



The HOOT

A Monthly Newsletter published by the OWLS
of the Denbigh Church of Christ

VOL 1, Issue 1

May 2006

Goodbye “Seniors and Friends” - Hello “OWLS”

At a pizza and planning meeting in February, the Seniors and Friends group decided to search for a new name and lower the qualifying age to 55 years old or older. An election was held in May with the following three candidates placed on the ballot: “Empty Nesters,” “LAFF (Life After Fifty Five)” and “OWLS (Older, Wiser, Lively Souls).” Voting was heavy and the election was close with OWLS coming out the winner. Some in the congregation have asked if the age might be lowered to 50. That can be done if enough interest is shown. At the February meeting, Royce and Sharon Bankhead tendered their resignation as leaders of the group and Ben and Janice Barker agreed to assume the leadership role. Fred and Eugenia White agreed to assist with the leadership responsibilities. All present expressed their appreciation for the fine job that Royce and Sharon did as leaders.

What’s Been Happening?

The Denbigh **OWLS** have a motto! - “We give a HOOT!” During last Christmas season we gave over \$300 in gift certificates to children at Safe Haven. We have also been collecting and delivering gently used clothing to the Veteran’s Hospital in Hampton. We plan to continue both of these activities and are always on the lookout for new service projects. The VA Hospital clothing collection box is located in the entrance foyer of the family room

The **OWLS** also like to have fun. In March, a group went to the Festival of the Arts at the new Ferguson Center at CNU. This was a free event and highlighted many cultural groups in the Hampton Roads area. We were able to hear a number of choral groups perform and also heard the Rhythm Project, a select group of teenagers from the Hampton Roads area, performing steel band and African drum selections. After this event, some of the group went for lunch at the new Silver Diner on Jefferson Boulevard.

OWLS don’t always flock together. In April, a group consisting of 5 OWLS, a father with children still in the nest, a newly married couple, a few bachelors and teenagers, and a middle schooler went to the Tides baseball game in Norfolk. Everyone had a great time being together despite the fact that the Tides lost and it was UNSEASONABLY COLD!

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What's Planned?

On Saturday, **June 10th**, the **OWLS** plan to visit the Norfolk Botanical Gardens. We hope to get at least 12 people signed up to go so that we can get a group rate of \$7 per person. For this reason, **anyone in the congregation who wants to go is invited to sign-up on our bulletin board.** The group rate will entitle us to a tour on both the tram and the canal boat. A guide will accompany the group and give us all the pertinent information about the gardens. At this time of year there are many beautiful flowers to look at. If you have an internet connection, you can check it out at the following website: <http://www.norfolkbotanicalgarden.com>.

In **July**, we plan to visit "Copper Creations" on the Eastern Shore in Melfa, Virginia. Don and Donna Drew were exhibitors at the Hampton Coliseum Craft Show this year and last, and they invited our senior's group to visit them for a real-time demonstration of their craft. Donna will take a plain sheet of copper and fashion it into a marsh bird while we watch. If we let them know how many to expect, we may each receive a "surprise" when we leave. There are also many other interesting arts and crafts shops to visit on the Eastern Shore, and lots of **Good Places to Eat!**

Birthdays: We will use this space to recognize **OWL** birthdays.

Betty Lee- January 11

The Eda Peterson - January 19

Byrdie Hawley - February 7

Janice Barker - March 8

Jacob Peterson - March 28

Eugenia White - April 26

Gene Rhodes - May 20

Royce Bankhead - June 20

Ruby Dulaney - June 24

Blanche Thompson - June 25

A Different Kind of Hoot!

**"Florida Biker
and His Babe"**

Courtesy of a Randall Harris e-mail
5/11/2006



If you have items to be included in a particular month's issue of "The HOOT," please call Ben or Janice Barker (850-2279) or give it to them no later than the 15th of that month.