

Overcomers Outreach semi-frequent Newsletter Jan 2006

Rom 8:38-39 NIV; For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Not even addiction

My name is Bill Deichler. I am the newly installed Executive Director of Overcomers Outreach. Having led OO meetings at Shepherd of the Hills church and several other institutions for 13 years, two years ago I was asked by a good friend (whom I will introduce later) if I would like to join the Board of Directors of OO, to which I replied no. Bette then asked if I want to see this type of Christian Recovery continue (ouch!). How do you say no to that?

Please join me in **thanking Judy Turnbull for her years of dedicated service** and keep her and her husband Bill (who is in poor health) in your prayers. Judy has retired at the Executive Director, but has agreed to be available during the transition period.

Well it is a new year full of new opportunities, new challenges and I am sure plenty of changes. I have great hope and vision for OO and would love for all reading to join in prayer and rejoicing for the direction we are heading.

At this time I am not going to go into all of the vision, but do want to give you a taste. We are going to expand the way that we "Carry Our Message" in many ways. We will define our mission field and

plan to win it. The communication structure of OO is about to evolve in a way that might include you. Literature will be added and updated.

Now that hopefully I have got you excited, I must admit that this will not all happen over night. We just moved the office many miles and have a lot of work to do. We also have many needs; prayer, finances and volunteer activities. Although much needs to be done, I fully trust that one day at a time, the Lord will take us beyond our current imagination.

The unique "Bridge" concept of Overcomers Outreach was truly inspired by Jesus when Bob & Pauline Bartosch were in the early development stages of our fellowship. **We are in a position to use this bridge in a way that touches recovery everywhere.** I truly hope that all who are reading are ready for some exciting times.

OK enough of me; **I want to hear from you.** Enclosed is a survey designed for group leaders, but would appreciate input from all involved in OO. Please fill out the survey and mail it to the indicated address or, e-mail

info@overcomersoutreach.org

With your questions, concerns or general comments about OO, so that together we can reshape the future of Christian Recovery.

I did promise an introduction. Please join me in welcoming **Bette Kackert your Chairperson.** Bette has an extensive recovery background of more than 20 years and has a commitment level that led her to start an OO meeting in a van, in the parking lot of a church, when told there was no room.

Also joining the leadership team is: **Don Best; Treasurer.** Don, along with his wife Carla have led OO groups since 1988 is a retired CPA and got sober before the founding of Microsoft. I trust Don will be invaluable to us.

Along with Don + Bette we have added **Colleen Southern** to the Board of Directors. I am not even sure that there is enough room on this page to describe Colleen's contribution to OO over the years, so I will just say she has been a real trooper since day #1.

Now, for the hard stuff: In the past five years our donations have steadily decreased to almost 50% of what they were. We have incurred sizeable debt. We came close to closing our doors last year. We have moved, which adds temporary and ongoing expenses above the current budget. I do not want to be known as someone who hounds people for donations, but it is clear **we need your help.**

Some may not have anything to send, I do understand. In some cases helping the office with communication will help us achieve our goals. Personally I am starting this position as a part time employee, at least on paper. I have a business, that I plan on phasing out of while OO gains the ability to pay for a full time staff.

Everything that needs to be done takes time; volunteers will help to speed the process up significantly. If you can help from your home or wherever you work please contact me.

I hope to be getting you event information in the near future, but first things first.