

Financial Problems?

Finances seem to be a continual problem for most of Salem's publications and organizations - and The Salemite is no exception. At a recent Publications Board meeting it was decided that The Salemite should only print three issues this semester. Because of the reduced funds from SGA these three issues are all that we can afford. It is discouraging to me that the funds given to The Salemite from SGA this year were considerably less than the funds received last year. Prices certainly have not dropped - our printing costs have actually risen since last year.

Obviously the financial problems of Salem's organizations and publications will not be easily solved. The student body and SGA must take a closer look at where our priorities lie. Responsible decisions must be made on the allocation of available funds. I feel The Salemite is an important part of this college and that our problems deserve more attention. I urge anyone interested in business to join The Salemite staff and help us with our fund raising projects. We need student participation and support.

Stephanie Vance

CAC Proposal

I commend the students who voted against the CAC (Campus Activities Council) proposal at Tuesday's SGA meeting. But it is discomfoting to realize that if the two-third majority vote had not passed the proposal would have.

Obviously our SGA is not flawless. The fact that our constitution is ambiguous on what is necessary to pass constitutional amendments proves that it needs to be examined closely. And yes, I agree that Big Four, SAC, and April Arts need to be examined and possibly restructured, but I do not believe that consolidating their activities under the umbrella of CAC is the solution.

As I understand the CAC proposal, combining Salem's social activities into one organization was supposed to increase student participation in the planning of dances, mixers, and other activities. Improved communication was another advantage which I heard supporters of the proposal bellow at SGA meetings. More people would officially be involved in the planning of our social activities if CAC had passed. But more people does not necessarily mean more participation or increased communication.

I offer as my proof the example of Publications Board. Pub. Board's constitution was amended last spring to involve more people: a student representative from each class and four at-large faculty members. All done in hopes of improving communication between the publications, students and the faculty and also to increase participation on the publications. As the recently resigned 1982-83 Pub. Board Chairman, I do not believe the changes have accomplished their goals. More people on the board has simply meant it is that much harder to get a quorum present in order to conduct any business. The attendance policy also amended last spring has not decreased absenteeism of board members.

I applaud President Watson and Legislative Board's recent action in examining campus clubs and recommending that the defunct ones be allowed to die. I hope that they continue to examine campus social activities - the Big Four, SAC, and April Arts issue - and that a better solution and more workable one than CAC is found for improving those organizations function.

Teri L. Capshaw

The Salemite

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The Oracle

by James Bray,
Professor of
Education

The purpose of "The Oracle" is to involve faculty and administration in expressing their views about pertinent issues concerning students and today's world, around or beyond the square. This week, James Bray, professor of education, addresses the changes at Salem in the past twenty-five years.

It hardly seems possible that I have been here at Salem College for twenty-five years. I was not aware that the years would slip by so quickly. They have.

Actually, the years of my tenure have taught me much here. I am, for example, much more respectful of a sense of history now that I have become a part of it in serving five presidents and five deans. The heritage and history of the Moravian Church is much more important to me now than it was two decades and five years ago.

Not all the changes that have come about these past years have been good ones. I miss the "good ole' days" when there were closer relationships between faculty, students, and administration. Salaries were low (I began at \$4,000 per annum) and yet I felt the oldtimers on the faculty gave me every opportunity of becoming a teacher. They helped me even when they disagreed with me. I shall always be in their debt for that. And if my Yankee colleagues of today will forgive me, I must confess the college had a more southern flavor than it enjoys today.

I often pass students on campus today who look to the top of trees to ignore my greeting of a "hello" or a "hi". We should have a campus tradition that we each should speak to the other even if we met six times in a day.

I do not mean to imply that yesterday was better than today. There are many facets of today's Salem College that are far better than years in the past. I have reached that stage where I am now teaching daughters of young women I taught in the late 1950's and early 1960's. And while I am old enough to be the present students' father, I think it is easier now to be their friend and teacher than it was with their mothers.

All in all it has been a wonderful twenty-five years for me. I would not have taken anything for it. And since I do not plan to retire any time soon, I look forward with delight to the future. Salem is and will be what all of it in the community wish it to become. We all have a chance to make our own contributions in many ways to that future.

Twenty-five years! I wish to heaven it would be possible for me to be here another twenty-five years.



Salem's Lighter Side

by P.O. Box

There is a ritual that most of us engage in daily here at Salem - the pilgrimage to the post office. It seldom matters what is actually in one's box - the fact that you checked it is what counts. Many feel somewhat guilty if they go the route empty-handed, so you will usually see a fellow student toting something with her as she walks to the PO.

A day at Salem is not complete until we have heard the Church bell chime and gone to the post office. One we have no control over, the other controls us. A student may be late to class, dinner, or the "Guiding Light", but a simple "I was checking my box" is considered a sufficient excuse. Phil, the Postman, says he puts mail out twice a day, consequently causing some fanatics to

A day can be made or shot by looking in your very own post office box. Looking and seeing nothing produces the psychological affect of a door being slammed in your face. Having the phone bill or bank statement is the second worst feeling you can get. Letters always make you happy, but getting one from your father which says you have 4 parking tickets to pay is not nearly as joyful as receiving a newsy letter from an old friend. Some students subscribe to magazines in order to insure a periodic cleaning out of the cobwebs: Time, Newsweek, People, and Modern Bride are all good for filling the box on occasion. It will be a cold day in June when I subscribe to Modern Bride to fill my box, but for some, the pretty magazine

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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,
All students, especially sophomores and seniors who are contemplating a career choice or graduate program are encouraged to attend a Graduate - Career Panel Discussion on February 27, at 4:00 p.m., in Bitting Reception Room.

Former graduates from Salem will be speaking about how they chose their career or graduate program, how Salem helped them in making their decision and other important issues to consider when making choices about long term goals.

Please come and listen to the speakers! Sincerely,
Arete

Wanted: Pen Pals

Dear Editor,

I am an inmate at Clinton Correctional Facility incarcerated for a number of years now and I have been untouched by intelligent societal contact for just as long.

Due to my situation, those that I have known best and loved most have continued to pursue their own lives without further thought of a friend who once shared many happy and enlightening moments with them, making my existence here lonely and completely meaningless.

In order to attempt to remedy my predicament, I have directed this letter to your attention in the hopes that you would be kind enough to publish it so I might have the chance to correspond with an open-minded individual from your institution.

At this time I personally don't know what else to say. I could list my age, hobbies and special interests, but I can not see what my interests would have in association with a human heart responding to the intense loneliness that lingers within my heart.

I truly hope that there is someone who could perhaps find the time to lend a hand to help keep a mind from falling into a perpetual abyss which fosters antisocial behavior.

Very truly yours,
Frederick W. Steiner, Jr.
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The Salemite welcomes all Letters to the Editor. Names may be withheld from publication at the request of the author(s) if cause to do so is evident, but will be disclosed upon individual inquiry. Letters must not exceed 300 words in length. The Salemite reserves the right to edit any letters for length, clarity, or those which are libelous or clearly in poor taste. Letters may be left in the 'Letter to the Editor' boxes in Main Hall or the Refectory, or they may be submitted to Stephanie Vance, 208 Gramley.