, Nancy was invited to plan and direct the worship sessions for a week-end women's retreat sponsored by the International Baptist Church in Buenos Aires. It was a spiritually and culturally enriching experience as women representing six continents shared together in moments of prayer, praise, Bible study, and fellowship.



Bruce Resumes Classroom Teaching

As Bruce continues to serve as treasurer and power-of-attorney for the Argentine Baptist Mission, his teaching responsibilities in the International Baptist Theological Seminary have been reduced gradually to the point where he is currently serving only as Director of its Church Music Department. Feeling ever-increasing frustration in not having more direct contact with the students, he recently submitted his resignation as departmental director in order to devote more time to classroom teaching. Both he and Nancy have served as professors of church music in the Buenos Aires seminary since 1979. Bruce has also been director of its Church Music Department since 1983 following the tragic death of fellow music missionary Kent Balyeat who had served in Argentina since the early 1960s.

MK School Changes

Because of anticipated increases in budget expenditures for MK education over the next several years, and wishing to maintain a high priority on currently available options for secondary school, the Argentine mission recently placed a new ceiling on costs for the elementary grades which will make it impossible for the Muskrats' three children to continue their studies at the St. Andrew's Scots School in which they just enrolled in June. When the school year comes to a close in December, Daniel will have completed seventh grade and twins Amy and Andy will have finished 5th grade. Once again, the family will turn to home schooling to provide the children's educational needs. Bruce is making plans to assist in teaching Daniel an accelerated 8th grade program in order to prepare him for entering ninth grade at the Lincoln School (American Community School) in August of next year. Although high school studies in Argentina begin with the 8th grade, the "national" school calendar is not synchronized with Lincoln's "North American" school calendar; therefore, Daniel cannot transfer directly to the American School until classes begin there in August. He then should be on target to graduate from high school while in the States during the family's next furlough which is scheduled for 1996-97. For the remaining two years of the twins' elementary schooling, Nancy will be supervising their studies at home. The family is hoping that by the time the twins are ready for high school, they, too, will have the same opportunity to enroll in the Lincoln American Community School. For decades the Lincoln School has helped prepare Argentine MKs for re-entry into the USA and their college experience.



Call to Prayer

As the Muskrats begin their sixteenth year as SBC missionaries to Argentina, they request that you pray for the following:

A spirit of peace and love within the denomination at home.

Prayerful response in giving to missions.

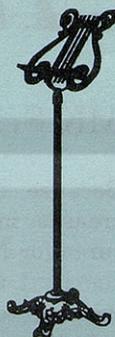
Three seminary music graduates, Sergio Franco, Rubén Modrow and Elizabeth Suárez, as they seek places of ministry.

Bruce & Nancy, as they embark on a new relationship with their children as home-school teachers.

Continued growth of the Villa Mitre congregation and the completion of its worship center.

Chamber Orchestra

In spite of the fact that many of the members of the *Soli Deo Gloria* orchestra had already accepted other commitments and the principal violinist had moved to Italy just prior to the Muskrats' return from furlough, the ensemble has continued its weekly rehearsals. During the last half of this year, the *evangelical ensemble* has been transformed into a small string ensemble with an additional "flautist". Bruce occasionally fills in a missing instrumental part by selecting the appropriate voice on the KORG keyboard. As soon as the coming summer season (December through February) passes, the group will reorganize and begin the new year with some of the new repertoire which the Muskrats acquired during their furlough.



New Sounds from Nancy's Studio

Nancy has finally entered the fascinating world of MIDI (*Musical Instrument Digital Interface*) music as she has begun to discover the capabilities of her new KORG O1W/Pro keyboard. Not only has the new instrument been utilized *live* in some of their concerts, its 200 *sampled* instrumental sounds and 16 track on-board sequencer provide a valuable resource in facilitating her musical composing and arranging. She has already compiled several instrumental arrangements of accompaniments for teachers and students alike. Many of the family's accompaniments, originally recorded only with piano, have now been replaced with fresh orchestral versions.

Worship Training

One of Nancy's goals as coordinator of the worship ministry of the Flores Baptist Church is to discover ways of involving the congregation in more creative and meaningful corporate worship experiences. She has formed a new worship committee which not only serves to share ideas but also trains others to become effective worship leaders.

Children Share in Worship Ministry

Daniel, Amy, and Andy are participating more and more in the Muskrat family's ministry of music and worship. Daniel frequently operates the overhead projector utilized for the congregational singing while Amy and Andy play violin and trumpet in the instrumental ensemble of the Flores church. On two Sundays each month the group accompanies the congregational singing and provides additional worship music for the services. Both are becoming quite proficient sight-readers. Since June, when the family returned to Argentina, the Muskrats have presented a number of programs in several churches, sharing the message of Jesus Christ through testimony and music. All three children enjoy singing together with their parents in a variety of vocal numbers arranged for the family. As the children have grown, the arrangements are constantly adapted to accommodate their changing vocal requirements. Daniel's voice, for example, began to change before his thirteenth birthday and he now improvises a tenor/baritone line.

Muskrat Mailbox

Mail to the Muskrat family should be addressed as follows:

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Bolanos 141
1407 Capital Federal
ARGENTINA

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- ☎ 011-541-67-5916 (office)
- ☎ 011-541-67-7817 (FAX line)

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Ms. Gertrude Suppe
3307 Michigan
South Gate, CA 90280

by Alice Winters

Red roses for the American lady Pauline Schutmaat, an example for all generations," said a Colombian newspaper tribute to Pauline Schutmaat, Presbyterian Church (USA) missionary and founder of the Symphony Orchestra of Barranquilla, Colombia. "She has won our hearts."

Pauline Schutmaat is recognized as the driving force behind the cultural restoration of the city of Barranquilla, once a musical center for all Colombia. "She's raised the musical level of the city," say members of the orchestra, "and what there is today is mainly because of her. There are few women," adds one musician, "even young women, with her spirit and enthusiasm."

Pauline sees the orchestra she founded as an outgrowth of her previous mission work. "This is not new, it's just expanded. I have always taught music, and I had a nice orchestra when we lived in Caracas. What is new now," she observes, "is that we're an official government organism, and I work with the governor, the mayor, and big corporations and business enterprises. And it's more concentrated — because I used to spend more time in my home. There's more challenge now." Pauline pauses and shakes her head. "No," she smiles. "There's a big challenge in bringing up 7 kids. It's just different."

Life as a Missionary Spouse

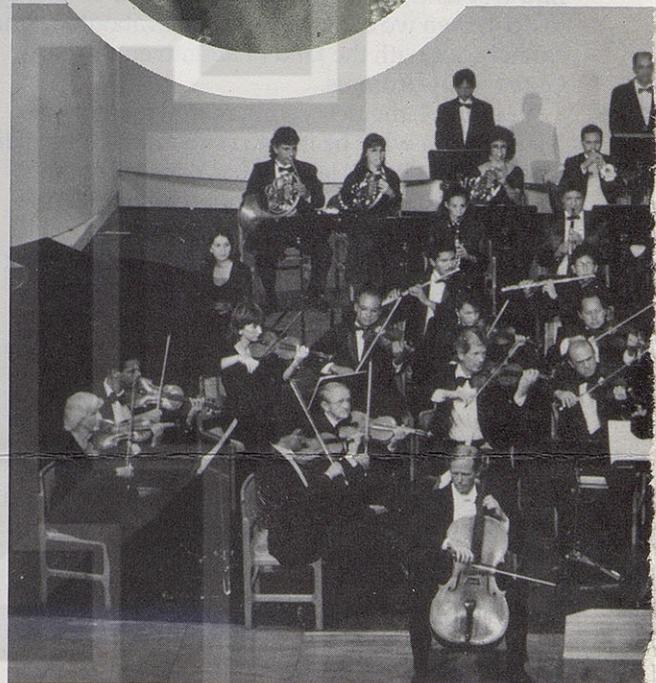
During her missionary career Pauline Schutmaat has not only taught music and kept the books in the Presbyterian schools of Colombia and Venezuela, she has played professionally in the National Symphony Orchestra of Colombia, in Bogotá, and organized choirs and orchestras wherever she has gone.

"The church wanted my late husband, Alvin, to travel to different countries, but there wasn't enough money for me to accompany him and I had my responsibilities with the family," recalls Pauline.

"Since Alvin was gone so much, I organized an orchestra in the church in Caracas, and it mushroomed on me. I also had a youth orchestra in the school where I taught music. It received children from all over the city, and at one point had a maximum of 110 kids. Within it we had a small group of some 30 really good players who traveled around giving concerts throughout the area.

"Sometimes, I'd scarcely have time for Alvin. He'd say, 'Here I come home and you're gone all day; we have a quick supper because the orchestra is coming to rehearse in the evening, and you'll be gone again at 6:30 in the morning to teach.' But Alvin never put me down in any way. Everybody in my family listened to me, and there were many things I could do in the chinks and cracks of making a home.

A JOYOUS DANCE



"The closest I got to being a traditional homemaker came during the 3 years we lived in Stony Point, New York, when Alvin was working on the staff of the Program Agency and doing other things. But I filled my time taking college courses. I was over 60 then. And during those years I also edited much of the music he had composed, getting it in shape to be performed and published." Pauline has

pray. They chose to wait by sleeping. Maybe this was all they could do. Perhaps they were exhausted by all that had happened, or they were emotionally spent in anticipation of what was to come. But this wasn't the "waiting" that Jesus had in mind. Rather, he needed them to be attentive to him in his hour of human need.

In my juggling I find that the events of life come all too quickly, and I wait for very little. Things are often upon me before I have a chance to think about them. How do I wait for Christ in the midst of this rich and full life I've been given? I don't have time to sleep (!), but how am I otherwise not attentive to Christ?

Anxiety Blocks Waiting

A waiting spirit is a goal of the Christian life. A truly incarnational theology seeks God in and through our everyday lives — the mundane no less than the profound. This is where our waiting happens, too, in and through life as it is given to us and not apart from it. But there are things that easily get in the way of a waiting spirit. One of them is anxiety about not "doing" our spirituality right, about not having life in proper alignment or balance. If waiting is one more thing we have to do to find wholeness, and we don't have time or energy to do it, then we can only be anxious about life and cannot wait with the kind of attentiveness that Christ wants from us.

In John 14, the rich young man who came to Jesus, asking what he had to *do* to inherit eternal life, was told that it was less about taking on another commandment and more about letting go. We might be better "waiters" if we gave up anxiety about losing jobs, friends and family and keeping our spirituality in balance. We might be better waiters, freed for waiting on and with others, if we enjoyed the wholeness offered in the ordinary and routine of our lives.

Need to Control Blocks Waiting

A second impediment to nurturing a waiting spirit is the need to be in control of life. We live in a culture that tells us that control can be attained, that life can be secured and that we can "have it all," if only we can keep all the balls in the air. In our changed world women are particularly susceptible to this alluring message. A waiting spirit, however, seeks mutuality and not control. In his farewell discourse in John 14, Jesus speaks of the

Sleep is a common response to lack of control.

"Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive," because the Spirit does not act through control. Rather, we know the Spirit because the Spirit "abides with you, and will be in you." That is, the Spirit is our companion, working in, with and through us, and we with each other. We wait together and not alone.

It is not hard to understand why the disciples slept when faced with the fearful prospect of Jesus' impending suffering and death. Sleep is a common response to lack of control. Hungry children sleep to avoid feeling the pangs of hunger. But Christ wants us to stay awake, attentive and open even to suffering if we are to discover wholeness in life.

Reluctance to Change Blocks Waiting

If anxiety distracts our waiting on Christ and the need to control distorts our waiting, then our reluctance to change inhibits our waiting by seeking to wait on our own terms. "I'll keep juggling, but only the things I know," we might say to ourselves. Though we readily admit that life *is* change, we find it difficult to incarnate that reality. The disciples' reality was changing dramatically. No longer were they on top of the world with Jesus. Events were clearly getting out of hand and the disciples were engulfed with uncertainty and fear. Things would never be the same. And so they slept, holding onto the way things were, not being attentive to what the new would bring.

A waiting spirit, however, seeks mutuality and not control.

In Summary

The waiting spirit is patient with change and welcomes it with anticipation. The waiting spirit trusts that the God who has accompanied us through all the changes in our lives will remain a loving presence to us through uncertainty, even fear, of what may lie ahead.

As Christ desires that we wait for him, fully attentive to what life brings, Christ also waits for us. It is not a passive waiting, but an active waiting on our behalf. "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you....Because I live, you also will live" (John 14:18-19).

And so we keep on juggling, waiting with others, trying more to trust with patience and perseverance, grateful to God that life keeps rolling along.

Rev. Karen Dimon is a program assistant for the Women's Ministry Unit and resides in St. Paul, Minnesota, with her husband, Rev. Peter Shidemantle, and their 2 children, Dale and Kara.

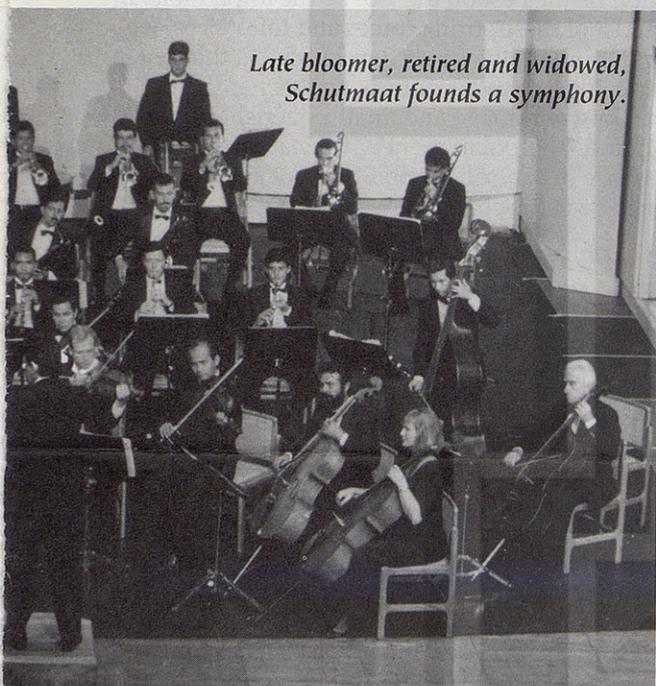
resumed the editing of Alvin's unpublished works since his death in 1987.

Pauline admits that if Alvin still lived she probably would not be going all over the country making contacts and bringing people together as she does now. "Alvin wouldn't have let me. He thought I didn't have the strength. Men don't know how much women are able to do; women are much stronger than men realize."

Pauline chuckles when she recalls her appointment as a missionary. Alvin had just graduated from McCormick Theological Seminary, and she was working as an economist for the Federal Reserve. However, Pauline was also a violinist, a tennis champion and a very beautiful young woman. "The Board didn't really want to send me — they said I wouldn't last. But they needed Alvin so we were commissioned in 1945, and now I've been here nearly 50 years!"

Life as a Faculty Member

When the time came for her retirement, Pauline knew she couldn't be happy in a place where she had no memories. She bought an apartment in Barranquilla, Colombia, where she and Alvin served



*Late bloomer, retired and widowed,
Schutmaat founds a symphony.*

for many years. This made it possible for her to continue on the faculty of the Presbyterian Theological Seminary where she and Alvin served their last appointment together.

Pauline's goal at the seminary has been to make sure her students can read music and play the piano, liberating Latin Americans to read and perform their own music. For churches that have no

piano, she obtains small electric keyboards (cheaper than guitars). She also stimulates the formation of future faculty members, encouraging talented students and finding them scholarships for graduate study. She is famous for student parties in her apartment: she listens to their problems, helps them to relax and gives them a sense of home.

Life as an Orchestra Organizer

The Symphony Orchestra of Barranquilla started when the seminary's music school faculty began to play together. "I kept asking who else plays," she laughs. "We gave everybody a part and worked up enthusiasm like cheerleaders for a football team. When we passed 20 members, including tuba and trombone, I decided it was time to move the rehearsals out of my apartment."

Many of those recruited for the orchestra were unemployed, retired or unable to use their music in their work, and Pauline has affirmed their talent and human dignity. "She stands beside people," says a co-worker, "and checks to see how they are doing. She makes you laugh and helps you get a perspective on things."

Pauline's children are all musicians. Some live in the States, others in Latin America. She encourages them to be authentic and works with them as bicultural, respecting their options and, occasionally, rescuing them when they need help. The mental illness of one son is a continuing sorrow, but she has stood by him as well. She's a good mother and grandmother, her family declares proudly.

Pauline has flowered in recent years, friends say, because of her authentic living. "She doesn't put on that she's anything else than what she is," observes the seminary chaplain, Donna Moros. "She doesn't play a political power game. She networks people and she has credibility. She knows how to enjoy life and that makes her healthy. Her theology is a joyful dance."

“

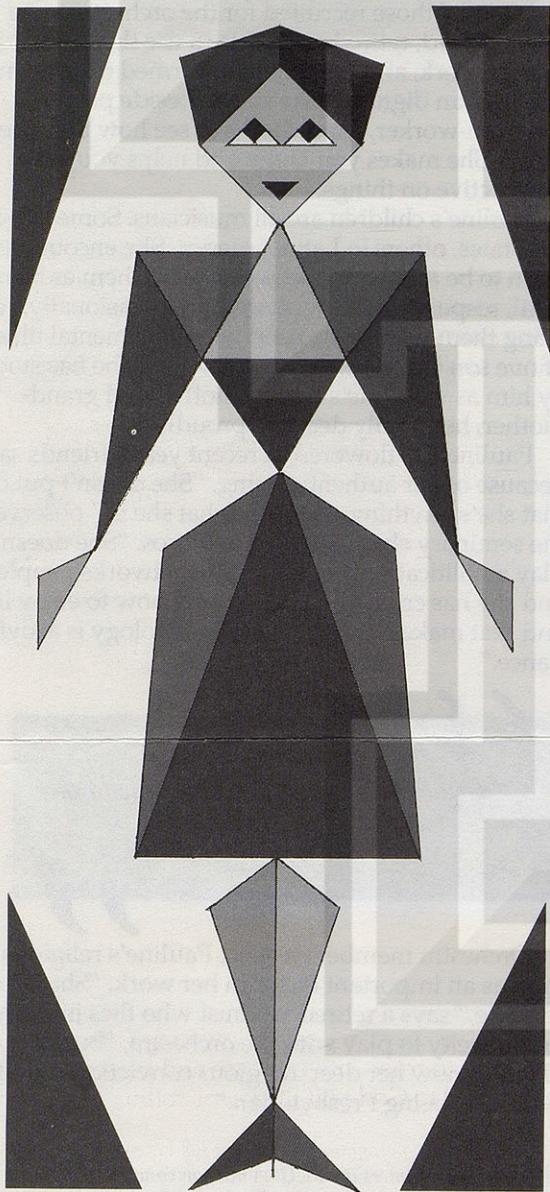
*The Board didn't really want to send me
— they said I wouldn't last.*

”

Orchestra members respect Pauline's religious faith as an important factor in her work. "She is discrete," says a retired violinist who flies in from another city to play with the orchestra, "but you always know her deep religious convictions and her delight in being Presbyterian."

The Rev. Alice Winters is a PCUSA mission co-worker serving on the faculty of the Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Barranquilla, Colombia.

HOW PERFECT CAN YOU BE?



by Mary Edith Barron

In the city where I live, a rejected middle-aged woman shot and killed her prominent ex-husband and his wife as they lay sleeping in their home. According to newspaper reports, she said that she had been a perfect wife and mother, and she had made many sacrifices to help her husband to achieve his professional success. To this, she added that she had tried to please this man by being perfect, absolutely flawlessly perfect for him.

A psychologist explained that the woman suffered from a personality disorder characterized by one's sense of self-importance and a need to be center stage. This had come to define her as a person. When her perfection was placed in doubt, she raged against the person who dared to deflate her picture of herself.

This is an extreme case, but perfectionism is a disease in our culture and in the church. It keeps us off center and that imbalance affects our ministry as women at all levels of life and service.

Like this misguided woman, we build and protect an image of ourselves. Society bombards us with standards: Be slim! Be attractive! Be a loving wife! Be a good mother! Be a volunteer in the community! Be the best on the job! Be the impossible! In the midst of these strong forces and influences, we carry our imperatives into the church. At the center of her being, the perfectionist chooses her values from a low self-image and an impoverished spirit. She frames and polarizes her expectations, and this is her base of control. Flexibility is not allowed. Change has little chance.

Perils of Perfection

Trying to be perfect can handicap us in our relationships. We hold up the picture we have framed of ourselves and measure others by it. If they fail our test we become critical and rejecting.

In a church where I worshiped, we had an enthusiastic soprano with a high unpleasant voice. She reinforced other singing parts and added balance. But she sometimes sang a solo. With every note, I would feel irritated and uncomfortable. This happened once when I brought a visitor who I hoped would join our church. While I was wondering how I could apologize for this unfortunate vocalist, I heard the whisper of an inner voice: "She is singing for God. And God likes it!" At that moment, I knew I would need to accept this musician and her gift because God loves and accepts her.

Perfectibility can be hurtful or damaging. This is often seen in the home. The first time I faced the truth about my passion for perfect housekeeping was when my husband and I visited our freshman son in college. In his dormitory room, we found beds unmade, books and dirty clothes littering the floor and the odor of stale food permeating the air.

READ THE COMMISSION

Many readers of *Muskrat Tracks* also regularly receive **The Commission**, the monthly magazine published by the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. The September issue contained an 8-page article about the Muskrat family and their ministry as music missionaries in Argentina. FMB reporter Mary Speidel and photographer Warren Johnson spent several days with the Muskrats during November of 1992, accompanying them to church and their seminary classes, to the Mission office (and even the neighborhood ice cream parlor) as they worked, taught, rehearsed, and presented worship programs in the local area churches.

A CRISIS IN BAPTIST IDENTITY

A number of Baptist congregations in Argentina have recently experienced an increase in highly emotional expressions in worship, generally characterized by "falling" after intensive prayer sessions and/or extended periods of praise-oriented music. The phenomenon is neither unique to Argentina nor is it the first time that outbreaks of "pentecostal" tendencies have occurred. Although the initial excesses have subsided there still remain occasional after-shocks which are still being felt throughout the denomination. Convention leaders, pastors, and missionaries have attempted to maintain a healthy balance both in terms of doctrine and practice in the more than 600 churches which cooperate through the Argentine Baptist Convention.

MK COOPERATIVE SCHOOL

In the previous edition of *Tracks* it was reported that Bruce and Nancy were anticipating teaching all three of their children at home during 1993, using correspondence school materials. Thirteen-year-old Daniel completed his eighth grade studies at home in about six months and in late September began ninth grade curriculum under the supervision of Journeyman missionary Twyla Fagan. Twyla was the first of two ISC (International Service Corps) volunteers appointed by the Foreign Mission Board to serve as M.K. teachers in the Argentine mission's *M.K. Cooperative School*. The new "school" provides an education alternative for M.K. students. Although originally planned for grades 8-10, it may expand in both directions according to the educational needs of the children involved. The second ISC teacher, Betty Alvis, arrived in October and will be working along with Twyla in the school. Instead of studying at home, eleven-year-old twins Amy and Andy began classes with another Journeyman teacher, Michele Webb, who had been originally assigned as a M.K. teacher with another family. With the unexpected blessing of these dedicated ISC teachers helping with their children, Bruce and Nancy have

been able to continue their regular responsibilities at the seminary and in the mission office.

B"RING" THE BELLS BACK

The handbells previously played by a choir made up of members from several Buenos Aires area churches had been stored for some time after the group was forced to dissolve when nearly all of its members moved away from Buenos Aires. While on furlough in 1992, Daniel, Andy and Amy all participated in different handbell groups at First Southern Baptist Church in Topeka. After that experience, they have looked forward to bringing the bells out of the closet and sharing together in still another musical medium. In only two weeks time, the family was able to prepare several Christmas selections which were presented both in their local church (Flores) and in the church's new mission located in the Villa Mitre neighborhood.

TREASURER'S TRAVELS

Related to his duties as Treasurer/Business Manager of the Argentine Mission, Bruce's passport was in constant use during the year. In January he traveled to Santiago, Chile to assist in assessing the hardware/software accounting needs of the Chile mission. In May he attended a conference in Quito, Ecuador for the treasurers of all the FMB missions in Spanish-speaking countries of South America. In June he was in Asunción, Paraguay to assist in auditing that Mission's financial books. Later on in the year he was invited to go to Montevideo, Uruguay to install that mission's computerized bookkeeping system.

Call to Prayer

The Muskrats request that you remember the following prayer concerns related to their ministry:

A spirit of unity amidst the wide diversity of Argentine Baptists.

Increased giving to the Cooperative Program and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions.

Four seminary music graduates, Graciela Portillo, Gonzalo Igor, Adriana Singh, & Esther Guevara, as they seek places of ministry.

Daniel, Amy, and Andy, as they continue their school education with ISC/Journeyman teachers Twyla Fagan, Betty Alvis and Michele Webb.

Continued growth of the Villa Mitre congregation as it formally organizes into a new church.

FAMILY MINISTRY EMPHASIS

The three Muskrat children form an integral part of the family's missionary ministry in Argentina. For many years, Bruce and Nancy were invited both individually and jointly to present recitals, workshops and worship services. Now, it is rare that the invitation does not specify the entire family. This new trend coupled with the willingness of the children themselves to be active participants in the family's ministry has led Bruce and Nancy to dedicate more of their efforts toward emphasizing family worship and family-oriented programs in their presentations. They are sometimes referred to as the *Muskrat Trapp family*. Not only are Amy's violin and Andy's trumpet heard in almost every program, all three children join their parents in singing the great truths of the Christian faith. Amy has been blessed with a clear soprano voice with which she praises the Lord in vocal styles rarely found in an 11-year-old. The congregations are always inspired to sing with more enthusiasm when the strong tones on Andy's new Yamaha trumpet ring out. Bruce used to sing bass but now is looking for the tenor line since Daniel's rich baritone voice continues to develop.

CHURCH & SEMINARY

Nancy continues to devote a great deal of time and energy to teaching and training, not only in her seminary classes, but also at the Flores Baptist Church. She not only served as major professor for one of the graduating students presenting a recital in instrumental arranging but also as recital coach and accompanist for another student's voice recital. When the seminary's student council hosted a continent-wide Student Missions Conference for Latin America, Nancy helped organize the music leadership for the meetings and led the vocal group to present a balanced variety of musical styles and traditions, instead of simply singing the most recent "praise choruses". Her duties as Coordinator of the Worship Ministry in the family's local church took on added responsibilities as the church celebrated a special month-long emphasis on worship.

Forest Park Baptist Church
725 Highview
Joplin, Missouri 64801

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

CELEBRATION AT VILLA MITRE

In October the Villa Mitre mission dedicated its newly completed first stage of construction. The mission church is one of five new works being started as a pilot urban evangelism project sponsored jointly by the Buenos Aires Federal Capital Association and the Foreign Mission Board. The congregation just celebrated the first anniversary of its Good Will Community Center. The building itself is modular in design, which easily allows for expansion as the small congregation continues to grow and organizes into a self-sustaining church.

NUMBER PLEASE?

If you have recently attempted to call the Muskrats at home or send a FAX to the Mission Office and couldn't get through, the answer is simple: all the phone numbers have been changed! (of course, the Argentine phone company wouldn't dream of telling you about it, either!) The family's address, however, still remains the same. Mail should be addressed as follows:

Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Muskrat
Argentine Baptist Mission
Bolanos 141
1407 Capital Federal
ARGENTINA

(New phone numbers)

☎ 011-541-636-2513 (Home)
☎ 011-541-636-2232 (Office)
☎ 011-541-67-5916 (Office)
☎ 011-541-636-2231 (FAX)

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Permit No. 123

Ms. Gertrude Suppe
3307 Michigan
South Gate, CA 90280

COMMITMENT CARD

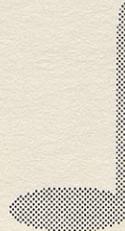
Name _____
Address _____ City _____
State / Zip _____ Telephone _____

I would like to support the Gomez missionary family in the following manners (check one or more squares)...

- Through my regular prayer time. Please send me your newsletters with prayer requests.
- A one-time love offering of \$ _____.
- A regular offering of \$ _____, monthly.
- A regular offering of \$ _____, quarterly (once every 3 months).

All contributions are tax deductible. Direct all correspondence to:

***Pan American Missions
Pan American Music Ministry
P.O. Box 596; Yucaipa, CA 92399***

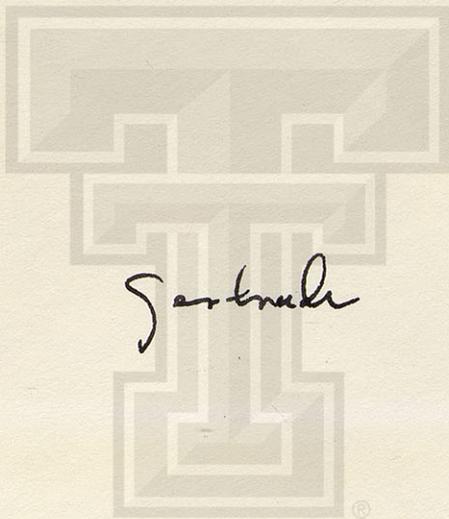




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Gartrude