

# UpLift



A Publication of Bear Valley Bible Institute of Denver  
Under the Eldership of the Bear Valley Church of Christ

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FALL 2004



## 'My Friend' Goes Home

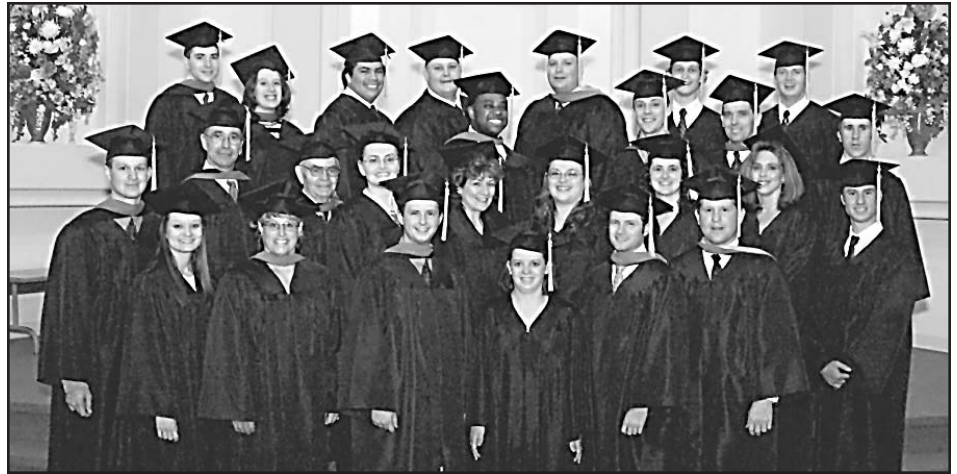
by Denny Petrillo

After years of battling various health ailments, Roy Baker, went "home." Roy was well known throughout the Denver area as a man dedicated to God, His word and the church. He was a successful businessman. But more importantly, he was an elder, a song leader, a Bible class teacher and a leader in the church for nearly 70 years. He was responsible for starting three congregations, two in Oklahoma and one in Texas, and spearheaded a place for Christians to meet and worship in Paris, France, during World War II.

But Roy Baker is perhaps best known as "Mr. Bear Valley." His love for the Bear Valley Church of Christ, and for the Bear Valley Bible Institute was something that was well known both far and wide. While serving as one of the elders of the Bear Valley congregation, Roy (and Bill Hughes, another elder) came up with the idea to start a school of preaching. He sold the idea to the congregation, and in 1965 the Bear Valley School of Preaching became a reality.

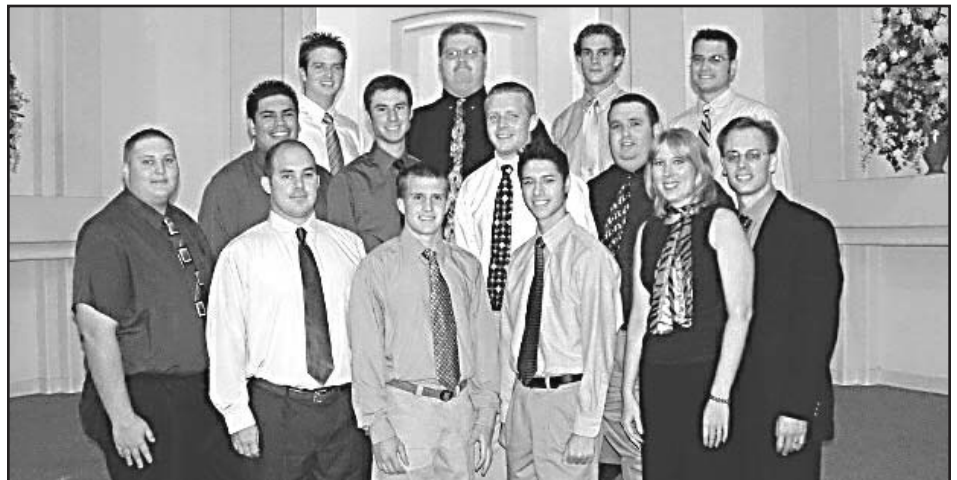
When Roy sold his business and retired in 1983, he wondered what he was going to do with his time. His lovely wife Juretta "came to his rescue." She encouraged him to donate his time working for the Bible Institute. So, for the next 10 years (1984-1994) Roy engaged in what he called "the most enjoyable and exciting work of my life." He traveled extensively on behalf of

(Continued on next page)



## The 2004 Graduating Class

Graduating from the Bible Institute, the School of Ministry Studies, and Bear Valley's Montana Extension School are the following, top row: Aaron Baker, Cindy Baker, Alan Boyce, Curtis Hood, Mike Olson, Eric Brandell, Tim Brunson, Clint Davison, Travis Robertson, Mark Shafer; middle row: Fred Nelson, Ken Flansaas, Sharon Thompson, Carla Wright, Sarah Jones, Shawnda Brandell, Kara Davison, Jacy Morey; front row: Brad Smith, Tiffanie Smith, Gwen Noyes, Nathan Thompson, Samantha Plummer, Marlin Aker, and Patrick Starr. Not pictured: Robert Robinson and Stephanie Shimp.



## September Enrollees

The Lord has blessed us with another fine group of dedicated men and women to study and prepare themselves better to serve their Master. Please pray for these students as they go through the rigorous courses and practical preparation for their future ministries, top row: Travis Robertson, Chuck Thurman, Chris Zagone, Nick DeCorte; middle row: Alan Boyce, Jacy Morey, David Iten, Daryl Parsons; front row: Curtis Hood, James Pfiffner, James Williams, Greg Garso, Chelli Guthrie, Luke Guthrie.

# BEAR TRACKS



**Kirt and Kelli Hughett** are working hard in Windsor, Colorado. The church there is in the process of raising \$30,000 for a down payment on the building they are currently using. Their VBS program really was successful this year. Advertising with balloons and flyers at the local grocery store, parks, and other places was a success because they averaged 90 in attendance each evening with about 17 visitors. And they've just had their second child.

\*\*\*

**Klaus and Sigi Freis** have many positive things to report from the work in Germany. On May 20, several German-speaking congregations gathered for the annual barbecue. The American congregation is ever-changing with three high school seniors preparing to attend college in the U.S., many members having military ties, and some will be returning to the states soon. We need your prayers for this congregation!

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**Bob Townsley's wife Ruby** passed away in July. BVVID sends heartfelt prayers and thoughts to the family. Bob continues to live on the Kenai Peninsula in Alaska.

\*\*\*

**Brad and Tiffanie Smith** are hitting the ground running in Geneseo, Illinois, as associate and youth minister. They are still looking for support so that he can serve there full time. The congregation went through some difficulties about a year ago, but three families have come back so far and

more are expected. Please keep their work in your prayers.

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Saludos Hermanos y Amigos,

The Lord is blessing the work in Guatemala. This year we have had four occasions during which visitors have come from the U.S. conducting two campaigns, two seminars and various community/church projects. We have been blessed with 32 baptisms and five restorations.

En Cristo,

**Hawatthia Jones and Byron Benitez**

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**Lance Huntsman** is serving as campus evangelist in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Their focus this last school year was to create a solid base group of Christians to spearhead the work. This year they hope to push forward with more outreach through devotionals and personal Bible studies. They have also sent a student to BVVID.

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The church in Olney, Illinois, is growing spiritually and in number as well. **Roy and Gayle Crutcher** are still serving the congregation on a part-time basis. There have been seven recent baptisms including a soldier who was home on leave from Baghdad.

\*\*\*

**The Kinzler family** have been planting the seed well in Moorhead, Minnesota. They had a booth at the Red River Valley Fair in which contacts were made and are holding several personal Bible studies.

Congratulations to **Adam and Natasha Andrezejuk** who were blessed with their first child, Joseph, on October 15, 2004.

\*\*\*

Dear Servants of Christ,

I wish to say thank you for your kind generous gift toward the rebuilding of my artificial leg. I have secured the funds for this and in January, I will start the rebuilding process. I am having power brakes, power steering and overloads put on it! I will be able to walk better and my giddy-up and go for the Lord should be a little quicker!

Your servant in Christ,  
**Timmy Walker**

## Address Changes:

**Kenneth Flansaa**, P.O. Box 342, Belgrade, MT 59714-0342.

\*\*\*

**Mike and Debby Heatwole**, 14900 Juniper St., Canadian, TX 79014, mdheatwole@direcway.com.

\*\*\*

**Nathan Thompson**, 18150 Sierra Cielo, Jamul, CA 91935.

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**Brad and Tiffany Smith**, 2701 W 34th Street, Davenport, IA 52806.

\*\*\*

**Solomon Jones**, 2819 Junction Street, Durango, CO 80301.

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**Clint Davison**, 2619 Chevy Chase Drive, Joliet, IL 60435.

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**Byron E. Benitez and Hawatthia Jones**, missionguate@intelnet.com.

\*\*\*

**Samantha Plummer**, 831 Edgehill Lane, Anderson, IN 46012.

\*\*\*

**Wes Eastman**, weastman@bcglobal.net.

\*\*\*

**Stephen and Stella Craft**, 22 Sachem Avenue, Worchester, MA 01606.

\*\*\*

**Robert and Tammy Clay**, 152 Franklin, Monte Vista, CO 81144.

## 'My Friend' Goes Home

(Continued from front page)  
the Bible Institute, traveling the equivalent of eight times around the world, helped over 100 men with their support, knew over 300 elders by their first name (a trait of his that always amazed me — his ability to recall names was astounding). During his work he secured the support from 241 congregations helping students or supplementing teacher's support.

In 1993, Roy became the Director of the Bear Valley School. He served faithfully for two years, and then returned to helping the school secure the needed financial support. There were many times during those years that I had the blessing of traveling with Roy. I watched in amazement as he told

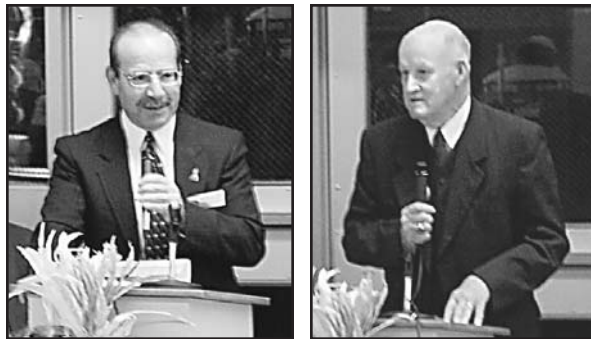
the Bear Valley story to elderships all across Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Kansas. It was clear that this was his "passion."

Roy had, for nearly 40 years, honored us by being the "opening chapel" speaker. As new students would arrive in September, ready to begin their two years of study, they were treated with a lesson from the man who started the school. Roy's chapel lessons were always excellent. He was a "wordsmith" in every sense of the word. Manuscripts of his lessons demonstrated how he pondered over each word, wanting to say it exactly right. Whenever I saw Roy, he would say "How's my friend?" (He did this with most everybody). This is a day of victory, as my friend has gone home.



# 553 Attend BVBID Homecoming Lectureship Banquet

On Monday, September 27, the Bear Valley Bible Institute of Denver held a banquet in honor of its 40th year of training preachers, teachers and missionaries for service in the Lord's Kingdom. This free banquet was the School's small way of saying thank you to all of the many supporters and friends that have supported this work over the last



40 years. Over 63 congregations of the Lord's people were represented by the 553 in attendance to help celebrate "40 Years of Harvesting," this year's Homecoming theme. Sixty graduate preachers, ministers and missionaries were present from all over the world to join in the celebration.

Bill Hughes, one of the two original elders who began the work back in 1965, was also present and spoke about the beginnings of this work so many years ago. Brother Hughes, along with Roy D. Baker,

## End Of Year Giving

Surely you have received many requests for donations at this time of year. But are any more important than preparing men and women to be workers for the harvest? The operation of the school, faculty support, prospective students, and present students all stand in need of your gift. It is of course tax deductible, but more importantly you will be having fellowship in the great work of "teaching others to teach others." Please pray about it. If you would like to talk to someone about a special kind of donation or if you'd just like to send any amount, it would be greatly appreciated and very helpful in the work of the Kingdom.



reviewing the past 40 years of school history and Denny Petrillo, the current President, spoke regarding the years to come.

In all "it is the largest Homecoming banquet we have ever put on," remarked Bill Stewart, Director of Development. He and his wife Pam Stewart, Dean of Women, coordinated the event which was a tremendous success.

Attendance at the accompanying lectures was also excellent and the largest the school has ever seen. Twenty-one men graduates presented excellent lessons on harvesting to the crowd, and six wives of graduates presented the ladies' program. All were encouraged and enriched. Lessons about local work, youth ministry, foreign missions and world evangelism were just a part of the topics presented. Audio CDs or cassette tapes of the lectures are available from the school office by calling 303-986-5800.



## 2004-2005 BVBID Students And Faculty

What a great blessing it is to be involved in a work where men and women are dedicating their lives to the strengthening and enlarging of God's kingdom. All of you who are graduates and exes, all of you are supporters, all of you who pray concerning this work have a great heritage that the Lord has made available. Keep working and keep praying that the Lord will send more workers into the harvest.



Mark and Lee Hanstein

## New Faculty Members

One of our new faculty members is Mark Hanstein who has been serving as the Academic Dean since April 2004. He directs the Master's program and is also an instructor in the undergraduate program.

A Denver native, he became a Christian in 1971, and was encouraged to become a preacher by Roy Baker. He received a B.A. in Bible from Oklahoma Christian, and a Master of Arts in Theological Studies from the Austin Graduate School of Theology.

Hanstein has been preaching since 1973. He began full-time work with the West Visalia, California, church in 1975, spent 17 years with the church in Montrose, Colorado, and seven years with the church in Marble Falls, Texas.

He has directed the Teton Family Encampment in Wyoming, for more than 10 years and the Western Slope Lectureship (Colorado) for more than 10 years, as well as having participated in campaigns in the U.S., Australia, Bermuda, the Philippines, the Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu and has directed such campaigns in Colorado and Texas.

Hanstein has articles published in *Back to Basics*, *California Christian*, *Gospel Advocate*, *Old Paths*, *Rocky Mountain Christian* and the *Visalia Symposium on Marriage, Divorce, and Remarriage*.

He is married to the former Lee Lanier who is teaching in our Ladies' Program. They have two children. Their son, Will, began his work as director of the School of Ministry Studies (S.O.M.S.) program here at Bear Valley in November 2004 (more on him in the next issue). Their daughter and son-in-law, Laura and Bart Warren live in Ramer, Tennessee, where Bart preaches for the Antioch congregation.



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Denver, CO 80227

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## 40 Years Of Harvesting 2004 Homecoming Lectures

There are many lectureships each year — some good, some bad, some neutral. Our goal at Bear Valley is to have a lectureship that first of all is sound and true to the word — neither “conservative” nor “liberal” — just Biblical.

Each year for many decades this lectureship has been available and many hundreds have availed themselves of the opportunity to not only be encouraged themselves, but to encourage those who have been in the field for many years.

Finally, meeting with Christians of like mind and spirit is surely another one of the things we can do to prepare for an eternity of it in heaven.

Next year's Homecoming Lectureship  
is September 25-28, 2005.

The theme is  
*Harvesting — The Next Generation.*  
Make your plans to attend.

## In Memoriam

The faculty of the Bear Valley Bible Institute of Denver wish to express our sincere sympathy to the friends and families of Roy Baker, Jim Morgan, Norm Dodge and Lillian Barnett. The Institute has received a generous memorial contribution in their honor.

### In Memoriam of Roy Baker

Eugene and Eva Anders  
Joe and Carolyn Barber  
Charley and Betty Barber  
Allain and Opal Belliveau  
W.A. and Fran Bird  
John and Elizabeth Bromley  
Country Club church of Christ  
William and Margie Crider  
Harry and Helen Denewiler  
Robert and Margie Donovan  
Bill and Dee Herrman  
Terry and Karen Horne  
Virgil Houghton  
Sue Hughes  
Bill Hughes  
James and Jacqueline Kelly  
Sam and Dorothy Kennedy  
Clancy and Nancy King  
Wayne and Betty Nelson

George and Dot Owen  
Denny and Kathy Petrillo  
Clif and Louise Phillips  
James and Carolyn Phillips  
David Ramsey  
Travis Roberts  
Era Jo Roper  
Shirley Stigers  
Travis and Mary Taylor  
Joe and Judy Thomas  
Bonnie Walter  
Warren and Carolyn Wilcox  
Peggy Wright

### In Memoriam of Jim Morgan

John and Terrian Drake  
Dick and Janie Gallaway  
Terry and Karen Horne  
Sam and Dorothy Kennedy  
Sandy and Naomi Morgan  
Thomas and Era Paschall  
Kenneth and Harriette Paschall  
Denny and Kathy Petrillo  
David Ramsey  
Del and Becca Speicher  
Travis and Mary Taylor

### In Memoriam of Norm Dodge

Terry and Karen Horne

### In Memoriam of Lillian Barnett

James and Billie Hughes