

7-10-15

ATTACHMENT TO FOOTNOTES OF A WORLD WAR II GI

Inspiring words from a nurse friend of mine gave me the exciting inspiration to write this Attachment to my anthology "Footnotes of a World War II GI".

At first I thought the anthology of my WWII stories would not be interesting to current readers because the essays explained only the part that combat engineers contributed to the war effort such as hasty Bailey bridge builders and pontoon bridge erectors, mine field clearing operations, repairs and construction of bombed road culverts, etc; and then functioning as infantry when infantry losses occur.

The nurse friend explained to me that war stories do not need to describe horrible and unpleasant activities; actually the stories could describe exciting events surrounding compassionate and caring expressions toward fellow humans, whether friends or enemies, all children of God, the spiritual landscape. God must have moved and driven me. I decided to show my stories to others hoping they, the readers, will see them in this manner:

Note that a review of the story titles in the table of contents on page 2 of 'Footnotes' may issue forth a hint of the spiritual content that might be read into the titles.

Periodically, I receive a small informative booklet, 5 ½ in. by 8 ½ in. of approximately 24 pages. It's called by the title "Bulletin", and is published by a priory of Benedictine monks of the Roman Catholic Church.

This issue of the "Bulletin" is dated Spring/Summer 2013.

Among several interesting articles in the Bulletin is one that is titled "Living Waters", written by a Brother Michael.

Appropriately, an opening statement by well-known Thomas Merton reads as follows: "Love makes us give ourselves as much as possible to our friends."

I would like to write here a portion of the article "Living Waters" because it expresses favorably what I tried to say in my 'Footnotes'.

The copied portion of "Living Waters" I refer to, follows:

"When we love each other, it is like drinking Living Water from a deep well. The source of water is unseen but that one glass of cool water tastes so good. So it is with all authentic sources and authentic persons. We are not simply connected throughout factual knowledge or our limited personal experiences. We are connected as the well is to the ocean. We are connected by Spirit. In this we rejoice in our authentic being."

Ed Saraniero

May 24, 2014

Lest We Forget

- By the late Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen:

“God Love You”

- By the late Maryknoll missionary Father James Keller, M.M.:

“It is better to light one candle than to curse the darkness”

- From my college notes:

“Ora et Labora”

“Religio, Mores et Cultura”

Away back when in time?

And when the blessed dawn brought daylight to the blushing skies,
you woke and not reluctant to joyous labors did you rise.

But, full of hope and glad and gay, you welcomed the returning day.

Count that day lost whose low descending sun
finds nothing accomplished and nothing done.

Lest we forget:

St. Benedict, OSB

St. Therese de Lesieux, OCD

St. Scholastica, OSB

St. Lucy

St. Thomas Aquinas, OP

St. John Vianney

St. Martin de Porres, OP

St. Philip Neri

St. Monica

St. John the Baptist

St. Augustine

St. John Baptiste de LaSalle

Father Paul Sakavich of St. Francis de Sales Church, Bennington invested me in
Lay Oblates of St. Benedict, OSB on 8/20/1992.

Ed Saraniero

May 24, 2014