

HOW DO I GET TO BEACON STREET?

You may ask, "How do I get Beacon Street to perform for my group, school, or parish? Who do I talk to? How does Beacon Street plan a performance? What can I expect?"

These are only a few of the many questions with which people like you bombard BS everywhere we go. Though we are tempted to ignore you and hope you will leave us alone, we decided that - in the interests of community relations and all that rubbish - we would spend a few paragraphs trying to give you an answer instead.

The whole process starts when you decide you might like to have Beacon Street perform for your group, school, or parish. Congratulations, you've made a good decision. Now you call 252-5650 to get in touch with our ever-vigilant if occasionally cranky Office Manager Jim Pipik. He dutifully takes down all the pertinent information and presents it to the members of Beacon Street at our next staff meeting.

Staff meetings usually consist of dinner, agenda setting, calendar checking, snacks, program

designing, after dinner mints, rehearsal, and then usually another dinner or two. Here Jean, Bob, Kim, Maria, and Steve discuss what is needed for a particular show, who is available, who will take responsibility for planning the program, and who will be preparing dinner for the next meeting.

Shortly thereafter Jim gets back in touch with you and finalizes the arrangements. Contracts are signed, speeches are made, champagne is poured and all is well.

About a week before the performance one of the staff calls you again to make sure that everything is going according to plan and that there are no last minute surprises, as well as to let you know that we haven't forgotten you.

Finally, BS arrives, puts on a wonderful program, and is cheered madly. You garner great praise from everyone in your group, school, or parish for having the bright idea to bring BS there in the first place. It's fun, it's easy, and it's relatively painless.

Now, aren't you glad you asked?

WHO ARTED?

by Steve Rico

The fine art of communication—Jean and I saw it in action as Beacon Street put on a retreat for the sophomores at Beaumont School for Girls early this spring.

As many of you know, we at BS are generally in awe of God's creation and spend a considerable amount of time simply reminding people of who they are in light of this. The young women of Beaumont responded.

Jean facilitated a discussion that evoked how the students thought of themselves as a class, the problems that they faced, and what their hopes were for the future. Issues such as race, prejudice, and cliques were addressed openly and honestly. These issues arise in many schools as well as throughout most of society as a whole. This class distinguished itself in the manner in which the students participated in the discussion, in their hopeful vision for the future, and in their resolve to work together towards that vision.

Thank you, ladies. Let's work on that future together! With God's help, may it be so.

Among the many beautifully rendered thank you notes we received after the retreat was this incredibly lifelike sketch (right) of Jean and me drawn by sophomore Karen Leach. Although we cannot reproduce it here in full color, those of you who know us can see that the talented Ms. Leach really captured us on paper. Thanks, Karen!

