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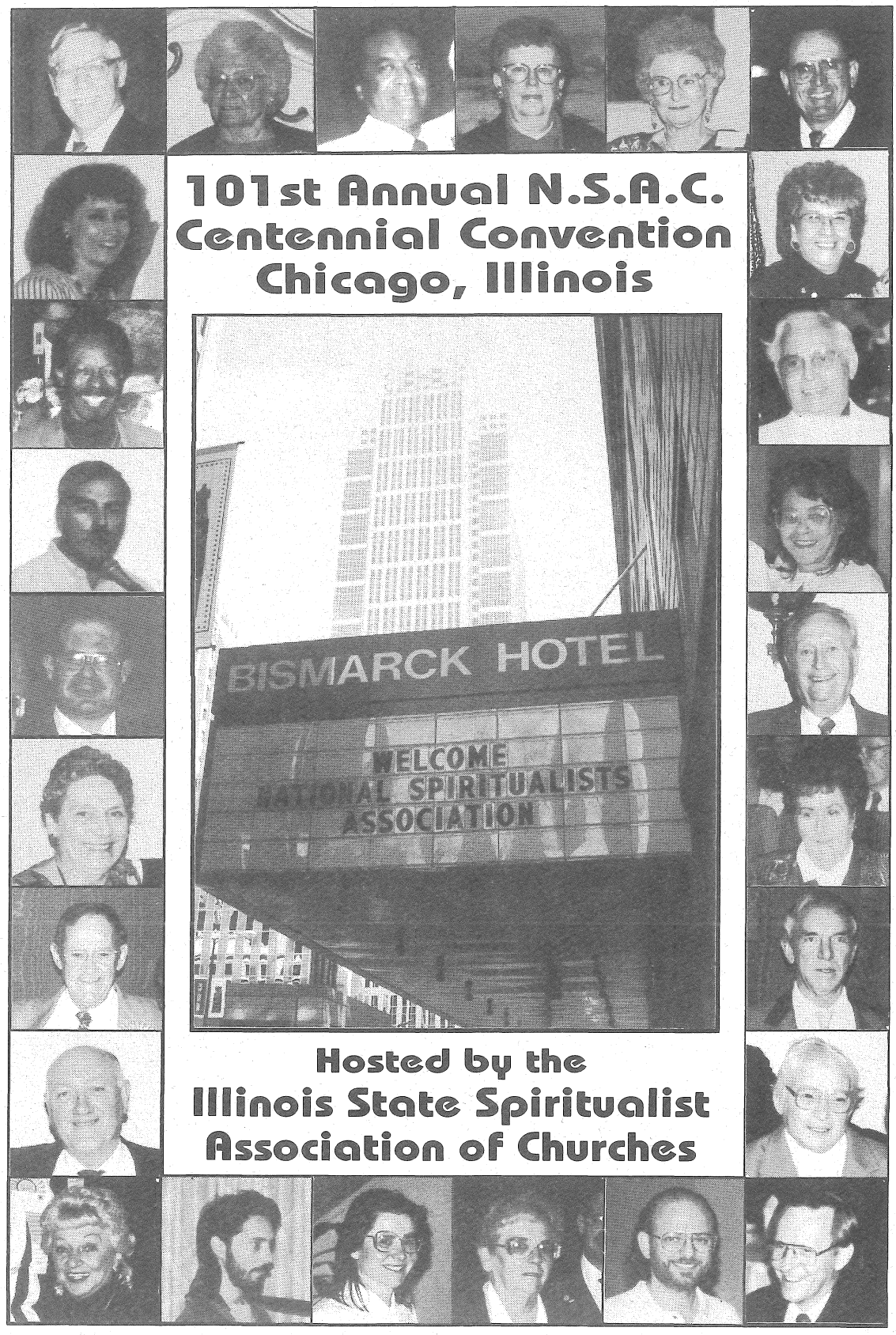
1993
CONVENTION

Spiritualism is the science, philosophy, and religion of continuous life

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The National Spiritualist Summit

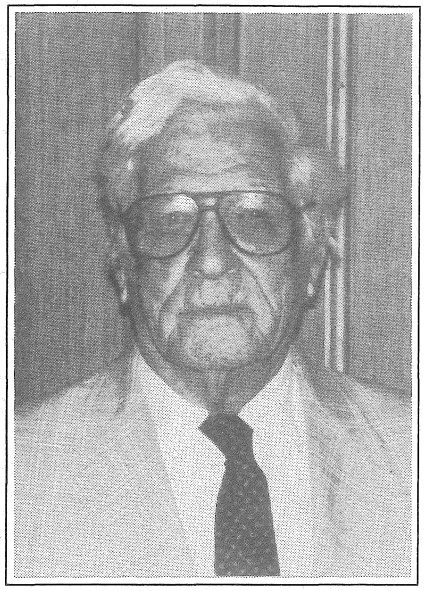
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101st Annual N.S.A.C. Centennial Convention Chicago, Illinois

Hosted by the Illinois State Spiritualist Association of Churches

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Rev. Joseph H. Merrill

To the delegates of the Centennial Convention of the National Spiritualist Association of Churches - **Greetings:**

Having welcomed the delegates and friends to this convention we must first thank the host, the Illinois State Association, for their task performed in arranging the location and for the preliminary plans. We feel the presence of The Reverend Ernst Schoenfeld as we start the deliberations and we know that "Mother" Washington is among us for she was so faithful in attending conventions even when she should have remained home, but her love for the organization was manifested by her presence.

Centennials are always a time for celebration, and this is no exception ... and as we move in the days ahead, let us be mindful of those pioneers who shaped the organization as we move in the next one hundred years.

The message of the President is supposed to give guidance for the future action of the organization and it would be nice to paint a rosy picture and tell you that all is well and strong, but we will leave this to you to judge for yourselves, for we are at the crossroads, and the future will be determined by the actions taken at this convention.

The Worlds Parliament of Religions held their convention a few weeks ago, and The Reverend Brenda Wittich represented the N.S.A.C., along with The Reverend Sandra Pfortmiller for the magazine, and you will hear a report of this in the days ahead.

The Centennial Committee, with The Reverend Evelyn Muse, Chairman, aided by The Reverend Bryan McCotter, The Reverend Barbara Thurman, Pauline Hathaway and others working in the background, will have the Hall of Fame room all during the convention. There are some items of renown that could not be transported to the convention, but hopefully will be housed in the Museum which the Board voted to establish at Camp Edgewood in Milton, Washington. We must again express appreciation to Martha Rusbuldt for the handmade quilt which will be raffled off this week. Words of appreciation are not adequate enough for the arrangement of the Hall of Fame room on the third floor of the hotel.

We regret the blow that was dealt the efforts of The Reverend Barbara Thurman for bringing forth the Centennial Book, but another one will be forthcoming after this convention, compiled by The Reverend Bernard Baker.

You have been informed of the new Lyceum Superintendent and we ask the cooperation of all the churches in aiding The Reverend Marie Smith to carry out her plans in the months ahead.

You will be hearing of the great success of our monthly publication, *The National Spiritualist*, when The Reverend Sandra Pfortmiller brings her report. You will have a report of The Bureau of Education with The Reverend Michael Martino, Superintendent. The Morris Pratt Institute is revising the Study Course, and it is **strongly recommended** that the course be implemented and administered by The Morris Pratt Institute, a chartered Auxiliary of The N.S.A.C.

A Missionary Committee was appointed with The Reverend Ann Otzelberger, Chairman, and they have already been working in contacting churches. You will hear of this also during the convention.

The Bureau of Phenomenal Evidence was activated with The Reverend Bernard Baker, Chairman, and he will be telling of his plans.

At last years' convention, a paper was circulated calling attention to the loss of membership between the years 1973 and 1992, and asked *"Why?"* It was mentioned by a Board member that your President appears to be working with the losers, for those years are the years of my Presidency, and I cannot let this go unnoticed. In talking recently with the President of another Spiritualist organization that came out of the National, he mentioned that their group started with 100 churches and are now down to nine. There are a few things that you members must be reminded of. The President does not vote on issues except by ballot or to break a tie. There are eight other members of the Board that you elect to office. In order to condense a lot of business to save time, we use the Round Robin voting via mail. In some cases, this is a good policy, and in many cases it is not good for lack of good discussion, and while your President is blamed for a loss of members and a loss in churches, it is the action of your Board that must be held accountable. This year is one that should not have been. Your President has had to send three Directives to stop the infighting that has been going on, and the direction which you want this organization to go rests with you this week. This condition exists in some of our churches as well, and it behooves us to look within to see what **we** as individuals are contributing to this organization. It is not **what** is done, it is **how** it is done that brings about these conditions.

An impartial committee was appointed by your President to investigate the Lyceum Department. The committee met, investigated and reported, but it didn't satisfy certain Board members, so another committee was named by the Board. This is an example of **what** is done and **how** it is done — needless expense involved.

Interest is being made manifest by other Spiritualist organizations in future possibilities for the organization, and it behooves the members of the official Board to look at past actions and set the proper course for the future.

The direction this organization takes rests in **your** hands and not the President's.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Joseph H. Merrill, President

THE CENTENNIAL N.S.A.C. CONVENTION CHICAGO, ILLINOIS — 1893-1993

The 101st Convention of the National Spiritualist Association of Churches convened in the same city, Chicago, on the same date, September 27, as it had one hundred years ago. While there were none of the attendees to the first convention present in the physical sense, most of us felt the pioneers spirit influence, especially during the seminars and the church services.

Sunday morning a bus arrived at the Bismarck Hotel to transport all who wished to attend morning church services at The Church of the Spirit, Marrice Coverson, Pastor. The bus was so full, an extra taxi also made the trip to the church filled with Spiritualists. The church was celebrating its' ninety-fifth anniversary. The Rev. Arlene Sikora was the guest speaker and the guest mediums were Rev. Ann Otzelberger and Rev. Jeannie Lerch. Following the service, there was a pot luck to celebrate the anniversary of the church, the anniversary of the pastor, Marrice Coverson, and to honor the guests from around the country.

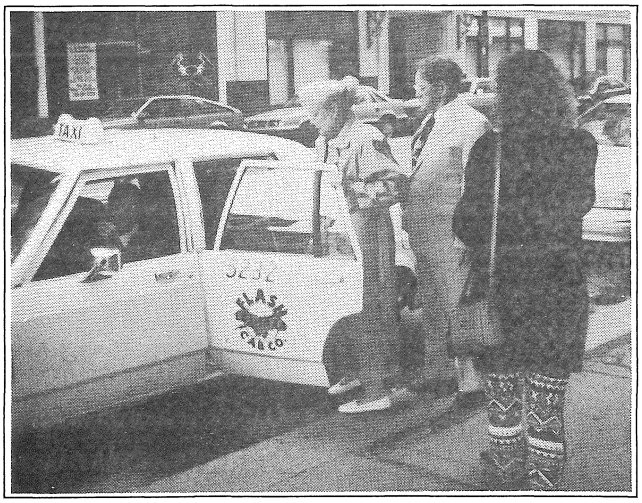


SUNDAY MORNING CHURCH SERVICE

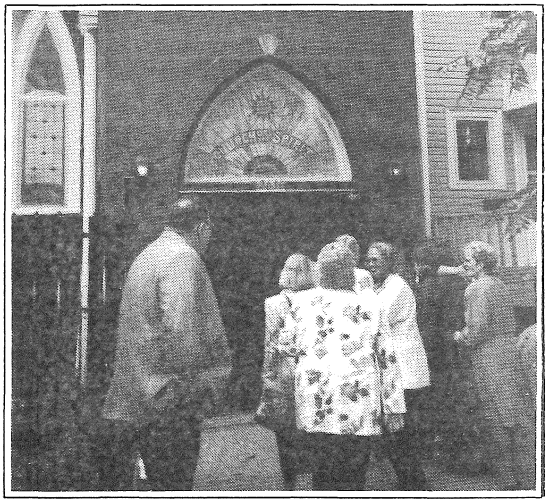


Waiting for the bus.

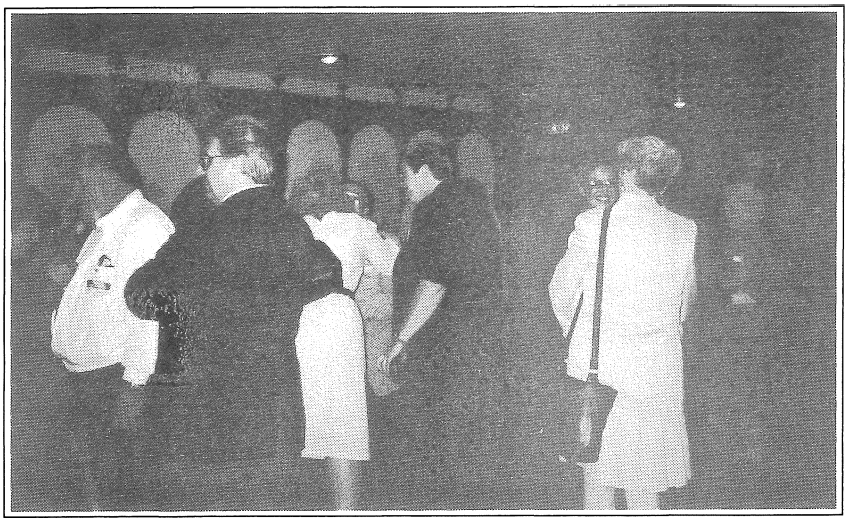




Church of the Spirit, Marrice Coverson, Pastor.



WELCOME RECEPTION





Brenda Wittich and Juanita Oyer.



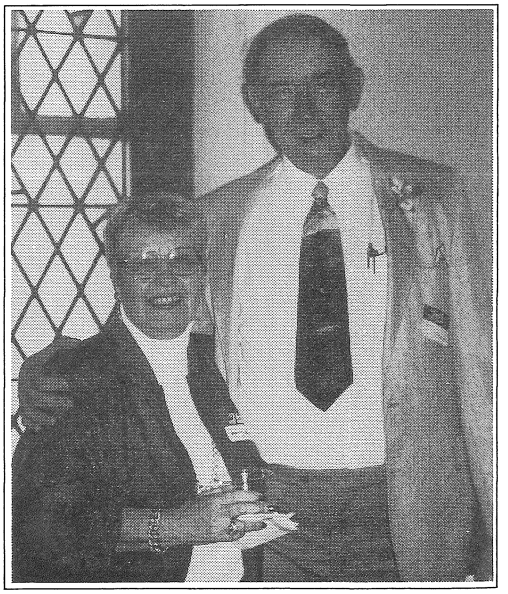
The group arrived back at the hotel in time to share with others in the Welcome Reception Hospitality Hour. Lots of hugs, handshakes and smiles as Spiritualists renewed friendships and tried to catch up on a years' news.



Anne Gehman, Bernard Baker, and Louis Potter.



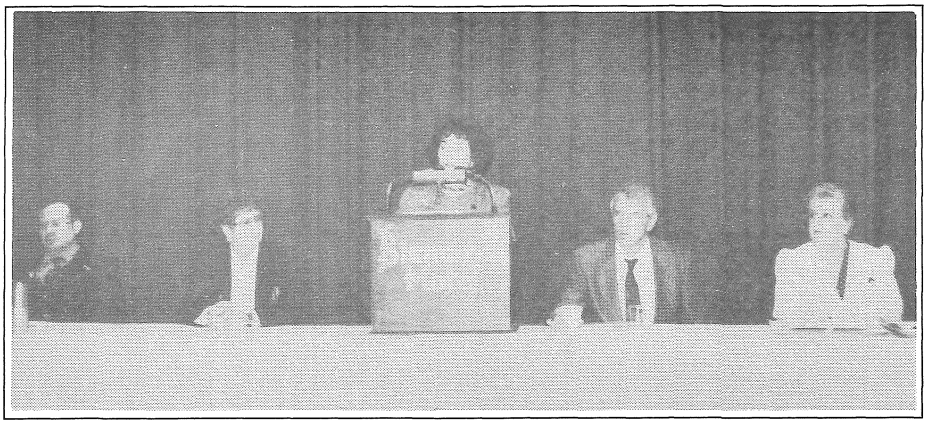
Janet Tisdale, Sharon Snowman, and Peggy Lelonek.



Jenny Renollet and John Matrunick.

MONDAY WORKSHOPS

Monday was another busy day with four informative seminars available to the delegates. The first was a presentation by the Healer's League on *Healing Through the Years.* Presenters were the Rev. William Buchholz, Jr., the Rev. Arlene Sikora, NST, the Rev. Jeanne Lerch, NST, the Rev. Gene Pfortmiller, NST, President, the Rev. Ann Otzelberger, NST, Chairperson. The seminar began with the history of healing and then continued to some of the present day healing, including psychic surgery.



Healer's League Seminar.

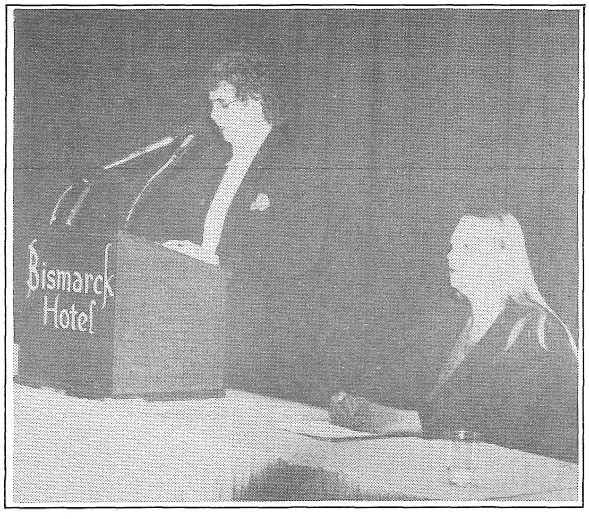
The second seminar was conducted by the National Spiritualist Teachers Club. The Rev. Arlene Sikora, NST, Vice-President, introduced the presenter, the Rev. Pamla Ashlay-Lehrer, NST, who gave a most interesting talk on *Auras.* Part of the seminar was devoted to assisting the attendees to see and feel an aura, and most of those present had very good success.

After a lunch break, the Rev. Arlene Sikora, NST, presented *Psychic Photography, A Look Through an Album,* for the Ministerial Association. The slide presentation showed many examples of this form of mediumship. The group worked to build up energy and then took photographs. Hopefully someone got some spirit manifestations on their pictures.

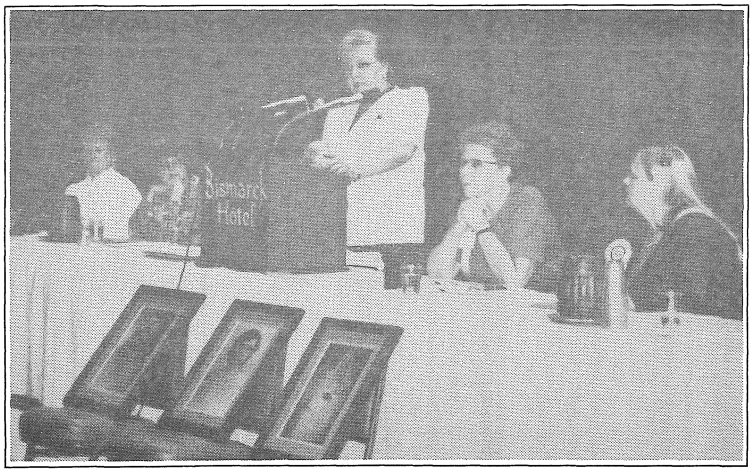
The final service club to conduct a seminar was the Licentiate Ministers and Certified Mediums Society, Juanita Oyer, President. The presenters were the Rev. William Buchholz, Jr., Elsie Feathersong (in costume), the Rev. Sandra Pfortmiller, NST, Chairperson, the Rev. Ann Otzelberger, NST, the Rev. Pamla Ashlay-Lehrer, NST, the Rev. Gene Pfortmiller, NST. The subject was *Mediums Revisited* and there were pictures of the Bangs Paintings, drawings and photo's of scientific demonstrations, photo's and demonstrations of some of the hardships of the early mediums. A golden meditation completed a very educational day of symposiums.



Ministerial Association Presentation.



National Spiritualist Teachers Workshop.

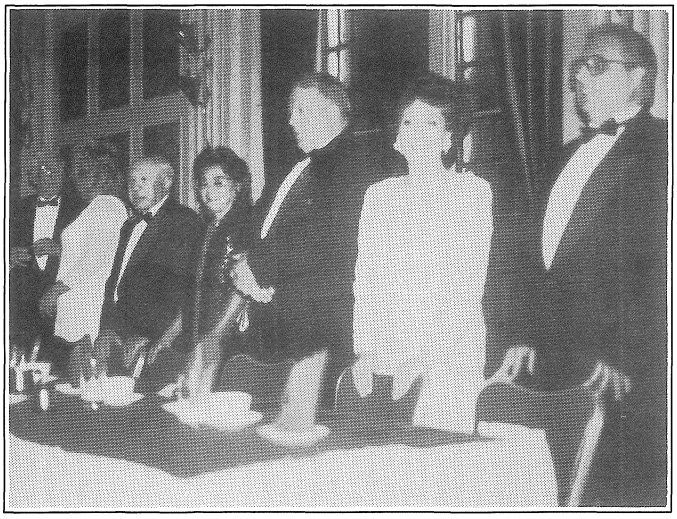


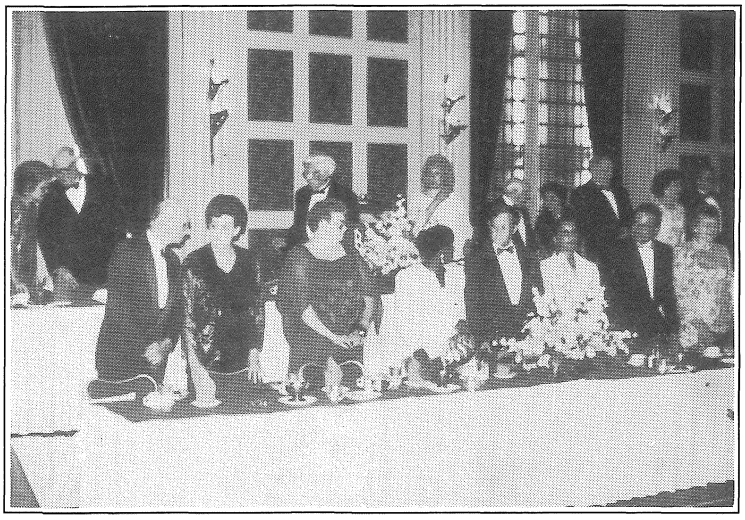
Licentiate Ministers and Certified Mediums Review.



Elsie Feathersong and Sandra Pfortmiller.

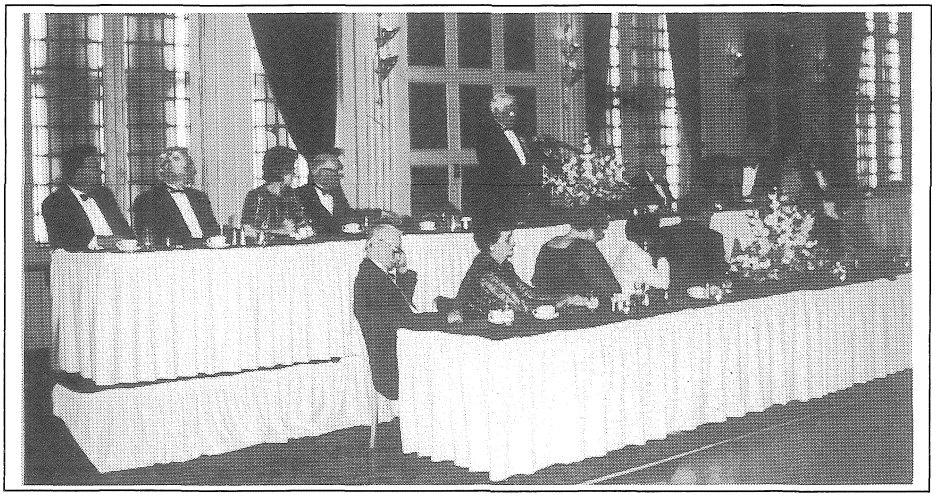
THE N.S.A.C. BANQUET



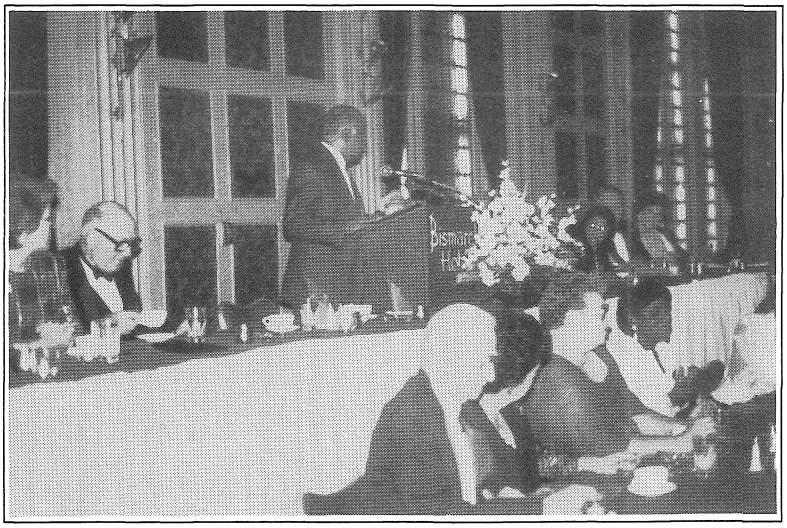


THE HEAD TABLES

N.S.A.C. Board & Guests



Illinois Convention Committee





Welcome to Chicago.





Monday evening, the opening banquet saw Spiritualists from around the country dressed in their finery. The Rev. Bryan McCotter, chairman of the Convention Committee, greeted and welcomed all those present and introduced N.S.A.C. President, the Rev. Joseph Merrill. A representative from Mayor Richard Daley's office, Charles Bowen, read a statement from the Mayor welcoming Spiritualists to Chicago. Each N.S.A.C. Board member (and their spouse) was individually acknowledged. The roll call of the states introduced not only N.S.A.C. Spiritualists, but many from other Spiritual groups from around the country that had come to celebrate our Centennial with us. That made the evening just that much more special.

The awards ceremony found several awards for various categories. The Rev. Joseph Merrill presented Joseph Guice, President of Tucker Smith Memorial Spiritual Church in Chicago, Illinois, a plaque to be hung in the church to remember and honor Licentiate Minister Louise Washington, a long-time Spiritualist that made her transition since the last convention.





The Rev. Bernard F. Baker, NST, presented the Rev. Jean Kerr Lerch, NST, a plaque from *The National Spiritualist -Summit*, to acknowledge the fine Centennial Cover that she designed for the September *TNS*.

The Rev. Evelyn Muse accepted an award for her efforts as the Centennial Committee Chairperson. She then in turn gave certificates of appreciation to her committee members: the Rev. B. Anne Gehman, the Rev. Dorothy Buss, NST, the Rev. Barbara Thurman, NST, Pauline Hathaway, Nancy Lloyd, the Rev. Bryan McCotter, the Rev. Joseph Merrill, Peggy Spencer, Audra Cutlip, and Martha Rusbuldt.



1993 N.S.A.C. AWARDS PRESENTATION



Howard Renollet speaking.

Special honors and awards are given each year to outstanding Spiritualists in the organization. The nominations for these awards are sent in by Spiritualists to The Bureau of Public Relations, the Rev. Brenda Wittich, Chairperson. The N.S.A.C. Board of Directors then makes the final decision from those recommended. The Rev. Brenda Wittich announced this year there were two awards: Teacher's Individual Award, and Lifetime Service Award.

LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD



Howard Renollet with award.

HOWARD RENOLLET - Howard Renollet is a lifelong Spiritualist, having recently reached the age of 80, he has never once abandoned the cause for any other religion. Of course, his family were long-time Spiritualists even before Howard was born, adding to his in-depth knowledge of our religion. His dedication to the N.S.A.C. is without equal, and his contributions to the cause are truly remarkable! He is currently a Trustee of the Board of the Morris Pratt Institute, having served as its President in the past. He is currently, and has been for many years, a Trustee on the Ohio State Spiritualist Association Board, having served as its Vice-President in the past. As a member of this state board, he has served as an examiner for the many examinations for certificates conducted by that board. He has been a member of the Crystal Fountain Spiritualist Camp in Sherwood, Ohio for the past **FIFTY** years, and is currently its President. He is now the Vice-President of the Crystal Fountain Spiritualist Church in Sherwood, Ohio. Mr. Renollet has lectured throughout the United States at numerous churches and camps, offering insight and education for the many persons privileged to attend his lectures. As a direct result, he has been and still is a mentor for **countless** younger Spiritualists. Financially, he has been and continues to be a very heavy contributor to all of the churches and camps that he has been associated with. Howard's wife, Jenny, is also a very devoted Spiritualist, offering him support and encouragement in his numerous commitments to Spiritualism. Mr. Renollet is certainly a model for all of us to follow. He has dedicated his life to his chosen religion, Spiritualism, and has never hesitated to come to the assistance of anyone in need. He has always stood for the finest expression of Spiritualism, never once acting in any but the most honorable way while representing our religion. So, Howard Renollet has not only dedicated his life to, and worked for Spiritualism, but has been a continuing example of exactly what a good Spiritualist is, and how a good Spiritualist should act. He has never told people how good a Spiritualist he is, he showed them by his actions and character! Lifetime Service? Here are 80 years dedicated to Spiritualism!



Rev. Edna Claussen with award.

TEACHER'S INDIVIDUAL AWARD

THE REVEREND EDNA CLAUSSEN - Reverend Edna Claussen teaches classes twice weekly in her home and holds a *"Question and Answer Forum"* every Sunday after church service. She has an incredible wealth of knowledge on spiritual development and Spiritualism, as well as a full understanding of all world religions. She gladly shares this information with all interested people. She has been the sole teacher and inspiration in seeing four people receive their ordinations; The Reverend Virginia J. Berg, The Reverend Milagros C. Rivera, The Reverend Catherine Snell, NST, and The Reverend Janet Travis, NST. She has guided, and continues to guide, Nancy Lloyd in achieving her Licentiate Ministers Certification, and Nancy will in the near future seek her ordination. For her many years of continual teaching and guiding others to achieve their goals, she is an outstanding example of a dedicated teacher.

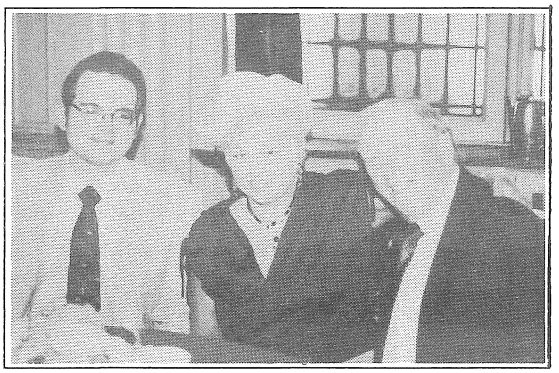


Chester Wittich, Joe Sax,
June Kilner, and Bernard Baker.



Sue Percycoe.





Donald McFarland, Mary Sullivan,
and Arthur Iman.



Norm and Maggie Rowe.



Brenda Wittich and Ann Otzelberger.

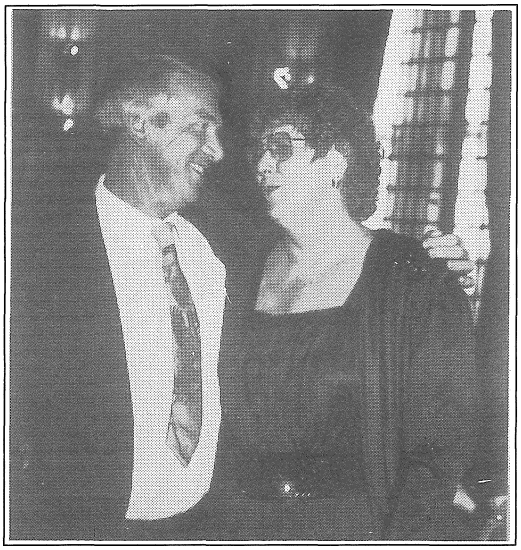


Bernard Baker, Tina Coe, and Tommy Mayfield.

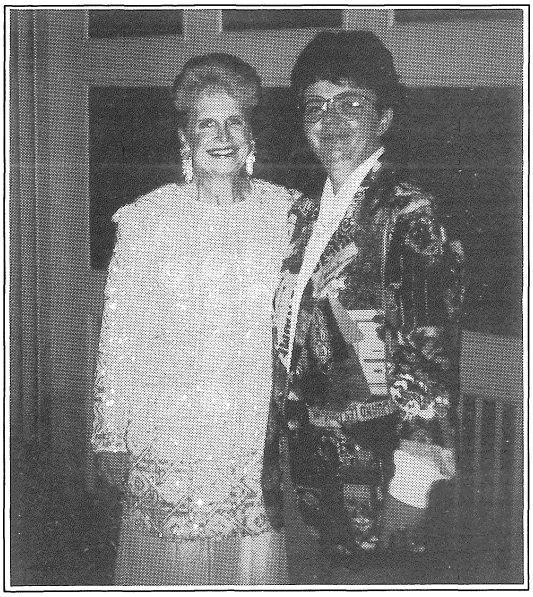




Pretty ladies with pretty smiles.



Gene Pfortmiller and Arlene Sikora. Wonder what Arlene is saying to make Gene smile so big?



Joyce Freese and Cosie Allen.



Mary Lou and John Baumhoff, and Ellie Berger.



Sue Percoe, Richard Taylor, and Clara Welch.





Mr. and Mrs. Witt.



Mr. and Mrs. Williams.



Mary McMurray, Robert McMurray,
Helen Hoffman, and Dorothy Burns.



Frances Scher, Fred Odionne, and Loll Washburn.

DANCING AND SOCIALIZING





The food, the wonderful music by Ed Vodicaka Orchestra, *"Entertainment Best Services,"* the dancing, the comraderie, the picture taking, the sharing, all made a wonderful evening.



Pat Bertucci and John Baumhoff.



Tina Cole and Tommy Mayfield.



Michael D. Nagy and Joyce Ann Freese.



Arlene Sikora, Frederick Odionne, Jeanne Lerch, and Bernard Baker.

ENJOYING GREAT COMPANY



Arlene Sikora and Joseph Merrill.
Arlene's got Joe smiling too!



Sandy Pfortmiller and Carol Perella





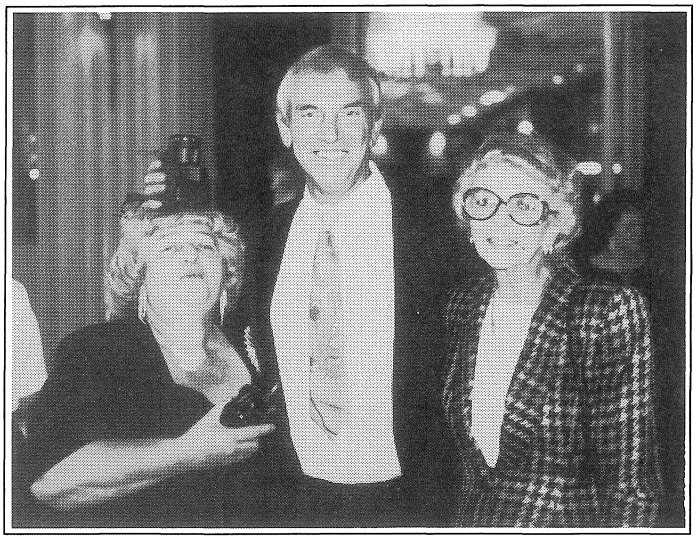
Ruby Smith, Lillian Johansen, and Audrey Cutlip.



Sarah Anderson, Ondrenette Bramfield, and Jesse James.



Dorothy Burns and Georgia Milton.



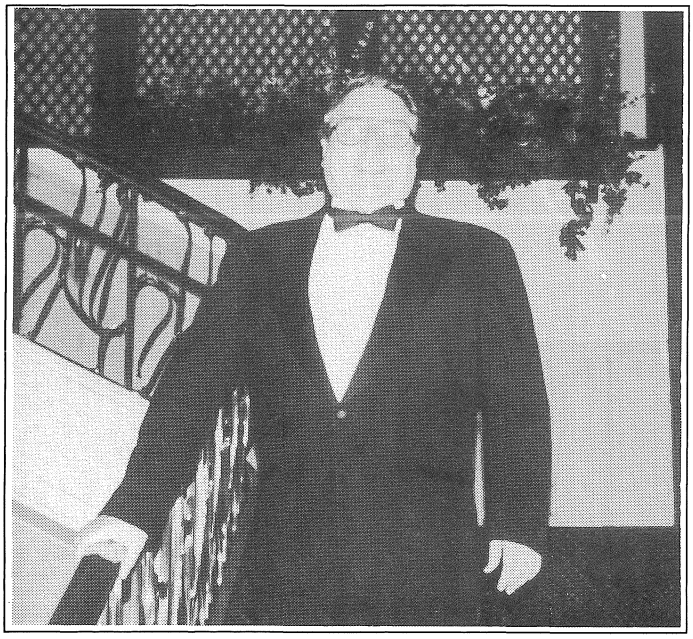
Pat Smith, Gene Pfortmiller, and Catherine Stewart.



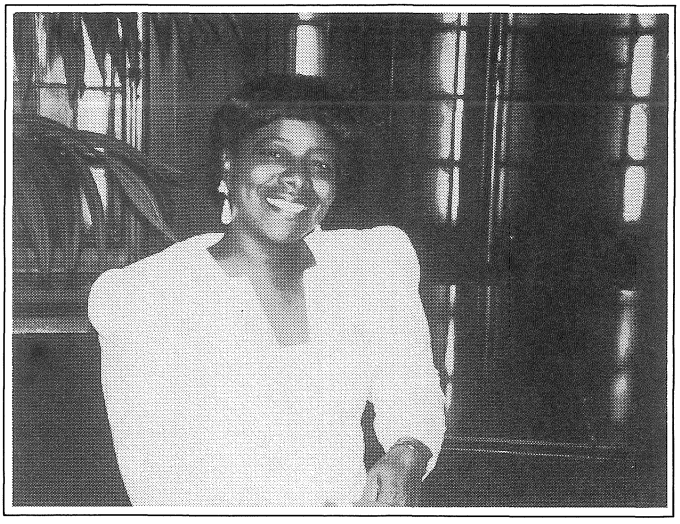
Elaine King and Florence Heyward.



Louis and Estrella Potter.



Neil Griffen



Marrice Coverson

LYCEUM REPORT

To the Officers and Delegates of the 101st Annual Convention of the National Spiritualist Association of Churches:

Greetings . . .

It is my pleasure to bring to you the report of the National Bureau of Lyceums for the year beginning February 1, 1993 and ending July 31, 1993.

I was offered the position of Lyceum Superintendent in January of this year and after much deliberation, meditation, and contemplation, decided to accept the offer for that interim of time designated by the Board of Trustees.

Three new Lyceums were formed, these being: Fifth Spiritualist Church Youth Lyceum, Central Spiritualist Church Youth Lyceum, and Church of the Two Worlds Youth Lyceum. These churches are doing their best to work with children of all ages to teach them about Spirit, Angels, and God.

If you will refer to page two of the enclosed Lyceum Activity Summary, you will note there has been a total of one hundred thirty-eight (138) letters mailed with the annual report form enclosed to the various churches and State Associations as listed in *The National Spiritualist - Summit* magazine. To date a total of nine letters have been returned with the notation of *"undeliverable as addressed, or no such address."* We have received a total of twenty-six (26) reports. I am happy to report that we have the following **active** number of Lyceums currently listed:

YOUTH: Eleven (11) plus the three new Lyceums making a total of fourteen (14) Youth Lyceums.

ADULT: Twenty-eight (28) - A lot of the Churches have from 1 to 4 Adult Lyceums and this is the reason for the number of **Adult Lyceums.**

INACTIVE: Fourteen (14) Lyceums are not active at this time.

TOTAL LYCEUMS: Forty-two (42) active Youth and Adult Lyceums. Fourteen (14) inactive Lyceums, making a total of sixty-one (61) Lyceums. *(Some additional have reported at convention bringing the total to 61.)*

There are a total of thirty-one (31) Lyceums listed in *The Spotlight*, out of that number twelve (12) filed reports with the Bureau. This represents thirty-five percent (35%) of the Churches that do have Lyceums; of the one hundred thirty-eight letters with reports mailed to the churches, there is a twelve percent (12%) response. Not a very good overall picture, is it?

My question now to you is: Do you know of any reason why we cannot form and have an active Lyceum in all the Chartered Churches? In fact, would it not be wonderful to have both Youth and Adult Lyceums in every church? In this coming year, let us set a goal of re-activating or forming Lyceums within our areas.

There was a report from a Church in California that reactivated their Lyceums this past year and they have reported their achievements with enthusiasm, and I extracted a small token of their *"must have"* items to report to you.

The Spiritualist Church of Two Worlds Lyceum have learned that in order to make a *"first-year"* Lyceum successful, the following are *"must have"* items:

1. An aggressive Lyceum conductor who is willing to take on sole organizational responsibility for the program and activities, and who feels comfortable approaching people on a one-to-one basis to enlist helpers and volunteers for activities.
3. Weekly announcements.
4. A place to hold Lyceums.



Rev. Marie W. Smith, NST

Notice the very first item she has listed is an aggressive conductor, third she listed weekly announcements soliciting support from the members of the congregation as well as the support of the ministers of the church. Now you see why they are so successful in their efforts to reactivate their Lyceum and why they will be successful in the following years.

Are we taking away opportunities from the youth of today and not allowing them to learn of the Power that is available to all in not teaching of Angels and the Kingdom of the One we call Infinite Intelligence, and are we guilty of allowing true *"evil"* to walk the face of the earth today in the form of *"sociopaths"* but not attempting to do our part in stopping this trend?

Several have inquired, on their reports, as to when the *"New Lyceum"* manual will be reprinted for use in the area Lyceums. At this time, I am unable to give a firm date of when the manual will be reprinted and made available to you.

The Rev. Snowman is working on revising a lesson that she had used in her classes on the Principles and Laws of Nature. We, here in Houston (C.D. Jessup, Rev. Garcia, and myself), are working on lesson materials regarding ancient teachings and comparative religions as we believe that it is time for all to turn back the time when Spiritualism was not a separate religion, but was in addition to. No, I am not saying that we must become Orthodox Christian, I am saying that we must put the power of God and his workers back in the teaching of our children.

Hopefully this coming year will be a year of growth for the Lyceum, and we are striving for *"a round robin communication"* line with every Lyceum Conductor-Teacher, and when there is one in any area that needs help in starting a Lyceum, they will be able to find a helpful hand held out to them from someone who has been down that path, giving to them construction thoughts and ideas to build a strong foundation upon.

May God Bless you and keep you safe and secure under the shelter of His Wings.

Respectively submitted,

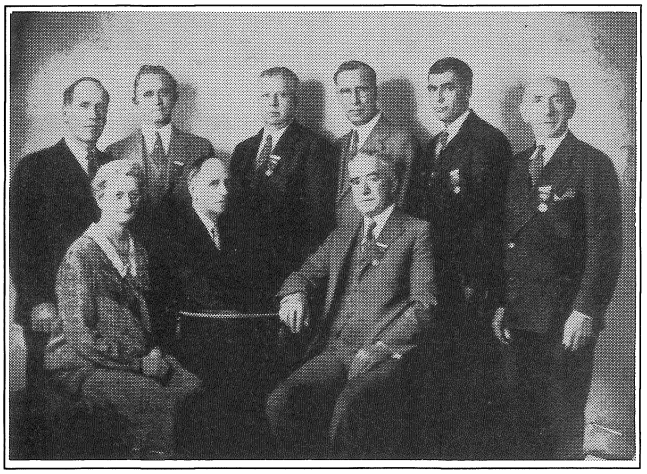
Rev. Marie W. Smith, NST, Superintendent



Pauline Hathaway and Rev. Evelyn Muse.

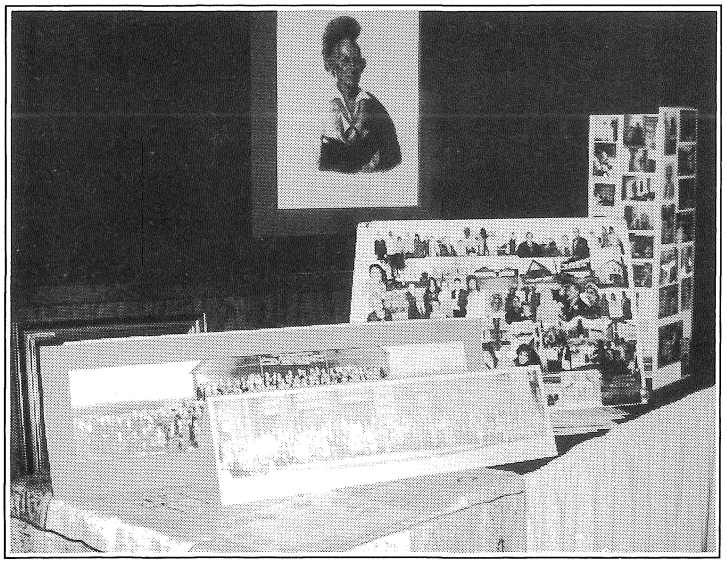


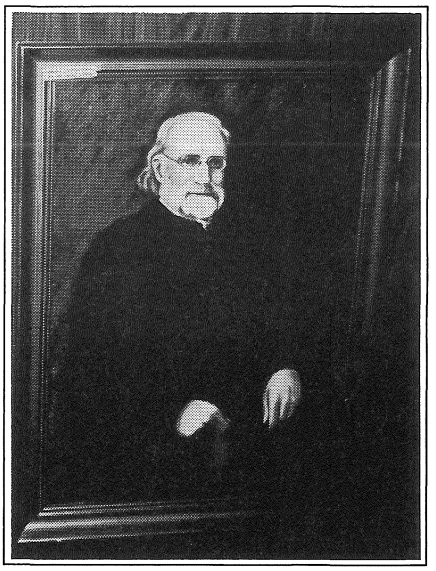
Dr. Victoria Barnes



Back Row: Courtney, Cervin, Stack, C. Smith, Clark, and Joseph. Front Row: Schauss, Grimshaw, and Whitwell.



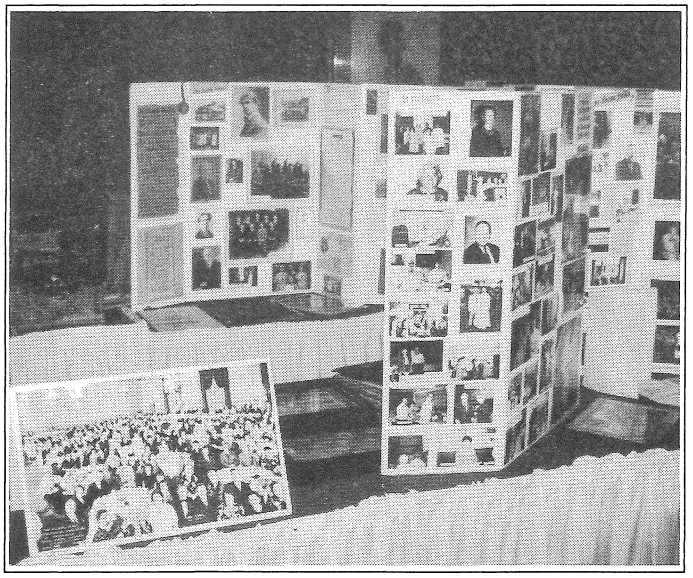




Andrew Jackson Davis

CENTENNIAL ARCHIVES ROOM

ONE HUNDRED YEARS as an Organized Religion is something to be proud of, so to review the history of our N.S.A.C., a Centennial Archives Room was set up. Items and pictures were gathered from all around the country, from Spiritualists young and old, from individuals, camps and churches, then wonderfully arranged by Pauline Hathaway. The chronicle of memories and the wealth of information could only be skimmed for there was so much to see and so little time — books, scrapbooks, ribbons and badges, pins, coins, memorabilia and pictures. The energy in the room seemed to build as the days of the convention went by and I am sure spirit left a permanent blessing that will be felt by others in the future. Raffle tickets for the Centennial quilt made by Martha Rusbuldt, the quilt made by the Rev. Barbara Thurman, NST, and for a brass trunk (filled with goodies) were sold. It was indeed a ***"Hall of Fame."***









SECRETARY'S REPORT

To the Officers, Delegates and Guests assembled at the National Spiritualist Association of Churches Centennial Celebration, our 101st Annual Convention:

Greetings . . .

It is a very special honor to address this assembly during our Centennial year and to report on the events within the National and on the various activities of your National Office.

Once again, we have seen a year of progress and growth. It has been a very busy and productive year for many of our churches as well as our workers as you will see from the statistics which will be presented at this Convention.

During this past year we have again distributed over 200,000 pieces of free literature. These have brought in many inquiries for contact with a local church, subscriptions to *The National Spiritualist* and inquiries as to enrollment for the Morris Pratt Institute.

During this past year, two new booklets have been approved for addition to our free literature. The first which came out earlier this year, *Natural Law*, by the Rev. Bernard Baker, and a new booklet which you will find at our Book Table for the first time, which was written by the Rev. Jean Kerr Lerch and is entitled *Information for Potential New Members*. We believe that both of these will be a definite asset and help to our churches.

Two new cards have been published which state *"Do's and Dont's"* for Healers and Mediums. These were compiled by the Rev. Sandra Pfortmiller and we believe these will also serve as well in our churches and in our classrooms as an aid for aspiring workers.

During this past year, we have reprinted the following books: Rev. Joseph Merrill - *Mini-Course in Mediumship;* Margaret King - *Comparative Religions;* and Mercy Cadwallader - *Hydesville in History.*

Again, in an effort to expand our Book Store, we have added the following new books to our booklist: Paul Chaffee - *Accountable Leadership;* Herbert Schneider - *Chips;* and White Eagle -*Quiet Mind (large print).*

Two books which had been out of print for over fifty years are now being published and are available in our Book Store: Harry Boddington - *Materializations;* and Arthur Findlay - *Psychic Stream.*

New Meditation cassette tapes which have been added this past year include: *Ascension To All That Is; Crimson - Mender of Hearts; Crimson Ardas; Sacred Music from Seven Stars;* and *Silver Birch Speaks.*

The children's *Lyceum Manual* is currently at the printers and after several years of work, we are now awaiting the final proof before publication. We had hoped to have this Manual available for this Convention, but many delays have thrown us off schedule, and it is hoped that the work will shortly be in circulation.

The N.S.A.C. Book Store has once again had a very busy year. Income for the year totals $29,604.00. Expenses for the purchase of books and materials was $5,283.00, and our inventory is currently valued at $101,952.00.

During this past year, the N.S.A.C. has lost members, through transition, who had devoted years of effort to the betterment of this organization and Spiritualism in general.

Ordained Ministers who have passed this year to the higher life are: Rev. Willie Ben Dearmin, Rev. Melvin Browne, Rev. Rebecca E. Fastnacht, Rev. Otto Schuh, Rev. Gladys Worsencroft, and Rev. William Woodworth.

These wonderful workers will be sadly missed by all of us and we are eternally grateful for their help, guidance, inspiration and the love and many blessings they have so graciously shared with us all.



Rev. Sharon Snowman

Twenty-nine certificates have been issued within this past year.

ORDINATIONS CONFERRED - 10: Rev. Frances Lafler, *Arizona;* Rev. Jean Kerr Lerch, *Florida;* Rev. Elizabeth Ann Otzelberger, *Florida;* Rev. Paula Kuether, *Minnesota;* Rev. Colleen Gagliardi, *New York;* Rev. Barbara Laughlin, *New York;* Rev. Andrew Lynch, Sr., *New York;* Rev. Jeanne Mac Villa, *New York;* Rev. Catherine Snell, *New York;* and Rev. Janet Travis, *New York.*

NATIONAL SPIRITUALIST TEACHERS DEGREES - 3: Rev. Paula Kuether, *Minnesota;* Rev. Catherine Snell, *New York;* and Rev. Janet Travis, *New York.*

LICENTIATE CERTIFICATES - 7: Nancy Marshall Parry, *Maine;* Mae A. Harris, *Michigan;* Belinda Ruth Olin, *Minnesota;* Catherine Stewart, *Nevada;* Charlene Kleinschmidt, *New York;* Patricia Stranahan, *Virginia;* and Barbara Starr, *West Virginia.*

CERTIFIED MEDIUMS - 8: Sandi Jane Deckinger, *California;* Barbara George, *California;* Roberta Kanefsky, *California;* Bonnie Lou Winston, *Colorado;* Bonnie Horstman, *Iowa;* Nancy Marshall Parry, *Maine;* Catherine Stewart, *Nevada;* and Nancy Pitman, *Texas.*

COMMISSIONED HEALERS - 1: John Meerschaert, *Washington, D.C.*

Four examinations will be given at this Convention by the N.S.A.C. Board. Two for Ordination, and two for National Spiritualist Teachers Degree.

Two new Direct Charter Churches were chartered this year: Third Spirit of Life Spiritualist Church, *Rochester, Minnesota;* and Central Spiritualist Church, N.S.A.C., *Loomis, California.*

Our congratulations go out to these new churches and our gratitude for all the hard work that went into their formation. It is truly a pleasure to welcome them into membership with the N.S.A.C.

Our congratulations and best wishes also to the On-I-Set Wigwam in Onset, Massachusetts, which is celebrating it's 100th Anniversary this

(Continued on next page.)

year, and to the Church of the Spirit, Chicago Illinois, which celebrated it's 95th Anniversary on September 26th.

We would like to acknowledge the work of the Illinois State Spiritualist Association of Churches and it's member Churches and Camp for the tremendous work they have completed and are still performing to assure us a beautiful Centennial Convention. Simply saying Thank You sometimes does not convey all that is in our hearts, but I believe I can speak for all assembled here as I say Thank You for all that you have done to make this Convention memorable.

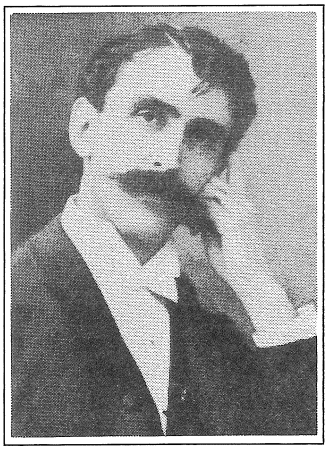
It had been predicted by many groups and organizations that 1993 would be a year of turmoil and change from the highest levels of government to the humblest of homes and indeed we have all seen events unfold in this manner in all areas of the world, and the N.S.A.C. has been no exception. However, we look forward to our future and the growth of our beautiful religion in a positive manner seeking ever the highest and the best for our organization and our Churches in accordance with our teachings and spiritual philosophy. I would ask that if we must disagree on any matter or issue, that we do so agreeably and in a spirit of Harmony, Peace and Unity.

History has shown that out of troubled times has come advancements for humanity and quantum leaps have often been taken which have shed a greater radiance upon all achievement. Let us leave all thought of political strivings, ego and personalities behind and look through the eyes of the spirit to the spirit in others with a new understanding and bridge a new road for mankind to travel in harmony with our teachings.

May the light of the Eternal Spirit lead us in all our endeavors and guide our hearts and minds on the paths we travel. As we reach to fulfill the prophecy of Emma Hardinge Britten, may we all set our sights to herald greater heights than we have ever known. May this Centenial year be the beginning of a unified harmony among all Spiritualists' so that together we may bring light, more light to an anxious world.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Sharon Snowman, Secretary



Harrison D. Barrett

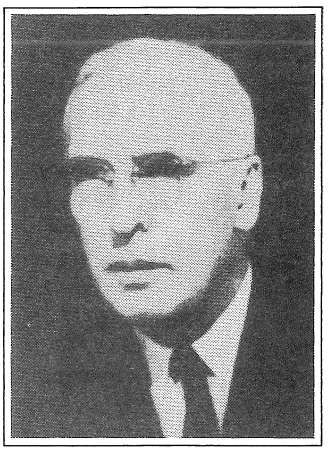
Thank you for a Century of Leadership.



Dr. George B. Warne



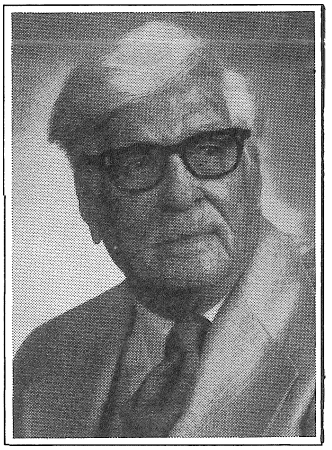
Joseph P. Whitwell



Charles R. Smith



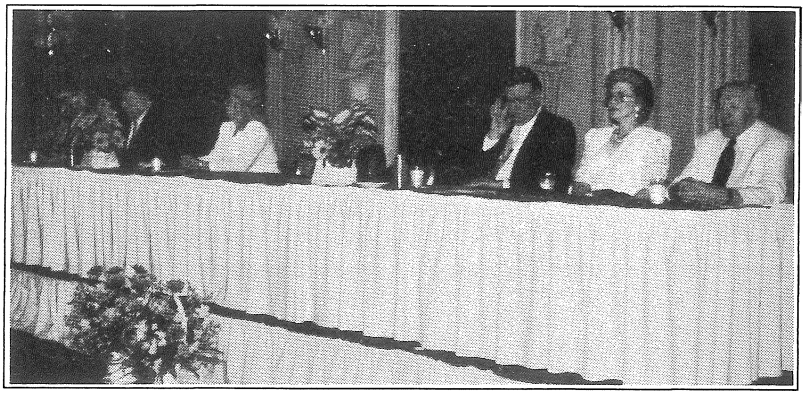
Robert J. Macdonald

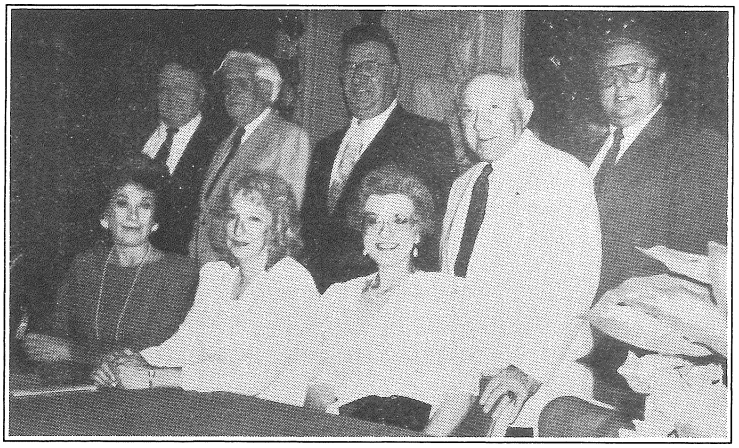


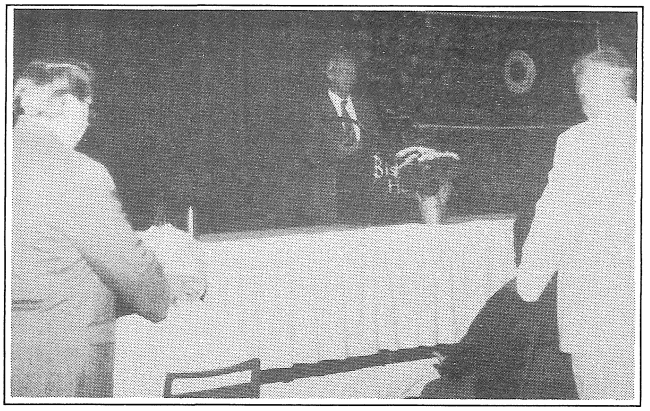
Joseph H. Merrill

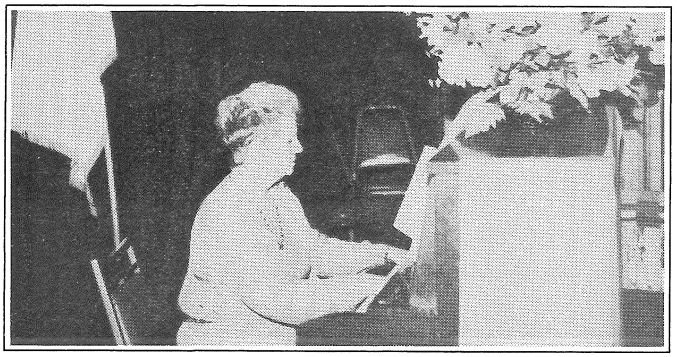
SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES

The Sunday evening Pre-convention Church Service is traditionally conducted by the N.S.A.C. Board. Music was provided by Joyce Ann Freese.

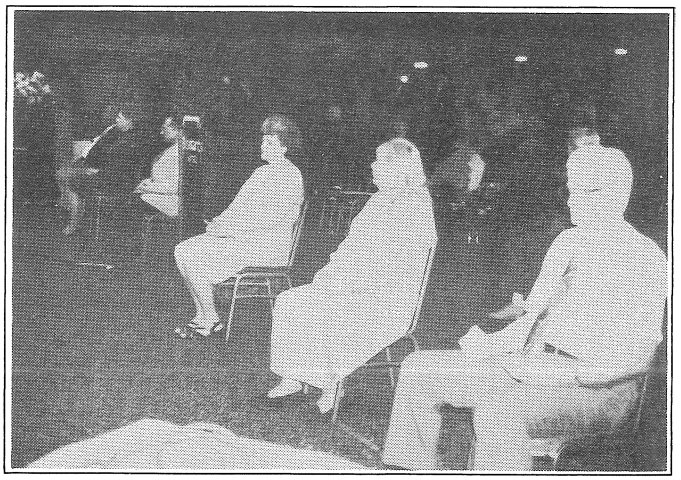








Joyce Ann Freese.



Mental and Physical Healing Service each evening.

EVENING SERVICES

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 ..... *Joseph Merrill*
7:00 to 7:20 p.m., Healing ..... *Alfred Conner*
Soloist ..... *Lelia Cutler*
Invocation
Declaration of Principles
Hymn
Address ..... *Neil Griffen*
Offering
Announcements
Hymn
Clairvoyance ..... *N.S.A.C. Board*

TUESDAY EVENING SERVICES



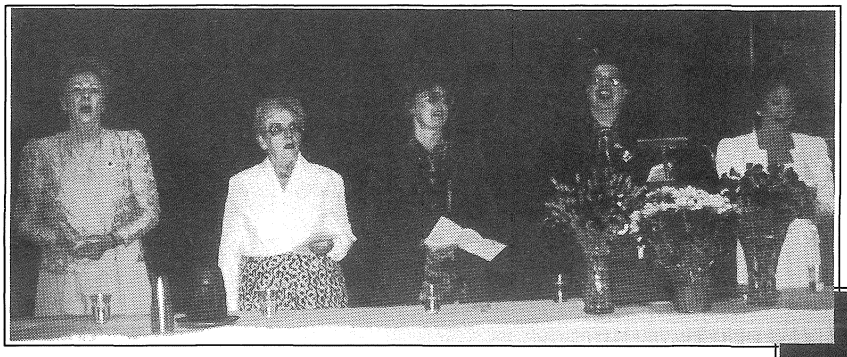




EVENING SERVICES

TUESDAY, SEPT. 28 ..... *Bernard Baker*
7:00 to 7:20 p.m., Healing ..... *Gene Pfortmiller*
Soloist ..... *Cosie Allen*
Invocation
Declaration of Principles
Hymn
Address ..... *Joseph Merrill*
Offering
Hymn
Clairvoyance ..... *Jessie James, Pauline Hathaway, and Jean Kerr Lerch*
Benediction

WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES

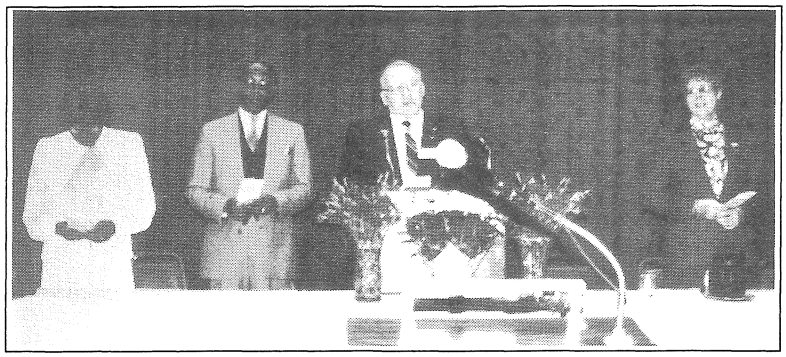




EVENING SERVICES

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 29 ..... *B. Anne Gehman*
7:00 to 7:20 p.m., Healing ..... *Pat Smith*
Soloist ..... *Lelia Cutler*
Invocation
Declaration of Principles
Hymn
Address ..... *W. Buchholz, Jr.*
Offering
Hymn
Clairvoyance ..... *Sandra Pfortmiller, Dorothy Thurlow, and Juanita Oyer*
Benediction

THURSDAY EVENING SERVICES





EVENING SERVICES

THURSDAY, SEPT. 30 ..... *Paul Spencer*
7:00 to 7:20 p.m., Healing ..... *Donald Haddick*
Soloist ..... *Lelia Cutler*
Invocation
Declaration of Principles
Hymn
Address ..... *Arlene Sikora*
Offering
Hymn
Clairvoyance ..... *Carl Davis, Mable Toursana, and Fred Brown*
Benediction

FRIDAY EVENING SERVICES



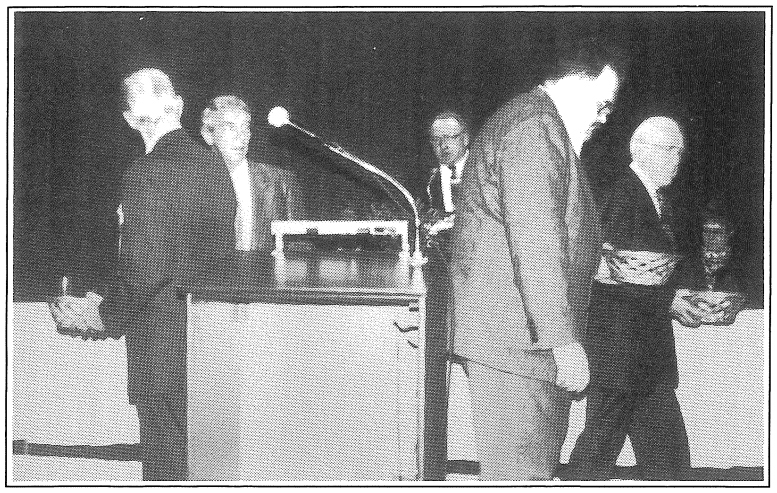


EVENING SERVICES

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1 ..... *Alfred Conner*
7:00 to 7:20 p.m., Healing ..... *E. Ann Otzelberger*
Soloist ..... *Cosie Allen*
Invocation
Declaration of Principles
Hymn
Address ..... *Frances Scher*
Offering
Hymn
Clairvoyance ..... *Loll Washburn, Diane Van Wormer, and Pat Smith*
Benediction



LOVE OFFERING . . .



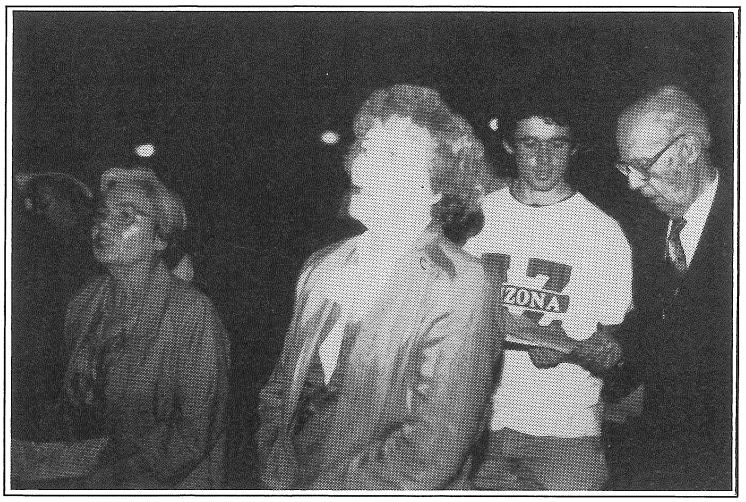
Ushers taking collection: Rev. Gene Pfortmiller, Maurice Witt, Rev. Donald Haddick, and Frederick Odionne.



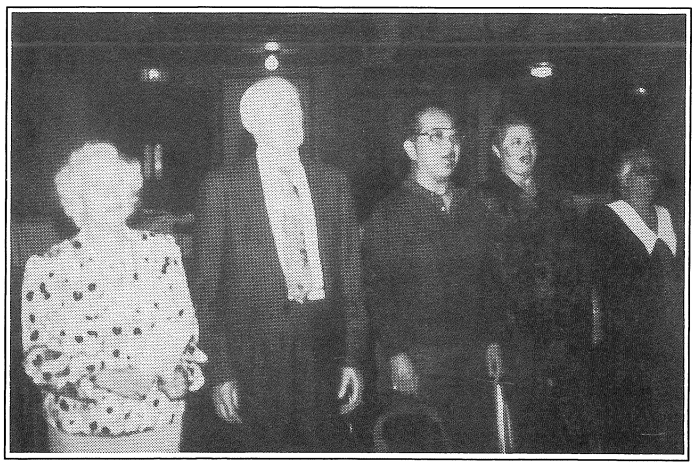
Rev. Alma Reeves



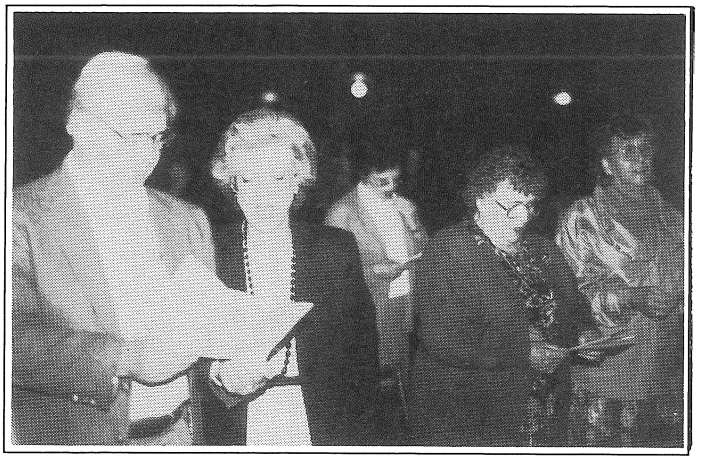
Rev. Lelia Cutler and Fred Brown.



Rev. Jovita Garcia, Rev. Marie Smith, Rev. Stephen Hermann, and Herbert Sneider.



Jessie Haddick, Rev. Donald Haddick, Sonny Gee, and others.



Chester and Rev. Brenda Wittich sing along with the congregation.



Credentials Committee: Rev. Jesse James, Rev. Betty Nauratil, and Rev. Alma Reeves.

The mornings began for many at 7:00 a.m. with breakfast meetings. Tuesday, the National Spiritualist Teachers Club; Wednesday, the Ministerial Association; Thursday, the Healer's League; Friday, the Licentiate Ministers and Certified Mediums Society. Others committees, like the Public Relations Committee, and Lyceum workers met after church services in the evening and some committees like the Missionary Society met for a lunch meeting, and so it went. Busy, busy — once a year to meet and try to decide so much.

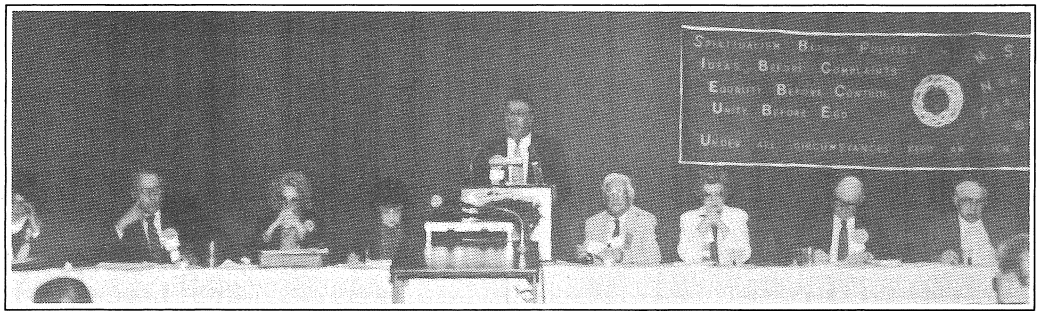
Tuesday morning found the delegates in the elegant great theater hall ready to conduct the business of the organization. The Credential Committee, the Rev. Betty Nauratil, NST, Chairperson, the Rev. Alma Reeves, NST, the Rev. Jesse James and Evadell Sordelet positioned themselves just outside the entrance for the convenience of the delegates.



Rev. Michael Martino, Bureau of Education.



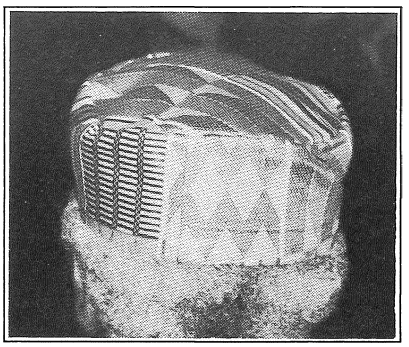
Rev. E. Ann Otzelberger, Pres. of the Missionaries Society.



Rev. Bernard Baker, Bureau of Phenomenal Evidence.



Each business session opened with a prayer, the singing of *"America,"* and the Pledge of Allegiance.



Set your CAP for next years' convention in Northern California, San Francisco area, in 1994; in Phoenix, Arizona, in 1995; in Massachusetts in 1997; in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1998 (100th Anniversary). Who will *don the hat* for 1996, 1999, 2000?



Tina Cole and Catherine Stewart.

The business sessions brought reports from Bureaus, Publications, Committee's, and proposed Constitution and By-Law changes.

A beautiful Commemorative Service was given by the Rev. Bryan McCotter, to commemorate loved ones that had progressed to the Spirit Realms. As Rev. McCotter read each name, those that had submitted the name carried a pink carnation to the front and the flower was placed in a vase. There was a wonderful energy that built during the service to bless all those that had served Spiritualism and were now lovingly influencing us from the Spirit World.

Wednesday evening, after the church service, there was a gathering to discuss and share ideas to assist our churches to grow and expand and become more Spiritual. This was organized and co-chaired by the Rev. Pamla Ashlay-Lehrer, NST, the Rev. Ida Donadio, and the Rev. Cosie Allen, NST. Many ideas came from this gathering that will be presented later in an article in *TNS*.



Catherine Stewart, Tina Coe, Tommy Mayfield, Janet Tisdale, Ron Lerch, Joyce Ann Freese, and Renate Baker.



Pamla Ashlay-Lehrer, Ida Donadio, Brenda Wittich, Bryan McCotter, and Cosie Allen.



Virginia Bevans



Brenda Wittich, Jeannie Lerch, Bernard Baker, and Sandy Pfortmiller.



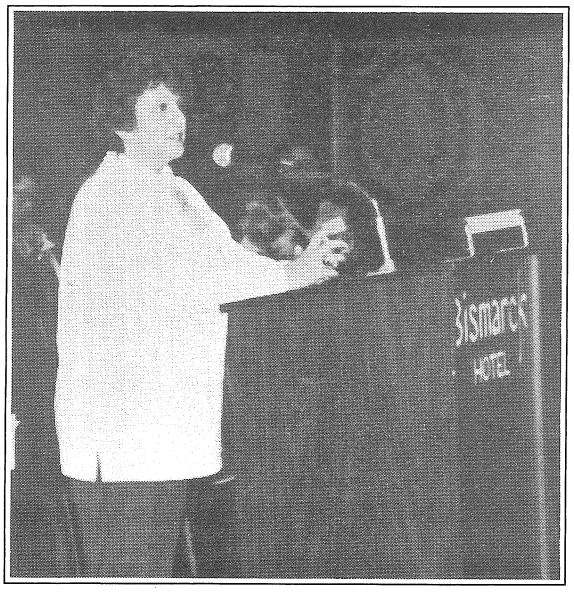
Arlene Sikora and Al Ferency.



Dorothy Buss

Thursday afternoon there was a seminar presented by the Rev. Hillary and Edward Kramer to teach understanding and service for the elderly. The awareness and need for this knowledge is expanding in our society today, and cooperation and understanding is important for our Spiritualist communities.

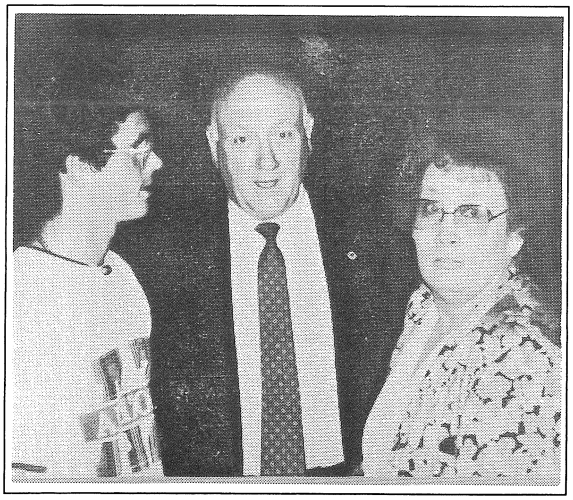
Also on Thursday afternoon there was a bus tour of down town Chicago that had rave reviews by all that attended as fun, educational and relaxing. Thursday afternoon found others at a meeting of the Morris Pratt Institute, many viewed the Archival room, some took naps, others shopped.





Cosie Allen and Ann Otzelberger.





Stephen Robinson, Alf Conner, and Sandra Dawson.

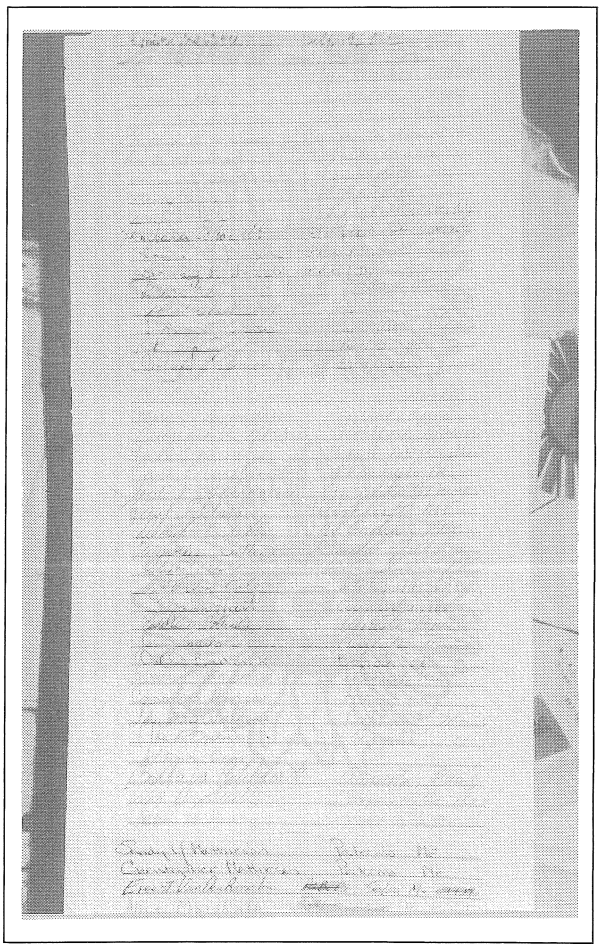


Dorothy Burns and Georgia Milton.

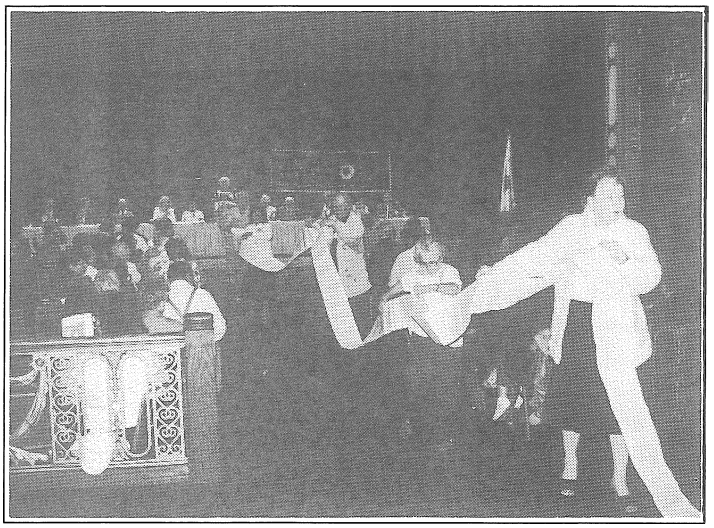


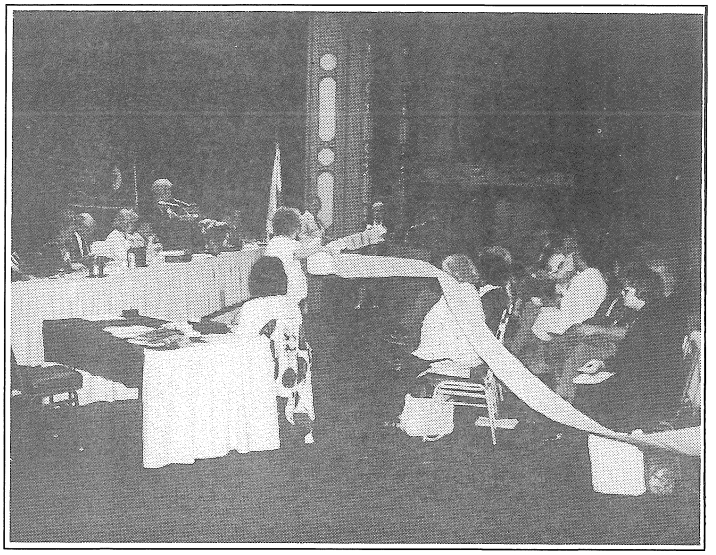
Jovita Garcia, Arsenia Williams, Beth Yates, and Marie Smith, Lyceum Superintendent.





The petition of Spiritualists signatures, that was sent to Congress, was unfolded encircling the hall.





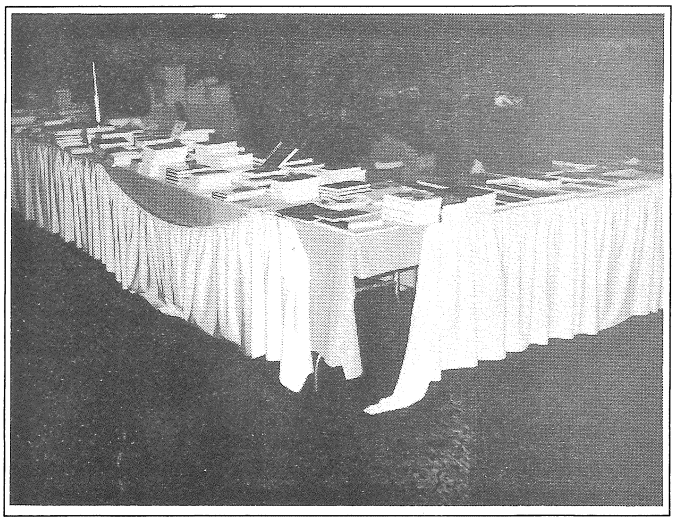


On-I-Set Wigwam Workers.

Peggy Lelonek operated the N.S.A.C. book table and the Rev. Sandra Pfortmiller attended the TNS table. The On-I-Set Wigwam Camp set up an area to display camp literature.

The Rev. Cosie Allen, NST, recorded the proceedings from the theater balcony for the N.S.A.C. Archives. The convention transcriber was Sandra Moser and the Parliamentarian was Jane Klausman.

The Sergeants-At-Arms were the Rev. Gene Pfortmiller, NST, and Maurice Witt. Elsie Feathersong was the time keeper. Peggy Lelonek operated the N.S.A.C. book table and the Rev. Sandra Pfortmiller, NST, attended the TNS table. The On-I-Set Wigwam Camp set up an area to display their camp literature.



N.S.A.C. Book Table



TNS Table



The *Ways and Means* displayed lots of pretties for sale and auction.



The Spiritualists from Chicago wore red, white, and blue hats as they sold items and raffle tickets for drawings which help to finance the convention.

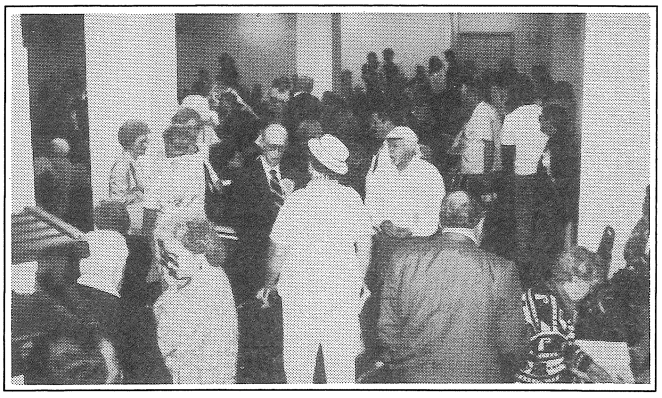


John Baumhoff



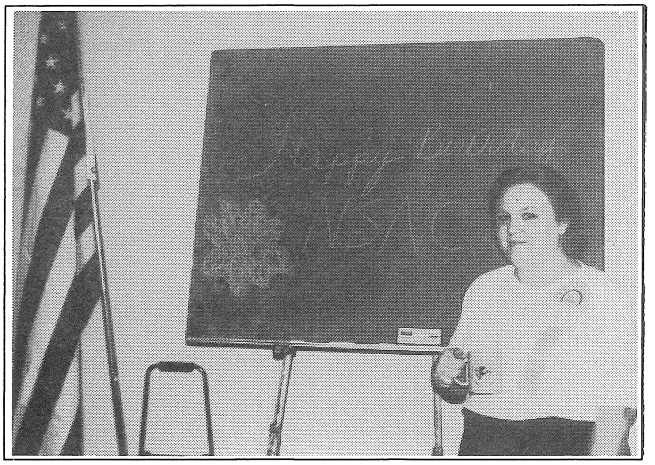
Arthur Iman and Georgia Milton.







Helen Persip from Springfield, Massachusetts — 90 years young.



Beth Yates

We were moved around at this convention and got to experience many elegant rooms. Friday, a convention of fashion "Models" arrived at the hotel, and we were moved to very small, close quarters.



THE NATIONAL SPIRITUALIST CONVENTION REPORT



Rev. Sandra Pfortmiller

Greetings Fellow Spiritualists and Happy Birthday, N.S.A.C.! — 100 years old . . . **Fantastic Spiritualism.**

It is really great to be a Spiritualist! This year *The National Spiritualist — Summit* has tried to show how special Spiritualism is. We have featured some pioneers, pictures, history, and articles that we hope have reviewed and revived our basic understandings. As the official organ of the National Spiritualist Association since 1919, *TNS* has strived to educate, uplift, connect fellow Spiritualists and present the science, philosophy and religion of our great organization. We are proud of the magazine and pleased that it is growing and expanding its circulation.

When Dr. George B. Warne, the second President of the Association, saw the great need for our own publication, it was to bond the Spiritualists together, and to present our views uncolored by other religions. To have a successful organizational paper, every member must assume some responsibility and realize that it is a group effort to achieve success. This covers sharing a story of spirit manifesting in your life, to sharing your magazine with a non-Spiritualist.

We each believe and have had continuous life proven to us through Spirit Messages. It's great, and we all enjoy the loving energy we receive at our church services. Think of all the others who would benefit from this wonderful religion, if they just knew how special and fulfilling it is. How can you help spread the word of continuous life? . . . give a magazine subscription to a friend, or a nursing home, or a shut-in, or leave it on the magazine table in the doctors office and so on. Churches, you can help Spiritualism grow and *TNS* too, by adding a couple of magazines to your subscription and use these magazines to give away to the newcomers that visit your church. A lot of other religions, that have official magazines, do this and find that it keeps the church and the religion in the visitors thoughts long after the service attended. The reading of the literature may encourage them to return. A few extra magazines, just for P.R., is an inexpensive way to spread the philosophy of Spiritualism.

Another point of encouragement is to announce from the rostrum when a new magazine has arrived, maybe even showing a sample, or mentioning some of the articles, that could interest those in attendance to buy a magazine. Some of the covers are pretty bright, but if they are tucked away in a book room, a lot of potential readers may not even know they are there.

Many churches may already be doing this, but I would like to suggest getting a notebook and keeping one copy of each months magazine for the church, for reference and for posterity. I have my notebook on the TNS table with all of the last years issues in it, if anyone would like to take a look.

In fact, I hope you will all stop by the table at some point during the convention. I have several things that I think are interesting. I have brought a cover to show you how it looked when it was first designed, the changes that it went through, to the finished product. There are a few samples of the **old** *TNS* magazines, in various shapes, sizes and conditions. I have all of the submissions for the Centennial Cover Contest for you to see. There are free sample magazines, including the September issue. There are subscription forms for any of you who wish to send out a Christmas gift to a friend, and there is a page formulating for all of you who wish to have your Christmas Greeting included in the December issue of the magazine. The cost is just ten dollars to send a Happy Holiday greeting to all Spiritualists.

This year, through the suggestion of the Rev. Bernard Baker, the magazine's business manager, we have initiated a policy that each newly chartered church will be given a years subscription to *TNS* to get them started. Also this year, through the efforts of the Public Relations Director, the Rev. Brenda Wittich, who initiated an advertisement in *Body, Mind and Spirit*, we have sent out over 1,500 sample magazines, all around the United States and to foreign countries, including India, Japan and Russia. Isn't it great to think of our magazine in Russia which was just a short time ago a communist country?

As P.R. director, Brenda also placed the magazine at the Library Conferences held around the United States and we agreed to send a complimentary subscription to the libraries that were interested. Every month the magazine is now available at about 33 different libraries. Each of these magazines lists your churches names, locations and services, so I am sure that some new seekers have resulted from these free issues that have been distributed.

Speaking of the Church and Minister Listings that are in the magazine, I am sure you noticed that the Centennial Issue did not contain these listings. I know that you have paid for twelve months of listings and our intent is to extend the listing one month, so that the renewal date will then be in September through the first week in October. With this in mind, churches can make their changes and alterations in writing or at the convention. We feel this would help us to make the Directory more accurate.

We hope you all liked the Centennial *TNS* issue, and thank you for all the compliments, phone calls, letters and extra orders for more magazines, we have received so far. We had even more information that we wanted to include but there are only so many pages and the gold foil on the cover and the gold color on each page brought the cost considerably higher than the normal issues. This is an area that the National Spiritualist Association of Churches deserves a big thank you, for each month the National subsidizes the cost of the magazine.

We did have two formal complaints that the Directory, Book and Lyceum pages were not included in this September issue. I wish to say that we have not included them in the other Special Editions that we have designed, and we attempted to include as much information for readers in this Centennial Issue as we could fit into the 36 pages. If we add more pages it increases the cost of the postage considerably, plus additional charges for the typesetter and the printer.

I would like to thank the faithful contributors and encourage the new contributors to continue to send in your writings. I can't use them all, but those who write a lot just become clearer in their inspiration and expression. Do it for your own growth, write for the religion, share your thoughts or experiences with others, and I guarantee that you will attract a spirit writing guide to help you. Isn't Spiritualism wonderful!

Sincerely submitted,

Rev. Sandra Pfortmiller, NST

THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS

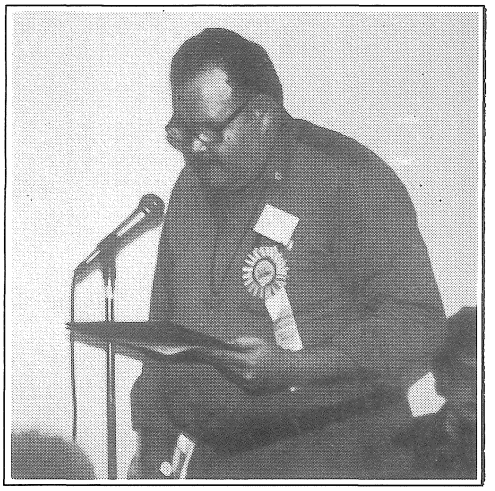
NOMINATING . . .



Dorothy Thurlow



Carol Rickards



Frederick Odione



Rev. Georgia Milton

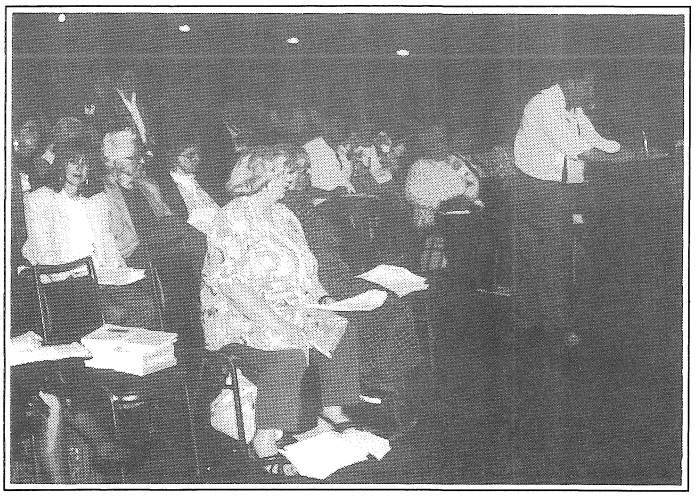
FURTHERING . . .



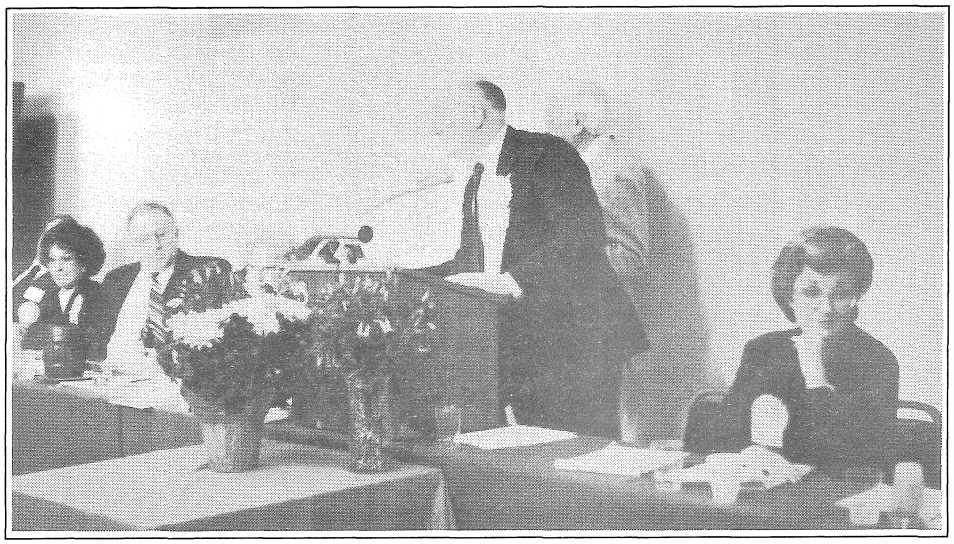


Marcia Hyatt

DELIBERATIONS . . .







Rev. Alfred Conner



Arsenia J. Williams



Rev. Bernard Baker



Rev. Pamla Ashlay-Lehrer



Rev. Bryan McCotter

CONSIDERATIONS . . .





Joan McDaniel, Michael Nagey, Joyce Ann Freese, Catherine Stewart, and Sandy Pfortmiller.



Rev. Arlene Sikora



Martin Pina

VOTING . . .





Rev. Barbara Thurman



Rev. Neil Griffen

ACCEPTING. . .

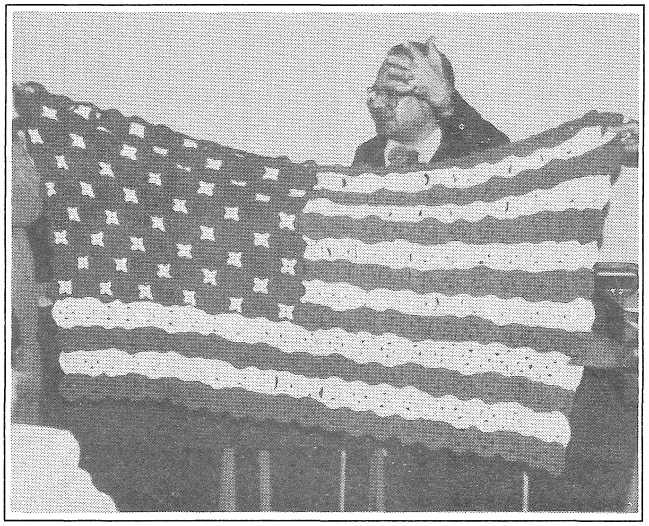


AUCTIONS AND DRAWINGS . . .

William Buchholz, Sr., William Buchholz, Jr., and Arsenia Williams.



Sandy Pfortmiller and Marian Boesen and their toys.



William Buchholz, Jr., auctioneer.

— Prayer for the Next 100 Years as an Organized Religion —

by Rev. Sandra Pfortmiller, NST

Infinite, Loving, Divine Intelligence, we give thanks for the past one hundred years of Spiritualism, for the inspiration of so many dedicated souls, both in the physical and in the spiritual realms, for the understandings and knowledge gleaned, for the mediums and the communications between the two worlds of expression that have been so beneficial and demonstrated that life never ends. May our beautiful message of continuous Life, Law and Love continue to spread throughout the world bringing a deeper understanding of God's great truths to all humanity. Let the light of truth fill all Spiritualists' hearts, minds, and messages, that our religion may bloom and triumph in wisdom and peace. May the Divine Blessings of the Spiritual World be showered upon all men, women and children and upon this beautiful religion of Spiritualism. May the awareness and proof of spirit communication make life more understandable, growth more evident and the next dimension of life a joyous anticipation. Inspire all Spiritualists to remember that ***WE ARE ALL ONE WITH THE DIVINE UNIVERSE.*** *So be it and so it is.*

The election of officers began late on Friday afternoon because of so much business to transact. The Rev. Betty Nauratil, NST, conducted a roll call and reported the final count of 177 delegates and 9 Board members. Harvey Horstman, the chairman of the elections, gave the instructions to the delegates as to the voting proceedures. He was assisted by Rev. Donald Haddick, NST, Fred Odione and Tommy Mayfield.

For Treasurer: the Rev. Alfred Conner, NST, and the Rev. Lelia Cutler were nominated. The Rev. Lelia E. Cutler was elected as the new N.S.A.C. Treasurer.

For Trustee: the Rev. Bernard Baker, NST, the Rev. Bryan McCotter, and the Rev. Barbara Thurman, NST, were nominated. A second ballot was required between the Rev. Baker and the Rev. Thurman. The Rev. Barbara Thurman was elected for this three-year position.

For Trustee: the Rev. Neil Griffen, the Rev. Arlene Sikora, NST, and the Rev. Georgia Milton, Dorothy Thurlow, were nominated. A second ballot was required between the Rev. Griffen and the Rev. Sikora. The Rev. Neil Griffen was re-elected on the second balloting for a three-year position.



N.S.A.C. OFFICERS

President: Rev. Joseph H. Merrill
Vice-President: Rev. Brenda J. Wittich
Secretary: Rev. Sharon L. Snowman, NST
Treasurer: Rev. Lelia E. Cutler

TRUSTEES

Rev. Joseph Sax, NST
Rev. Paul Spencer, NST
Rev. B. Anne Gehman
Rev. Neil Griffen
Rev. Barbara Thurman, NST

Declaration of Principles

National Spiritualist Association of Churches

1. We believe in Infinite Intelligence.
2. We believe that the phenomena of Nature, both physical and spiritual, are the expression of Infinite Intelligence.
3. We affirm that a correct understanding of such expression and living in accordance therewith, constitute true religion.
4. We affirm that the existence and personal identity of the individual continue after the change called death.
5. We affirm that communication with the so-called dead is a fact, scientifically proven by the phenomena of Spiritualism.
6. We believe that the highest morality is contained in the Golden Rule: "Whatsoever ye would that others should do unto you do ye also unto them."
7. We affirm the moral responsibility of the individual, and that he makes his own happiness or unhappiness as he obeys or disobeys Nature's physical and spiritual laws.
8. We affirm that the doorway to reformation is never closed against any human soul here or hereafter.
9. We affirm that the precepts of Prophecy and Healing contained in the Bible are Divine attributes proven through Mediumship.



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