

*Help us keep you informed. Send your FGBMFI news, both for this monthly update for our National Leaders and for the Vision for our members. Contact FGBMFI Publications, P.O. Box 49, B-3000 Leuven 3, Belgium.
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The Pope

Following the Venice Convention, Richard and Vangie had a couple of days R & R planned in Rome. This did not turn out quite the way they had expected. They found themselves being hosted by the Archbishop who'd been at our convention. Knowing his relationship with the Pope, Richard offered an autographed copy of the new "Happiest People on Earth" book in Italian for the Pope. As it turned out, the Archbishop did one better. He arranged a meeting for Richard and the Pope. All in all it was a very special visit and something important for the ongoing work of the FGBMFI in the many Catholic nations in which the Fellowship works.

Venice

Italy was one of the very first nations to receive an airlift. Twenty-five years ago there were large outreach meetings put on by the FGBMFI, but for whatever reason, Italy never seemed to grow within the FGBMFI family. There were always a few chapters of mostly expatriates, but no matter what we did, local Italian business men did not catch the vision. Then a group of Swiss and English men began to come back virtually every month for a couple of years. They did outreach chapter meetings in a number of cities. Slowly, one by one, real Italian business men got fired up for the work of the FGBMFI. As preparations for this convention were being made, Urs Käsermann, Director for Italy, Switzerland, and Austria, told the men it was time for them to take over. This was the first Italian organized FGBMFI Convention. It took place in picturesque Vienna. They are already planning for the next convention and are using this as a beginning for a half dozen chapters in the cities where they have been holding Chapter meetings.

Richard Shakarian, International President (FGBMFI): We have just had our first Italian FGBMFI convention organized by the Italians. It was great to see God guiding these mature men in their gifts. Healings took place and gifts were in action. Visitors from six other nations were there. Great breakthroughs were made in working with the Catholic church. This is very important for the FGBMFI in Italy. Several high officials were there and said positive things about our work. This included the Monsignor responsible for the famous cathedral on San Marcos Plaza and an Archbishop from Rome, who works directly with the Pope. The Archbishop was deeply touched by the convention and even stopped on his way back to Rome afterwards to phone and tell us so.

At one of the meetings the newly translated and beautifully printed "Happiest People on Earth" was officially launched. They went like hotcakes and many people wanted them autographed.



Tallinn

Arriving Friday evening, we met our contacts at the ferry terminal. They had put our event on the radio and advertised it around the nation. Of the team that went to Tallinn we were impressed by the fact that the seven men represented six nations. This in itself was a visible demonstration of the international aspect of the FGBMFI. Although the numbers were not as high as we would have liked, the Holy Spirit was definitely present and our objective in coming was met.

By the end of the meeting Saturday evening a team was established for building the work in Estonia. We have members in Tallinn and have a clear sense as to the way forward. We all agreed

that this was a very important weekend. Sunday morning saw the team split into two groups visiting local churches. One of the groups shared in the beautiful cultural centre of downtown Tallinn to a group of hundreds. The Holy Spirit moved in a wonderful way and quite a number responded to a call for those wishing to commit their lives to Jesus Christ. A call for those wanting to step into a deeper walk of faith was met with an overwhelming response.

Bruno Berthon, President FGBMFI France, reports: God confirmed in a new way what He has been leading some leaders in the Fellowship, namely that we must make outreaches more in the style the world would be attracted to. The analogy was used "if we want to catch fish, we need to put a worm on the hook." This means an attraction for the fish, not the fishermen. One way to do this might be by using a business men's seminar with principles in management. This would then be based on the Bible. We felt like we received a clear leading on winning Estonia and also believe that these principles would work in other nations as well.

Alf Liljehall, President FGBMFI Sweden, reports: This was my second visit to Estonia for the FGBMFI. It filled me with joy to be there again. This new country has so much to give to the rest of the world. I can see how God is doing His work there. The pastors we met want to see God do more things. People coming to our events are those wanting something more for Estonia. This was a good start which will grow from here. Airlifts to new countries are so very important. Let's begin to plan the next one for Estonia now. It is so helpful for these people to see that the world loves them.



Please give us the e-mail address for any chapter not yet getting these news reports. E-mail all addresses to 100444.1300@compuserve.com

Thank you,
Blair Scott
International Publications Director



Finland

Team two went to Orivesi, Finland, where people from different nations ministered through their unique personalities and giftings. This was by all accounts a wonderful and anointed meeting. We have since heard back from them that some chapters which were "sleeping" have come back to life. The Finnish men were left with a new vision and excitement about the work of the FGBMFI.

Some of the longer standing members claimed that this was the best conference they had ever been to. Highlights were when Urs Käsermann, Switzerland, who spoke straight from the heart, told important details about his recent business problems and how he has conquered them. John Wright fired them up for Voice magazine, and Donato Anzalone spoke Sunday morning about reaching out in faith to help others.

Voice Magazine

In these exciting last days God is pouring out His Holy Spirit in unprecedented measure. There is a noticeable new anointing on the FGBMFI, and Voice magazine is an important part of it. There are many new frontiers and opportunities for the Fellowship. Going out literally to the uttermost parts of the earth, in Voice magazine we testify to the power of the living God in our world today – not theory, but real personal experience – God working in and through ordinary business people like you and me. The world longs to see solutions to its problems and there is only one answer – Jesus!

Voice is now published in 30 languages. We have a clear and anointed vision in the Publications and Media ministry of the FGBMFI: to provide the tools for reaching the lost, and to serve our local chapters in any and every way possible.

God has been showing us recently many areas of growth for Voice magazine. Our goal is to increase our world-wide circulation by 50,000 copies of Voice before the 1999 World Convention. A growth in Voice magazine will expand the profile of the Fellowship and win people for Jesus. Please write me with ideas on how Voice can increase its circulation in nation.

*Blair Scott,
International Publications Director*

Outreach Agenda

- 6th-10th July 1998: World Convention, Dallas, Texas.
- 10th-12th July 1998: NE South Convention, Bawtry Hall, England.
- 13th-15th August 1998: Mexico National Convention. Info: +893 4.17.22
- 28th Aug.-5th Sept. 1998: Middle Europe Convention & Polish Outreach.
- 11th-13th September 1998: Warm Beach Men's Camp Seattle, Washington.
- 11th-13th September 1998: Wales Men's Advance, Newtown.
- 18th-20th September 1998: Prescott, Arizona Men's Advance. Info: +1 602 433.0657
- 25th-27th September 1998: S.E. Region Men's Advance - Uckfield Sussex, England.
- September 1998: Syria Outreach from the UK.
- 2nd-3rd October 1998: National Belgium Convention, Brussels.
- 2nd-3rd October 1998: German National Convention, Weingarten near Ravensburg.
- 2nd-6th October 1998: Bury St. Edmunds, England.
- 10th-11th October 1998: European National Leaders' Meeting, Leuven, Belgium.
- 14th-22th October 1998: Jerusalem Outreach Convention.
- 16th-18th October 1998: Rocky Mountain Family Advance
Horn Creek Ranch, Colorado. Info: +1 719-520-5373.
- 23rd-25th October 1998: Netherlands National Convention in Driebergen.
- 30th Oct.-1st Nov. 1998: NW Region Men's Camp, South Windermere, England.
- 30th Oct.-1st Nov. 1998: South Calif. Men's Advance. Info: +1 562 946.8062
- November 1998: Airlift to Cuba from the UK.
- 16th-22th November 1998: Training Seminar, Kniebis/Schwarzwald, Germany.
- 13th-15th November 1998: Wessex Region 3rd Convention - Portland Heights, England.

Please be sure to inform the FGBMFI Publications about your conventions, outreaches, and airlifts as early as possible so that we can advertise your events.
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