

THINKING THOUGHTS WHILE GOING FORWARDIAN

What Can't You Do?

*Paul Adam Smeltz
Publisher*

As you may have noticed, we have made a great many changes in the way we have presented our magazine to our readers since it first began. Our first publication primarily followed the traditional approach of raising capital in order to come out in print. However, since our funds were limited and were only able to print a finite number of copies, we presented them online so others would be able to enjoy the work we offered.

As we prepared for the second issue, we had a similar plan to present "Forwardian" in print and online for the same reasons. However, the economy encouraged us to think differently and we decided to publish the magazine exclusively online. This approach proved to free us from many of the limitations one finds while seeking to present periodical in a printed format. We are now free to present images in their original colors and not in Black and White version which would have made it more inexpensive to print. We are able to present more work in each issue as the cost of printing each page is now eliminated. Also, we are no longer bound to the concept of presenting the magazine's pages in multitudes of four in order to meet the technical needs of a printer. We can now publish our contributor's work utilizing as many pages we need to do so.

While I remain hopeful that one day we will be able to present a printed version of the magazine so those of us who enjoy reading our publication in the traditional way can do so, it was through our inability to follow this originally route which led us to publish "Forwardian" with a great deal fewer limitations. This has led me to contemplate all of the things I imagined throughout my life I would do only to discover I was unable to realize them for one reason or another. Sometime this realization led me to simply give up in

despair while other times I encountered an opportunity to do something unexpected which led to a more satisfying experience. Experiences in which I would have never encountered if I had followed my original plan.

As many of you know, my association with The Forwardian Arts Society has afforded me the ability to partake of many art related adventures. You may also know I've experienced these excursions in spite of being without a steady income for several years and not having a car. The Forwardian Arts Society has also been able to presents festivals, film nights, art exhibitions, this magazine, and others contributions to the creative community without a great deal of funds. In fact, whenever someone asks me what The Forwardian Arts Society budget is, I jokingly respond we have what I refer to as "The Magic Jack Budget" since we operate at \$19.95 a year (if that). I and others are often amazed by how we're able to do so much with the little funding we have. But, I also wonder if we're able to do so much because our funding is what it is.

There are also a host of circumstances in my personal life in which a perceived lack of resources had led me to much better experience than I would have had if a perceived abundance I desired would have been available to me. Contemplating these experiences and how they came about offered me a conclusion that I was able to do more things without a desired resource then I was able to with it. It may be the things we think we need to go forward in our lives may be the things that actually keep us from doing so.

In her book titled, "In The Spirit," Susan L. Taylor asks, "*How would you live if you felt you could trust life fully? If you believed you were totally protected and secure; that forever more your life will be filled with love and prosperity....*" This question not only suggests we can live our lives fully if we had the faith that we can, but also suggests we already have the

abundance we need to do so. Our society has given us clearly defined conditions to what constitutes abundance and as a result we experience feelings of failure every time our bank accounts (if we have one) or the money in our possession falls below a certain level. We come to believe we're not only lacking in the funds we need to obtain what we need by but we are also lacking as people because we don't have enough to be of value to a society that determines our worth.

We forget the society we find ourselves in does not have the final word on what makes us worthwhile human beings and its definition of abundance is not the definitive one. There is a greater, more profane realization to what abundance is and each man, woman, and child are inheritors of it. It is our birthright and the source of all we dream to do. Even in these challenging times, we can access this abundance and enjoy its fruits if only we allow ourselves to pursue its limitless supply. It is said the problem of mankind isn't pursuing a lofty goal and not achieving it. It's pursuing a mundane one as achieving it.

When we allow ourselves to pursue our dreams, we begin to envision a life transcending the one we presently find ourselves. It is then we are able to partake the abundance we have at our disposal and begin to strive toward what we envision to become a reality. It may or may not happen quickly, but it does happen. It is then we no longer become concerned about being one of the 99% or even the 1%. We become fulfilled at 100%. Then, what can't you do?

**Thank you for reading this
section of our magazine.**

**Please feel free to read more at:
www.theforwardianartsociety.com/Forwardian-3-Contents.html**