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*Central Baptist Association*

2517 Wyoming Blvd NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87112



# The *Central Connection*



**June 2009**

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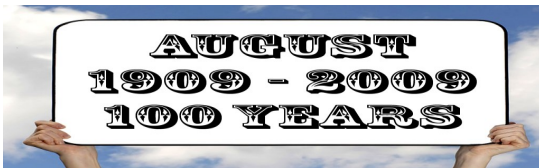
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??...Hmmm...?? 



There should be 11 faces on this picture. Average people see 4-6, sensible 8-10. The best see all 11, schizophrenics and paranoiacs' 12 and more. And you? (don't take this one too seriously, I have even heard that there are 13 faces)

Inside of a ring or out, ain't nothing wrong with going down. It's staying down that's wrong.



Muhammad Ali



# IRON SHARPENS IRON

Why does it seem like the more you try, the more problems and heartaches you have? Have you ever noticed that just as things seem to be rolling down the highway, there are road blocks that spring up and slow you down. I have been down that road a lot and I ask my self why? Why do I keep going and traveling down the road full of potholes?

Growing up, it seemed like I had the corner on the market of problems. The older I got, the more and deeper the problems became. I used to think that God must not be listening and really ignoring me. Snap out of it! I have now realized that it was for my benefit. What kind of person would I be if I had never experienced any problems? What I would be able to teach?

Now take a second and think of your own life. I know there are problems and difficulties, but how did the outcome shape you? It has been amazing how many times someone has come up to me talking about a problem. When I answered them, it was a huge help to tell them been there, done that. Now they were hearing from someone who has experienced their situation. Instantly, you had more credibility and their attention. How do you teach your children? As you ponder that, I will venture that you teach from your mistakes and how you handled them.



God does His work in ways we do not have any clue. He knows where, when and how you will be used. In doing so, He may use you as an example of what not to do or as how it should be done. Faith will have to be your crutch to fall back on.

I was recently reminded of Joseph and his problems. His own brothers sold him into slavery; told his father he was dead, and was taken away to a distant country. Locked in a cell, Joseph could have gave up and said woe is me and look at how bad I have it. Instead, he

*cont. on page 10*

# Goode Thoughts



I have had this experience before. I think I have even written about it. It is the empty page experience. I need to get an article written now but there are no thoughts. Usually I have at least a kernel of a story sprouting in my head but this time, no. My head is as empty as a sand dune. It is as empty as a puzzled stare. It is as empty as a Circuit City bank account. It is as empty as a, well, you get the idea.

There is a lot of emptiness going around. Some of it is welcome. We have a flower bed in front of our house that we had at one time planted in wild flowers. Over the last couple of years the rainbow of wild flowers has surrendered to the dull grey of ugly weeds. A couple of weekends ago we cleaned it out, turned the soil, and replanted in wildflower seeds. Now it lays empty, progress.



Emptying a cluttered garage, though seldom experienced, is a delightful event. Emptying our mind of negative thoughts is a good thing. Emptying the refrigerator of unused leftovers is a necessity.

Emptiness has a bad rap. It communicates the lack or loss of something. Emptiness is more than that. It is the staging ground for something new. It is space for new creativity. We finished landscaping our backyard except

for a piece of ground about eight feet by ten feet. Eileen and I have discussed several options for it but nothing has struck us as right. Our granddaughter has been bugging me to build a tree house but our trees are not real conducive for such habitation but, there is that empty space. I am thinking it would be a great place to build a play structure with an elevated playhouse. Yeah, I can make that work.

Postmodern thought, as I understand it, says that we write our own story out of the options around us. They call it our personal

# Goode Thoughts cont...

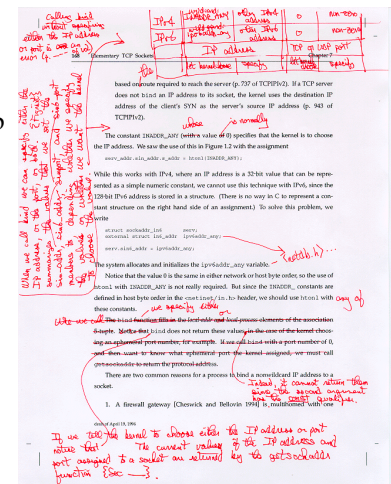
narrative. I am not willing to go that far. Much of our narrative is written for us; by others, by our circumstance, by God. I do agree with postmodern thought that there is room for self writing. We do contribute greatly to our story. That is an ongoing process. Often our contributions to our story are not additions, they are rewrites. Rewriting is the process of emptying and refilling.

I know some folks who are rewriting. Some are rewriting with job or career changes, some are rewriting with new relationships. Some are rewriting with the empty spots of significant losses. You probably have some empty spots that are ripe for rewriting. I do. With some of those spots I am wrestling to figure out the best way to contribute to my story.

Fortunate for us, God has written the book, the master narrative but we still contribute the chapters. Write well, friends, use the emptiness wisely. It counts. It makes a difference to others, to God.

Whoa, I am now at 520 words in this article! That takes care of this empty page. Write on folks.

*Ken Hoode*



# June 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

14th ~ Flag Day

21st ~ Father's Day

23 - 24 ~ SBC Convention; Louisville, KY



There are numerous churches conducting Vacation Bible School. Be sure to check with your church and get involved. Remember, you'll have a good time mate!!



June 1 - 5 ~ Lives Ablaze; Sivells  
 June 7 - 12 ~ Camp Dolos Youth; Sivells  
 June 8 - 12 ~ Camp Wilbegoaway; Inlow  
 June 15 - 19 ~ Connection Camp; Sivells  
 June 15 - 19 ~ Indian Family Camp; Inlow  
 June 22 - 26 ~ Lives Ablaze Student Camp; Sivells  
 June 23 - 26 ~ Spanish Family Camp; Sivells

For information or registration go to <https://bcnm.com/registration> or call 924 - 2300



## Youth Camps

**Sportsmen Outreach Banquet**  
 Saturday, July 18, 2009, Doors Open at 3pm  
 Expo New Mexico, Manual Lujan Buildings

Speaker  
**Ronnie Hill**

Musical Guests  
**Steve & Annie Chapman**  
family-friendly country music artists

Adult tickets - \$30 each, Kids 12 and under - \$15 each  
 For tickets contact Garland Peck at [gpeck@sandiabaptist.org](mailto:gpeck@sandiabaptist.org) / 505-292-2713  
 or contact the Evangelism/ Discipleship Team at [sportsmenoutreach@bcnm.com](mailto:sportsmenoutreach@bcnm.com) / 505.924.2314 or visit [www.bcnm.com](http://www.bcnm.com)  
 Whole Hog Barbecue catered Dinner at 5pm Limited Seating available - get tickets early!



Tickets are available at the CBA office. They must be paid for in person. If you would like more information or for on line tickets, go to [www.bcnm.com](http://www.bcnm.com)



# Church Happenings!

## Highland Baptist Church

God is doing some very exciting things here at Highland. I believe that God is laying the groundwork for a very big impact on our area. First of all, we have been blessed with the opportunity to remodel our educational building, and other physical improvements. God has revitalized our worship services and we have begun to reach families in our area. This was augmented by the success of our block party where we served around 300 people from the neighborhood. The block party was more than just a great way to start reaching out to our neighborhood it was a great show of church unity. More than that, we have summer plans to continue impacting our area with ideas such as, outside movie nights, sports days, and other outreaches planned to keep the momentum moving along. Other than that we have had a few other ministries come online like, men's ministry, women's ministry, and a prayer ministry. Furthermore, our children's and youth ministries have grown and are starting to become more organized and developed. These ministries are still in their infancy but go a long way to compliment the already established ministries like our WMU, Keenager senior ministry, and food pantry. It has been amazing to watch God fulfill our prayers as he continues to rebuild this church. Please keep us in your prayers as we continue the work God has given us to do in this very challenging area.



TEACHER: Donald, what is the chemical formula for water?

DONALD: H I J K L M N O.

TEACHER: What are you talking about?

DONALD: Yesterday you said it's H to O.

### THE MOOD RING

MY HUSBAND BOUGHT ME A MOOD RING THE OTHER DAY. WHEN I'M IN A GOOD MOOD IT TURNS GREEN. WHEN I'M IN A BAD MOOD, IT LEAVES A RED MARK ON HIS FOREHEAD.

### SUPPORT A FAMILY

THE PROSPECTIVE FATHER-IN-LAW ASKED, "YOUNG MAN, CAN YOU SUPPORT A FAMILY?"

THE SURPRISED GROOM-TO-BE REPLIED, "WELL, NO. I WAS JUST PLANNING TO SUPPORT YOUR DAUGHTER. THE REST OF YOU WILL HAVE TO FEND FOR YOURSELVES."

### SENIOR DRIVING

As a senior citizen was driving down the freeway, his car phone rang. Answering, he heard his wife's voice urgently warning him, 'Herman, I just heard on the news that there's a car going the wrong way on Interstate 77. Please be careful!' 'Heck,' said Herman, 'It's not just one car. It's hundreds of them!'

## Biblical Treasure Answer

May

Came Marching Home ~ Johnny ~ John

Score After Love ~ Tennis, 15

Diners at Last ~ Last supper Diners, 13 (I know debatable)

John 15:13 ~ Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.

Following a week of Vacation Bible School, the First Baptist Church of Tijeras will be hosting a "Family Fun Day" on Saturday, June 6th from 10:00 - 4:00pm at the site of it's future home. While the event will not be held at the current church location, those planning to attend are being told to simply follow the signs to it's future home site by the cement plant. The "Fun Day," which is free of charge, will include hot dogs, hamburgers, fun, games and music. For more information contact the Church at 281- 3342.



# IRON SHARPENS IRON *cont. from page 2*

continued to have faith and trust in God. When the Pharaoh need him to interpret a dream Joseph did it. The Pharaoh was so pleased that he made him ruler over Egypt. Years later Joseph's brothers came to Egypt to buy grain. Joseph could have been hateful and had his brothers enslaved for the rest of their lives.



Instead Joseph looked at the whole event as a blessing and plan from God. In Genesis 50:20 Joseph says "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives".

I know that there are times that it feels like the world will crush you with all of the bad things, no job, high prices, bad economy, etc. Just remember, God is molding you. Just like iron, you need to be brought to a very high temperature to be molded just the way God has planned. In the process you will also be helping others. Always

keep in mind, "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another." Proverbs 27:17

## LIFE IN THE 1500'S-

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children. Last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying, Don't throw the baby out with the Bath water...

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the saying, Dirt poor. The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they added more thresh until, when you opened the door, it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entranceway. Hence the saying a thresh hold.

# Biblical Treasure

The following are clues to a bible verse. (book, chapter, verse)

Solve the clues to find the verse:

150 Songs

New Books

All major North / South I's end with me

If you have some church type items for donations; want to advertise a church position; or have something that the Association would benefit from, then let us know and we may be able to put it in the newsletter. We usually are able to place items within 1 or 2 weeks. As a result of advertising in the Central Connection several positions have been filled. What really is a great deal, is the low cost to advertise. For any advertisements, the cost to have it published is \$0.00, free, nada, ziltch, nothing. All it takes is for you to let us know.



Be sure to visit our website for back issues of the Central Connection. While your there check out our Resourcing Page. We have valuable links to helpful items. We also have a list of study series available for check out.

WWW.CBANM.ORG

