

Columbia Union Visitor

November 15, 1992

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ABC holiday special issue

The snow of Christmas

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THIS
IS
WHAT I
HEARD

RON M. WISBEY
President
Columbia Union Conference

Recently my wife and I spent Friday evening and Sabbath morning with student leaders from the nine senior academies in the Columbia Union. This annual September conference allows campus leaders to interact and plan for spiritual and other activities within the student organizations they represent.

Dr. Richard Osborn, vice president of education for the union, arranged for me to have Sabbath lunch with several delegates from each academy. This was a time for me to listen! The young people around the table were dynamic young Christians who have a burden for their fellow students, their families and their church.

One senior said, "When we have a problem or a question, we are told to pray and read the Bible and God will give us the answer." She then suggested that what she and her peers were looking for were flesh and blood mentors who would "show" and also "tell" of victorious living in today's spiritual realities.

The other students told of parents who nurtured them spiritually and those who did not. Most said that family worship is not being practiced in their homes. They talked of faculty members at their schools who are uncomfortable talking to them about spiritual matters.

These young people were not being negative. They were simply expressing frustration that their spiritual journey was at times not as full as it might be. They desired spiritual mentoring/answers from older, experienced fellow Christians who were farther along on their spiritual journey.

Obviously, they had much more to say, but I went away with the above comments ringing in my ears. And what I truly heard them say in essence was: "We need and want to talk about our spiritual life. We need answers that are real and will give us the spiritual backbone needed to traverse the difficult landscape of being a young Christian in 1992."

These young people from our homes and churches want to know of Jesus by observing you and me as we go about our daily lives. They want to be shown by example how He is central to us and that we have accepted His saving love!

COVER: Twelve-year-old Renee Purdy of the Mount Vernon, Ohio, Free Spirits club was one of 1,670 Pathfinders who came to the Discovery Camporee at the Laurel Lake Camp in Rossiter, Pennsylvania, October 8-11. *Visitor* Editor Dick Duerksen provided this issue's cover photograph.

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VISION 2000

Because Jesus Christ is both our Lord and our Saviour:

- The local church will be the central focus and the driving force of the denomination.
- The joy and celebration of worship will attract people to our churches, allowing the Sabbath to become a major evangelistic tool.
- Church fellowship will be so vibrant that retention of members will improve and conflicts over lifestyle issues will decrease.

Fairs draw healthy response

A trio of two-day health fairs sponsored this past summer by members from the Burlington-Mount Holly district in the New Jersey Conference gave 400 people a chance to learn about the health message of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The fairs, which were held during three consecutive weeks in the cities of Burlington, Mount Holly and Willingboro, were directed by Adventist surgeon Vernon Daly. Volunteers who helped put on the fairs included not only members of several area congregations, but also non-Adventists from a variety of health-related organizations.

Each fair included screenings for blood pressure, cholesterol and diabetes, as well as eye examinations and medical counseling from volunteer physicians. Several participants learned through the screenings that they had serious health problems. These people were referred to agencies where they can receive help.

After the screenings, everyone was invited to visit booths set up by the many participating organizations. Some of these booths dealt with women's health, dental hygiene, sickle cell anemia and mental illness. In this section of the fair, Adventist members provided nutrition education and computerized lifestyle assessments. Many copies of *The Ministry of Healing* by Ellen White were given out.

The response to these mid-week events was extremely positive. The mayors and other leaders from several communities attended and expressed their gratitude to those who put on the fairs.

And many people requested further information on upcoming programs by the Burlington and Mount Holly churches. They also expressed interest in future classes on vegetarian cooking, stress reduction, family life enrichment and ways to stop smoking.—RH

FACE TO FACE: Profiles of newly baptized people



Alexandre Herback, Jersey City Heights, New Jersey. Having wandered from God for about three years, Alexandre chose to "come back home" through baptism in May of 1992.



Lucy Herback, Jersey City Heights, New Jersey. Pastor Robson DeOliveira baptized Lucy in May of 1992. He also performed her wedding to Alexandre Herback just one week later.



Brian Keener, York, Pennsylvania. Brian was one of 13 people who studied the Bible extensively with Pastor Joe McCoy and was then baptized into the Adventist church in May of 1992.



Samuel Masih, Arlington, Potomac. A senior at Woodrow Wilson High School in Washington, D.C., Samuel was baptized in August of 1992 with his sister by Pastor Keith McNabb.



Esther Masih, Arlington, Potomac. August of 1992 was when Esther, a sophomore at a high school in Washington, D.C., was baptized with her older brother, Samuel, by Pastor Keith McNabb.



Phyllis Jeffers, Moorefield, Mountain View. After reading a copy of *The Great Controversy*, Phyllis and her husband, Howard, were baptized by Pastor Tim Bailey in May of 1992.



Howard Jeffers, Moorefield, Mountain View. Howard and wife Phyllis searched for a Sabbath-keeping church after reading *The Great Controversy*. They were baptized in May of 1992.



the Gifts of the Star

DICK DUERKSEN

This gift from Caesar Augustus is going to make us rich! His 'Go-home' tax is bringing travelers to Bethlehem from all across Canaan. And each family is eager to take home a memory of their ancient city.

Mom's wool yarn is going at peak prices. Everyone wants the wool tufts our young Mary has twisted into 'David's Bethlehem lambs.' Mutton is selling at 10 omers for a shekel and the sheepskin cloaks are all gone. We're richer than we ever dreamed of becoming! All because of Caesar Augustus."

The craggy shepherd leaned back into a leather chair which barely supported his gaunt frame. His smile was wide, far wider than when he had first heard of the Roman emperor's new taxing scheme. But, like many of his fellow shepherds, he had learned how to make the best of any situation. Life was hard on the Bethlehem hills and you had to walk through any opening God provided.

The income from this month's herd of tax-payers would buy three sharp

knives, a new camel-skin tent and enough dried fish for the winter. Yes, this truly was a gift from Caesar, and from God.

Benoni called from just outside the dusty leather tent.

"Father, there is something wrong with the sheep. Even old Sheba seems nervous. You know how all the other ewes always follow her? Well, tonight she's leading them in circles and acting afraid of the sky itself."

"Well, help me get up and I'll come take a look." The old shepherd's chuckle seemed to warm the cool night air. Benoni came, gleefully playing the tugging game he and father had enjoyed for years. He pulled, yanked and grunted while father rose majestically from his seat on the leather chair.

The two of them, tiny shepherd and giant father, strode hand-in-hand into the sheep-filled meadow. Mary and Mother followed closely behind.

It was even worse than Benoni had described. Sheba, the ancient black ewe who reigned as queen of the flock, was walking in unsteady circles and shying away from unseen enemies in the sky. Yet there were no eagles, there were no clouds and even the howls of the wolves were silent tonight.

The shepherds scratched their chins and wondered.

"Father, I'm scared. There's something out there tonight. Stay with me." Father squeezed Benoni's hand and pulled the young boy close.

"Maybe it's the star. Look, it's just above the trees." Benoni's eyes followed his father's gaze toward the horizon, to where the strange blue star hovered above the hill.

"The sheep haven't slept well since the star came." Benoni cuddled closer into father's protection. "Do you think it's evil?"

"I don't know son, but I am worried. So many strange things are happening. The emperor chasing people all over the world, people traveling day and night, people spending too much

money, Herod's soldiers on all the roads, a new star in the night sky, sheep afraid of the dark. I don't know."

"Something is stirring above the hills of David. It is as if the enemy is gathering for a great battle..." Father's voice faded off into the shuffling of hooves. When he spoke again there was a gravelly amazement in his words.

"Why today I even saw a little girl near the inn, no older than our Mary, riding like a queen on the back of a dirty donkey. Benoni, she was pregnant! And just a child!"

"Father?" The boy's question hung beside the star. "Father, is the star going to destroy our world?"

Suddenly, the sheep stopped pacing. The meadow air turned brittle, as if an electric storm was about to strike. Both Mary and Mom moved closer beside their men.

Then the star spoke.

The sound flashed toward them on strobes of luminescent light. Oranges, yellows, blues, greens and magentas rushed across the hillside bringing voices more beautiful than imagination can create.

All of the amazement, all of the worry, all of the wrinkles, all of the fear, **all** was overwhelmed and flung aside by the lights and sounds of the star.

Forever they stood, absorbing all they could of the glory and peace which warmed their souls and filled their hearts with hope.

When it was over, each remembered something different. It was as if the star brought a personalized message to each of them.

For Mother it was the music, sung as if by angelic voices, shimmering in notes "too beautiful for heaven itself."

For Benoni it was lights and colors and crashings and trumpets and sheep that seemed to dance in the joy of it all.

For Mary it was the promise of a new baby, a swaddled child awaiting adoration.

For the weathered shepherd it was a word. "Peace," the star had said. "Peace for all men."

The gifts of Caesar Augustus were as nothing to the gifts of the star.

Dick Duerksen is editor of the Visitor. Photo by Duerksen. Effects rendered in Adobe Photoshop on a Macintosh Quadra 950 by Reger Smith Jr.

Leland celebrates 50 years of service

LYNELLE QUINNAM SMITH



such as co-founder and former Administrator Lawrence Malin and former Administrator Howard Porter, who was also present on opening day as a graduate nurse.

The highlight of the day's activities, which centered around a 1940s theme, was a "program of celebration" featuring hospital officials and local political leaders. Bryan Breckenridge, chairman of Leland Memorial Hospital's board of directors and president of Adventist HealthCare Mid-Atlantic Corporation, welcomed the audience by stating that "It is a pleasure to serve this community."

Resolutions of congratulations were offered on behalf of Washington Adventist Hospital in nearby Takoma Park, Maryland, the state Senate and the Prince George's County state delegation. County Executive Parris Glendening personally presented a proclamation commending "the Malin brothers and all others who have, over the last 50 years, contributed to the success of this institution," which has treated nearly 136,000 in-house patients since its opening and thousands more per year on an outpatient basis.

Ted Lewis, Leland's chief operating officer, explained that a significant investment has been made by Adventist HealthCare Mid-Atlantic during the past two years to extensively renovate the hospital, purchase new equipment and upgrade services.

Because of such health-care environmental factors as Leland's size, however, the hospital is still losing money and must overcome numerous challenges in order to become financially self-sufficient.

Lewis noted that Leland now has one of the lowest mortality rates of any hospital in Prince George's County and that he is "proud of the quality of care and services available at the hospital." Leland's new Lifestyle Assessment Program for Seniors is "the first community hospital-based, comprehensive senior evaluation program in Maryland."

In addition, a skilled nursing unit is planned for 1993 to provide a level of care that lies between acute-care hospitalization and discharge to the community or a nursing home.

Before and after the speeches and congratulations, those in attendance enjoyed musical entertainment, an antique and classic car display, a 1940s costume contest, a talent show, health screenings, hospital tours, game booths and numerous other activities.

Leland became fully owned and operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1981. It is now a member of Adventist HealthCare Mid-Atlantic Corporation and is operated under a management contract with Washington Adventist Hospital. Ronald D. Marx serves as president of both Leland Memorial and Washington Adventist hospitals.

Like the Leland of 50 years ago, the Leland of 1992 seeks to continue the healing ministry of Jesus Christ. It provides a full range of services, including medical/surgical units, intensive care and telemetry units, 24-hour emergency services, psychiatric services, surgical services, cardiology diagnosis, radiology and laboratory services, rehabilitation services and respiratory therapy.

Lynelle Quinnam Smith is director of public relations and volunteer services at Leland Memorial Hospital, which is located in Riverdale, Maryland.



Lawrence Malin, M.D., (pictured) and his brother, the late Wendell Malin, M.D., established Leland Memorial Hospital in 1942.
Photo by Joycelyn Jones

When Leland Memorial Hospital opened its doors on September 7, 1942, the United States was entrenched in World War II. Franklin D. Roosevelt was president. Food and gasoline were rationed. The price of bread was nine cents a pound, and a new Ford could be purchased for a mere \$815.

But in Riverdale, Maryland, two brothers, physicians Lawrence and Wendell Malin, saw the fulfillment of their dream when they stepped out in faith to open Prince George's County's first hospital—58-bed Eugene Leland Memorial Hospital, now referred to simply as Leland Memorial Hospital.

On October 11, 1992, more than 50 years later, old friends and new converged on the hospital for its 50th anniversary celebration. In the crowd were some of those most intimately involved in the hospital's early days,



Above: The antique and classic car display. **Right:** Stephen Nutter, son of Dr. and Mrs. Scott Nutter, enjoyed the face painting booth. *Photos by Joycelyn Jones.*



DISCOVERY CAMPOREE

Imagine! Pennsylvania maples at their peak of brilliance. 1,670 Pathfinders, 834 counselors, 140 clubs. Two thousand flags. Uniforms flashing with emblems of achievement. Angels smiling with pleasure.

It was a good weekend. A weekend during which hundreds of Pathfinders discovered the excitement of committing their lives to God. A weekend when Simon Peter talked of his friendship with Jesus, "Who baptizes with the Holy Spirit and with **Power!**" A weekend of watching for rain, bundling up for the cold and shading eyes from the sun. A weekend of haystacks, wieners, vegetable soup, burgers, granola, more haystacks and thousands of gallons of milk!

A weekend of music, drama, preaching, testifying, storying and more music. A weekend of clowns, puppets, Indians, circuit riders, porcupines, weasels and ducks. A weekend of canoes, races, knot-tying, Bible-searches and acrobatics. A weekend of fireworks! And a long green comet that spread glory over all.

And, most of all, a weekend of discovering the joys of belonging to Jesus.

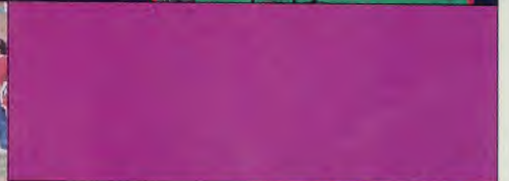
Accolades and applause go to many, too many to mention without missing the best. Our loudest cheers, however, should be reserved for the Pathfinders themselves, young women and men who again demonstrated the incomparable quality of Adventist youth.

Discovery Camporee 1992, a re-commitment to His salvation.

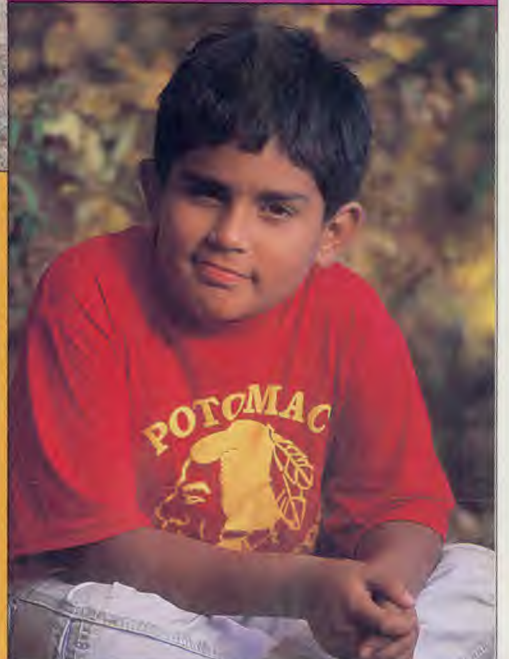


DICK DUERKSEN





Photos by
Dick Duerksen
and
Verneé Stoddart



Harris House

residents find religion

ROBERT BOOKER

Pastor Gene Donaldson baptized six people during the middle of September at the Ephesus church in East Trenton, New Jersey. The amazing thing about this baptism was that four of these persons were residents of Harris House, the result of a fantastic story of faith.

Harris House is the brainchild of Evelyn Harris, who saw a need in the community and, through prayer and fasting, sought to fulfill that need.

Evelyn is a schoolteacher, a business woman, an evangelist, a mother and a friend. She and her husband, Orville, are charter members of the Ephesus church and have played a very significant role in that congregation's fantastic growth from 15 members four years ago to 110 today.

About seven years ago, while tutoring school dropouts, Evelyn conceived the idea of a halfway house for young unwed mothers. What emerged was an enormous challenge of homelessness, drug addiction, rehabilitation of former inmates, programs for abused women and a program to feed the needy in the community. She felt something had to be done. "I prayed and asked God to help me make a difference." The Lord must have heard her prayer.

A local priest told her that she would never be successful with any type of halfway house because the neighborhood is too rough. Nevertheless, the priest used his influence in the community to help Harris House get started without Evelyn or Orville paying anything for the property.

One rule at Harris House is that each resident must attend the Bible study every night. The stories that follow are about four people who came to Harris House as losers and found Christ, who turned their lives around.

Janet is a single mother who a year ago was sleeping on a park bench with her two children. She had lost her job and, with no other means of support, was eventually evicted. The family was referred to Harris House by a social worker. There Janet found a new life and love, and best of all, she found Christ. Janet still lives at Harris House, but she plans to move out on her own again.



Orville and Evelyn Harris relax in the back yard of Harris House.

Paulette first arrived at Harris House this past winter after coming out of a drug rehabilitation program. According to Evelyn, "She was nothing but skin and bones. She was a strange one. She didn't want to hear anything about religion. But of course, religion is part of our policies here, so she had to attend the Bible study. When Paulette went to church, she sat in the back with a cap pulled down over her face and wearing a long overcoat. She did nothing but watch. Then one day she said to me, 'I want to get baptized,' and she was in September."

Debra's story is one of abuse and courage. When she refused to go to the store and buy alcohol for her mother, she was physically abused. Knowing that her mother was killing herself, Debra vowed never to buy her another drink. Her mother told her

that if she refused to buy her alcohol, she could no longer live at home. Debra made the tough choice and left with no place to go. She was discovered sleeping in a car and was

referred to Harris House. There she was able to get her life in order. She studied with "Mom and Pop Harris" and was also baptized in September.

Willie was brought to Harris House by his parole officer. According to Evelyn, Willie would fight at the drop of a hat, but when he put his mind to something he was tenacious about it. When he learned about the health message through his Bible studies, he refused to let any other tenants at Harris House cook any unclean meats in the residents' kitchen. This conviction was put to the test when a large man living at the house spent all of his money on pork chops, only to have Willie toss the meat—and the pan it was frying in—out the back door with a warning: "Mamma Harris said that Jesus doesn't want us eating pork chops, and there won't be any cooked in Harris House." Willie was proud to be baptized in September.

Even though not all the tales that come out of Harris House result in baptisms, they all are success stories. Lugo has made great strides toward focusing his life in a new direction rather than return to prison. Dave has made himself the "Sabbath Security Officer" and won't let residents violate the Sabbath by watching TV or listening to radios. And there is a fellow nicknamed "Snake" who likes to cook and never misses a Bible study.

Evelyn and her helpers, along with some Harris House residents, pass out food and bread every Sabbath afternoon. She receives so much in donations that she can't use it all. And since God is the provider, she gives it to other people in need, continuing the amazing story of faith and love that is Harris House.



Pastor Gene Donaldson prepares to baptize "Willie."

"Miss Good" is surrounded by Lugo, "Snake" and Dave. Good is an assistant to Evelyn Harris.

Robert Booker is communication director of the Allegheny East Conference.

The David G. Fleagle School in Seaford, Delaware, celebrated its 30th anniversary by hosting a double homecoming weekend September 26 and 27. They invited students of both the present school and the former Middleford Colored School, which had first occupied the facilities from 1923 to 1953. The event was open to all in the community.

The school operates in a 70-year-old two-room schoolhouse erected in 1922 by philanthropist Pierre du Pont, who, with personal funding, built more than 200 school units throughout Delaware in the early 1900s, replacing all but eight schools in the state. The school served the black students of the Middleford community for 30 years until it closed in 1953 to comply with desegregation regulations.

For 10 years after, the building was a community grange hall. And in 1963, one year after the Federalsburg church in Maryland and the Harrington church in Delaware opened the David G. Fleagle School in the Federalsburg church facilities, they purchased the building and moved the school into it.

The two-day homecoming events were celebrated under a large 40" by 60" yellow and white striped tent erected on the school playground. On Sabbath, the worship service featured a praise and education celebration. Victoria Tilghman, a former Middleford teacher, offered the invocation.



The history of the David G. Fleagle School is a unique one. Several years of research in the state archives and dozens of interviews with former students, parents, board members, friends and community folk culminated in the writing of Middleford School and David G. Fleagle School History. They may be purchased for \$5, which includes mailing for each copy. Please write to: David G. Fleagle School, Route 4, Box 703, Seaford, Delaware 19973. Gold and green souvenir ribbons worn by students from the two schools are available for \$1.

Two musical selections were presented: Heather Carroll ('80-'86) on the keyboard and the seven students of the present school with a choral number. Floyd Murdoch, education superintendent, called for the offering.

The dedication of the history book written for the occasion was made by Carolyn Scheller, present teacher, and a copy of the book was presented to George Matthews, husband of the late Catherine B. Matthews, to whom the book was dedicated.

Catherine was a student of the Middleford school. It was at a Bible study conducted by Pastor O. Kenneth Scheller at the home of Seaford church members Elmer and Mary Smith four years ago that Mrs. Scheller met George and Catherine Matthews, the Smiths' neighbors. Catherine talked about her elementary years in this school building. She visited the school in 1989 for an investiture program and it was then that the idea of celebrating two homecomings was sparked.

The Sabbath worship speaker was Pastor Gary Rust, a former David G. Fleagle School teacher and present youth director of the Oregon Conference. His message stirred the hearts of young and old, former students and friends. He challenged all to make life extraordinary, to live on the edge and to lift one's sights to higher achievements than for ourselves, but for the Lord. Live to give and to serve.

Following the worship service, many stayed by to enjoy picnic lunches on the school grounds, retrace steps of the past through the schoolhouse and visit with old friends.

The Sunday open house program featured a recognition of students and teachers of the two schools. A reading of the school building history was given by Timothy Coleman, a Fleagle sixth-grader. Robert Taggart, professor of educational studies at the University of Delaware in Newark, paid tribute to Pierre du Pont.

Gary Rust spoke on his years at Fleagle, reminiscing on first impressions and final conclusions about small

Fleagle school marks 30th anniversary

CAROLYN SCHELLER



Christian schools. Education is more than studies, equipment, sports and technology. It is an experience one has learning about his world with God at his side. It is a vision captured of infinite future yet to come. It is what helps prepare one for eternity.

The concluding prayer and dedication were offered by Frieda Hoffer, associate director of education for the Columbia Union Conference.

The weekend celebration culminated with a reception held in the schoolhouse. Community friends, students, former teachers and guests lingered long to discuss the past and present. Echoes of yesterday and promises for the future created a warm and lively atmosphere.

The homecoming celebration provided a unique opportunity for the Seaford, Harrington and Federalsburg churches to reach out to the community and former students.

Carolyn Scheller is the teacher at the David G. Fleagle School in Seaford, Delaware.

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Misunderstandings—every marriage is full of them. But what happens when they are permitted to grow unchecked? What then? We all know the answer, another divorce.

As I looked out at the snow and ice on the river, and heard the cold wind shriek as it savaged the trees, there was born the story of a great love destroyed by a quarrel.

John, Cathy, and Julie—and then there were only two.

THREE doors he had slammed on her: the bedroom, the front, and the car. What started it all, he really couldn't say; it was just one of those misunderstandings that grow into quarrels. In a matter of minutes he had unraveled a relationship that had taken years to build. His tongue, out of control, appeared to have a life of its own, divorced as it was from his accusing mind and withdrawing heart.

"Catherine . . . It's all been a big mistake . . . you and me. I've tried and tried—Heaven knows I've tried—but it just won't work. You're . . . you're wrong for me . . . and I'm wrong for you."

"John!"

continued on page 22

Joe Lawrence Wheeler

The Snow of CHRISTMAS

From *Christmas In My Heart*, a treasury of old-fashioned Christmas stories, compiled and edited by Joe Wheeler.
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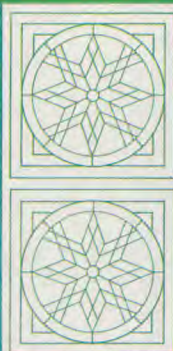
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Christmas in My Heart

A treasury of old-fashioned Christmas stories

Joe Wheeler has been collecting special Christmas stories for 30 years and treats you to the very best this holiday season. These stories are timeless in their ability to help us experience the joy, wonder, and true meaning of Christmas. Their message of unselfish love turns our thoughts to Christ, and reminds us, every time we read them, that this is really what Christmas is all about. Ideal gift. Paperback, 127 pages. US\$8.95, Cdn\$11.20.

CHRISTMAS IN MY HEART



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Church Directory

Updated in 1992, this *Church Directory* contains a current list of more than 4,500 churches with their addresses, phone numbers, and time of Sabbath services. Churches are listed alphabetically within states. Paperback, 216 pages. US\$7.95, Cdn\$9.95.

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VIRGIL ROBINSON

Cabin Boy to Advent Crusader

♦ Commemorative Edition ♦

This commemorative edition by Virgil Robinson marks the 200th anniversary of Joseph Bates's birth and tells the fascinating story of one of the most colorful pioneers of the Adventist Church. Paperback, 190 pages. US\$7.95, Cdn\$9.95.

ADVENTIST EDUCATION IN ACTION

GPJA fills the "Unicorn"

Greater Philadelphia Junior Academy anticipates a third year of active association with the Upper Merland Unicorn Project. This local agency, begun in 1981, brings Thanksgiving and Christmas boxes to deprived children who are not served under normal welfare assistance guidelines.

Walter Dunn led his fifth- and sixth-graders while they collected food for "Unicorn" during the '90-'91 school year in response to the agency's request.

"So successful was the student involvement," stated Principal Harold Greene, "that three trucking trips were necessary rather than the anticipated one."

During the '91-'92 school year, the Student Association adopted the project. Left at about 600 homes were letters that included the facts of the collection opportunity.

Seventy boxes of food required four transportation trips. "We were able to fill their food shelves beyond their needs for holiday distribution," reported Principal Greene.

Pennsylvania teachers are in a class by themselves

Nineteen teachers have an M.A. or M.A.T. degree with the proper years of teaching and the required college courses, giving them professional teacher certification.

Seventeen teachers have a college degree with the proper years of teaching and the required college courses, providing them a standard teacher certification.

Two teachers have the college degrees and required college courses, but lack the

years of teaching experience so they hold a basic teacher certification.

Four teachers having college degrees, but lacking the proper courses for certification, are taking six or more semester hours of classes each school year. They now hold conditional certification. Three of these teachers have M.A. degrees.

Forty-two elementary teachers work within Pennsylvania. Twenty of the 42 were born or lived most of their lives in Pennsylvania. The average years of teaching for these teachers is 17.4. Many of these teachers have done most of their teaching for the Pennsylvania Conference.

"Pennsylvania was at the top for certified teachers during the 1991-92 school year in the Columbia Union," reported James Stephan, conference superintendent of education. This past school year two schools had to close due to enrollment and asbestos. However, one school has been opened (Philadelphia Adventist Academy) for the Spanish in Philadelphia, and one has had to add another teacher due to an increase in enrollment.

Students want Christian action

A Community Services outreach is in operation at the Lehigh Valley school. Kalyani Prakasam, lower grades teacher, and students visit a local nursing home weekly with an "Adopted Grandparent" approach.

Lehigh Valley students also assist in an every-other-month-second-Sunday food program for homeless people in Allentown in cooperation with other concerned agencies.

Angels speak through teachers' voices

Pennsylvania elementary church school teachers met August 16-19 at Laurel Lake Camp in Rossiter for their annual pre-school opening orientation. James Stephan, superintendent of education, and Agnes Eroh, classroom supervisor, organized the retreat, which instructed, encouraged, counseled and directed those who are teaching the 597 students in the 22

Children to Jesus Christ" and "The Teachers' Relationship to their Pastors," presented by Duerksen, focused on the vital human element in the teaching profession.

Marion Hartlein, North American Division associate director of education, brought an integrated view of Adventist classroom subjects. Willard Santee, pastor of the Reading Hampden Heights church, brought three studies on practical current issues: "The Fall of America," "The Keys of this Blood" and "Rock and Roll—The Message Behind the Music."

Principals April Schander, Harold Greene and Beverly Boyer and Pennsylvania Religious Liberty Director Sheldon Seltzer also participated in the convention's presentations.



Dave Morgan, of the Mountain View school and Harold Greene of Greater Pittsburgh Junior Academy.

schools of the Pennsylvania Conference.

Richard Duerksen, Columbia Union vice president for communication, marketing and special ministries, challenged the educators on their spiritual life, so they recognize that "kids are people, too." "The Relationship of



Agnes Eroh, associate superintendent of schools, and Marion Hartlein, associate director of education.

Blue Ridge— it's more than a camp



They come from all over, black, white and brown. They are tall, skinny, short, fat; some have freckles, some have blond hair, and some have curly hair. Though all are different, all are similar. Each could tell you stories of happiness and stories of sadness; each is searching for a better understanding of life and how he or she fits into the fast-paced world of today.

No longer are young people able to be

“just kids.” Society has pushed them into being “grown up” before they are ready. Thankfully, by choice, our conference has Camp Blue Ridge, a place where some of this slowing-down process can take place, where our young people can be young people and where they can just be kids again.

You know what I mean—playing in the water, shooting arrows, making crafts or just goofing around with new friends. God did not intend for youth to slip by without the opportunity to enjoy the simple pleasures of childhood. Because of the choices our conference committee and administration have made, we have a wonderful place where our young people can go to enjoy being kids again.

Yet, more than play takes place at Camp Blue Ridge during the summer. As the young people ar-

rive, they are met by a staff that has been hand-picked for its ability to care, have fun, take responsibility and be genuine role models. The staff come committed to providing the very best time possible for each camper. All during our week of staff training, it is emphasized over and over again that we are not just providing fun but also providing an adventure of a lifetime. The adventures young people experience during camp are ones which they will cherish forever, ones which they will hopefully remember forever.

Not only do we have the opportunity to provide exciting and spirit-filled programming for our campers; but we are allowing our staff, who are mostly college students, to realize what leadership is all about and thus have the chance to develop their leadership abilities. This not only provides an excellent program at camp, but also will eventually enrich our local churches as staff members go back home.

Having remote-controlled cars, horseback riding, jet ski rides, exciting campfire programs, workshops on life issues, crafts, etc., are great; but there must be a purpose and a reason for their existence. Our goal at Camp Blue Ridge is to not just entertain young people but to also give them something that will help them in their walk of life.

As we are aware, not all young people come from homes where everything is great, safe or happy. By providing them a place where they can see a different lifestyle, learn a better understanding





of who God is and who God is not and how they can know Him better, we hopefully can provide a direction that will make a difference in each camper's life.

Every morning at staff worship before we had prayer requests, we would repeat our summer text, a passage that I chose to encourage and direct us in our mission for the summer, a text which I believe needs to be understood and lived daily. Hopefully, the staff and the young people who came to camp learned that



they are chosen by God, that He has a special place for their talents and that as they follow Him they will be guided in the direction they should go.

"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own



people, that you may declare the wonderful deeds of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were no people but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy but now you have received mercy,"—1 Peter 2:9, 10.

Camp Blue Ridge truly is a place to begin an adventure of a lifetime. If you doubt it, just ask a young person or staff member who attended last summer.

MARC ROTT

Youth Ministries Director



Touching lives and communities

Reaching Out . . .

. . .to victims of Hurricane Andrew

Ohio members quickly responded to a plea from the church ministries department of the Ohio Conference to collect specific items needed to support those affected by the devastation of Hurricane Andrew.

The truck picked up supplies at Cincinnati, Columbus, Medina and Youngstown and left Ohio only five days after the storm hit Florida. Dedicated community service leaders coordinated the collections, according to Marwood Hallett, church ministries director. The Columbus church reported that the overflow of supplies was contributed to television's Channel 4 News project, *Hurricane of Hope*. More than 300 additional boxes of clothing, nails and hammers were contributed.

. . .to local business persons

■ Perky Davis honored by area business persons

Perky Davis, a valuable leader at the Wooster church, was selected "Lay Person of the Year" by the Wooster Kiwanis Club. Davis is very active in a number of community organizations, in which she shares her expertise and talents. She owns and operates a day care center, *Perky's World of Children*, which cares for more than 200 children.



. . .to the homeless in Ohio

■ Fairfield members care for Cincinnati homeless

Members of the **Fairfield** mission church rent their meeting place from a Presbyterian church. Five different denominations, including the Fairfield congregation, minister to the homeless of Cincinnati for one week each month. The homeless are bused to the church each evening during that week. Fairfield members prepare an evening meal and supervise the group overnight, provid-

ing a place for them to sleep in the church.

■ SVA students "look a little closer"

Students delivering food and clothing to needy families in downtown Dayton in August "had an experience that will be on their minds forever," said Brennan Francois, SVA chaplain.

The group met "Spider," a drug-dealing alcoholic, who escorted them to the doors of needy families. Students prayed



for each family while leaving food. "Our only problem was there was not enough to give away," said Francois.

Students proceeded to distribute literature when food supplies ran out. Several students shared their personal testimony with a man named Edward from Kenya. To their surprise, they learned that Edward's brother is an Adventist in Kenya and Edward himself was raised an Adventist.

"We encouraged him as we sang songs



of his childhood, songs of faith, hymns of home. Prayer was offered and addresses exchanged. Some promised to be pen pals with his teenage brother in Kenya," said Francois.

■ Toledo First feeds 80 homeless each month

A group of Toledo First members prepare a large vegetarian meal one day each month and deliver and serve it at the Cherry Street Mission, a homeless shelter in Toledo. The mission provides housing for men and invites women as well to meals during the day. Other volunteer members prepare desserts for the meal.

■ Ohio Community Services directors observe homeless

Leaders experienced first hand several impressive approaches made by help organizations in the Dayton area, according to Marwood Hallett, church ministries director.

Commuting by bus, the group, numbering close to 35, received personally the meal prepared for and served to the homeless at the "House of Bread," a soup kitchen in Dayton.

Following the meal, they made their way to a shelter provided for the homeless of Dayton. This facility, operated by the Catholic Church, housed 28 women and children and 55 men. "Everywhere we went, we witnessed an unconditional outpouring of love," said Kathy Giebel of the Chillicothe church. The group visited two other organizations of the same type.

"One thing is sure: We (Adventists) need to do more," said Giebel.

. . .to boys and girls through VBS 1992



A Healing ministry

The ministry of chaplains

Chaplains in Adventist health-care institutions minister with an unconditional love that reflects God to every patient (and his or her family), visitor, physician and staff member. Striving to serve as a source of spiritual guidance and inspiration, chaplains also cooperate with other institution employees to allow spiritual, emotional and physical healing to take place.

The influence of Adventist chaplains often reaches out beyond the institution into the community, as they work with local pastors to provide the most appropriate spiritual care possible. It's a ministry of acceptance, affirmation, empowerment, sensitivity, compassion and kindness—and it's a vital part of Adventist health care today!

Hackettstown Community Hospital

Chaplain Dieter Hain of Hackettstown Community Hospital is handicapped—not by physical disability, but by circumstances.

Since there isn't a large Adventist presence in rural northwest New Jersey, there aren't a large number of Seventh-day Adventist doctors, nurses or other professionals available for hospital staffing. As a result, there aren't as many Adventists who can help Chaplain Hain share the Adventist message with patients and fellow employees. And since more than 80 percent of Hackettstown Hospital patients are in the hospital less than 12

hours, he has less time than ever to do an already difficult job.

However, he doesn't allow these handicaps to discourage him. He knows God's providence was active in the hospital's founding, and he believes miracles are yet in store. Through a multi-faceted approach, aided by dedicated employees and directed by God's Spirit, he seeks to reach receptive hearts.

The chaplain shares Scripture and prays with patients, visits with family members, makes booklets and magazines available to visitors and patients, provides sacred background music on Sabbath and Sunday, coordinates the Sunshine Singers as they cheer patients and fellow employees, presents Adventist television programs at each patient's bedside 24 hours a day through the 3ABN satellite network and more.

A letter from one of the hospital's patients—a Baptist lay leader—recently illustrated the value of the spiritual program at Hackettstown Community Hospital and all other Adventist health care facilities: "I thank God for your Three Angels television network. I will never forget early one morning around 5:00



Leland Chaplain Ben Plumb (left center) and Pastor Mario Cruz (far right) talk with hospital employees Emma Aguilar and José Pinto.

while I was a patient in the Intensive Care Unit, wondering what the future would bring. A dear lady on Channel 40 made the statement, 'Even though you are not healed, stay close to Jesus.' I will always remember that. Thank you also for the hymn singing in the halls, for the people who practice what they believe and for chaplains who have been a blessing to me in my time of trial."

Chaplain Hain promises to continue working with the Seventh-day Adventist employees at Hackettstown Hospital on their spiritual quest to share Adventist beliefs, and they appreciate their non-Adventist Christian colleagues who cooperate in introducing Jesus, the Great Physician, to those who need the healing only He can bring.

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Editorial

The challenge of a changing ministry

Change, for most people, is difficult. People are slow to accept it. Nonetheless, change is inevitable for all of us in more areas of our lives than we would like. Personal changes, family changes, community changes, social changes, cultural changes—the list is endless.



Robert L. Willett
Kettering Medical Center
President/CEO

Those of us who have watched changes in the church have revealed a spectrum of responses ranging from relief to concern, depending on how those changes impacted our own beliefs and orientation. Health care, and specifically the spiritual aspect of health care, has been affected by these changes.

Starting in the mid-19th century, health care provided by the Adventist church came in the form of sanitariums. Here long-term care was the norm, allowing the chaplain to share our faith and assume the role of an evangelist. The priority was to win patients to Jesus Christ and usher them in as well-informed members of the Adventist church.

As time went on, the sanitarium slipped into the history books, and acute-care hospitals rose to meet the needs of a changing society. As a result, patient stays went from weeks to days. Chaplains soon discovered that patients were coming and going faster than they could present the full message of salvation. The window of opportunity was growing smaller and smaller.

In the 1950s and early '60s, an approach to meeting this challenge started to emerge in a new concept of theological education. Known today as clinical pastoral education, or CPE, this approach—once mastered—allows the chaplain to minister to the “modern” patient.

Initially, CPE training took place at centers outside our denomination. This proved to be a twofold blessing: our chaplains received helpful training and were given the opportunity to become part of an interdisciplinary health-care team that provided pastoral care to patients, families and staff.

The question, “Can meaningful ministry happen in the brevity of time we now have with patients and their families?” is now answered with a resounding “Yes!” as our chaplains feel more confident in their hospital roles. This very specialized training allows the chaplain to integrate insights and skills into a growing ministry. Today several of our Adventist hospitals have successfully expanded this program to further meet the spiritual needs of patients and continue the work of the church. Kettering Medical Center is one such educational facility and has trained approximately 300 chaplains and pastors.

As same-day services loom on the horizon (they are, in many respects, already present), our chaplains once again will be challenged. What can the chaplain do or say to affect spiritual enhancement or change during such brief encounters? What can be done to show that Jesus is a Friend and Healer?

As Adventist health-care providers, the challenge is again before us. Now more than ever, it is vital that we continue to strive for ways to draw the “modern” patient to Christ.

ADVENTIST HEALTH CARE IN THE COLUMBIA UNION

Adventist HealthCare, Inc.
(Nursing and Rehabilitation Centers)
9430 Key West Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850
(301) 309-0660

Adventist Home Health Services, Inc.
10800 Lockwood Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20901
9430 Key West Avenue #205
Gaithersburg, MD 20850
(301) 681-9760

Hackettstown Community Hospital
651 Willow Grove Street
Hackettstown, NJ 07840
(908) 852-5100

Home Assistance, Inc.
10800 Lockwood Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20901
(301) 681-9602

Kettering Medical Center
3535 Southern Boulevard
Kettering, OH 45429
(513) 298-4331

Leland Memorial Hospital
4409 East-West Highway
Riverdale, MD 20737
(301) 699-2000

Reading Rehabilitation Hospital
R.D. 1, Box 250
Morgantown Road
Reading, PA 19607
(215) 777-7615

Shady Grove Adventist Hospital
9901 Medical Center Drive
Rockville, MD 20850
(301) 279-6000

**Shady Grove Adventist Nursing and
Rehabilitation Center**
9701 Medical Center Drive
Rockville, MD 20850
(301) 424-6400

**Springbrook Adventist Nursing and
Rehabilitation Center**
12325 New Hampshire Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20904
(301) 622-4600

Washington Adventist Hospital
7600 Carroll Avenue
Takoma Park, MD 20912
(301) 891-7600

**Washington Adventist Nursing and
Rehabilitation Center**
7525 Carroll Avenue
Takoma Park, MD 20912
(301) 270-4200

A Healing ministry

continued from page 17

Leland Memorial Hospital

Are health-care chaplains and local pastors discovering new ways to work together?

At Leland Memorial Hospital, Chaplain Ben Plumb and Hyattsville Adventist church Pastor Mario Cruz have teamed up to provide a special service for Hispanic employees and patients.

"Pastor Cruz is a frequent and popular speaker at Leland's chapel services," said Plumb. "He makes a real effort to address the concerns of the Hispanic members of our hospital family and often offers the opening prayer in Spanish to make them feel at home."

Cruz is always "on-call" for Hispanic employees and patients with special problems. "Chaplain Plumb serves as my liaison," said Cruz. "He lets me know when my services are needed, and I keep him informed of important events at the Spanish branch of the Hyattsville Adventist church. Together we hope to better minister to the needs of Spanish-speaking people at the hospital."

Maria (not her real name) and her husband were married in a civil service. While Maria was a patient at Leland, the couple decided that they wanted to solemnize their vows in order to make God a larger part of their lives. They were not members of a church, however, and also were experiencing difficulty piercing a language barrier. When they turned to Chaplain Plumb for suggestions, he knew just the person who could help—Pastor Cruz.

Cruz, who holds a master's degree in counseling psychology, also volunteers on 2-West, the hospital's mental health unit. "It can be intimidating to find yourself in a mental health unit if you don't understand English or if you're in a strange country," said Cruz. By providing translation services and working with Hispanic patients one-on-one and in group therapy, Cruz works to alleviate those fears.

"I'm glad that the Hyattsville church has recognized the changing face of the community," said Plumb. "This partner-

ship between Leland and our local church allows us to respond to the diverse health-care and spiritual needs of the people we both serve."

For more information on serving as a chaplain, contact the Adventist health-care organization nearest you.

News

ADVENTIST HEALTHCARE, INC.

■ Construction begun on assisted living facility

Construction has begun on a 32-unit addition to the assisted living facility at Shady Grove Adventist Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Scheduled to open in the summer of 1993, the assisted living facility will be expanded from the present 18-resident capacity to 50.

ADVENTIST HOME HEALTH SERVICES

■ AHHS chaplain helping with hurricane relief

Warren Zork, the new chaplain at Adventist Home Health Services, recently travelled to Florida to help with Hurricane Andrew relief efforts. Warren, trained as a Red Cross volunteer for disaster relief, drove a Red Cross van that was used as a feeding station.

HACKETTSTOWN COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

■ Par-course available to public
Hackettstown Community Hospital's Par-course Exercise and Fitness Trail provides employees and area residents an opportunity to avoid the expense of fitness clubs and the boredom of jogging.

The Par-course is a mile-long trail that winds through the wooded area behind the hospital. Along the trail are 20 stations with instructions for different exercises: warm-up, stretching, muscle strengthening, cardiovascular conditioning and cool-down, combined with walking, jogging and running between stations.

By using all stations, Par-course visitors will have exercised all major muscle groups and had a good cardiovascular workout by the end of the course.

KETTERING MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

■ Kettering Memorial Hospital opens exercise facility

A new employee exercise facility was the focus of a ribbon-cutting ceremony held at Kettering Memorial Hospital recently. The facility—free to KMC employees, physicians and Kettering College faculty and students—includes weight training and cardiovascular fitness equipment. Funds for the project came from the Kettering Medical Center Foundation, the Employee Annual Fund and Kettering College of Medical Arts.

■ special ceremony marks observance of college anniversary

Kettering College of Medical Arts recently held Convocation 1992, a ceremony of dedication for the upcoming school year, in the Kettering church. In addition to marking the beginning of the new school year, the program also inaugurated observance of KCMA's 25th anniversary. Community education and academic association leaders attended the service led by KCMA Provost Peter Bath, D.Min. More than 500 students were in attendance. Enrollment is limited this year to approximately 725 students.



Peter Bath (second from right), Kettering College of Medical Arts provost, chats with special guests attending the recent celebration of KCMA's 25th anniversary year. From left: Jane C. Swart, Ph.D., dean, Wright State University School of Nursing; Charles Chantell, Ph.D., director, University of Dayton Health Professional Programs; Dr. Bath; and Darnell Ward, Ph.D., United Theological Seminary.

A Healing ministry

LELAND MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

■ Employees participate in disaster relief effort for victims of Hurricane Andrew

Leland Memorial Hospital employees participated in Hurricane Andrew disaster relief efforts by donating baby-care supplies, canned goods, paper products and other items for distribution by the Salvation Army. Cash gifts also were collected and contributed to the American Red Cross.

■ Medical staff member Navin Shah featured on WUSA-TV

LMH medical staff member Navin Shah, M.D., was featured as an example of a successful foreign medical graduate when interviewed by anchor Maureen Bunyan on the television program "Studio Nine," broadcast by WUSA-TV (Channel 9 in the metropolitan Washington, D.C., area). Shah discussed the difficulties faced by foreign medical graduates who must deal with a language barrier while adapting to a new culture. Shah also has testified on this issue before the United States Congress and Senate.

READING REHABILITATION HOSPITAL

■ Workshop scheduled on traumatic head injuries

A three-day workshop, Mild/Moderate Traumatic Brain Injuries, will be presented in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, on March 31 and April 1 and 2. The workshop (co-sponsored by Reading Rehabilitation Hospital, Pennsylvania State University and Pathway School, Jeffersonville, Pennsylvania) will feature nationally known experts in head-injury rehabilitation and care.

Topics scheduled for discussion include pediatric brain injury rehabilitation; cognitive, academic and behavioral outcomes in children and adolescents after head injuries; school re-entry after head injuries; overcoming dysfunctions for vocational success; and the diagnosis and treatment of headaches in the brain injured.

The workshop, in its fourth year, is known by therapists nationwide as a comprehensive, professional presentation.

Registration information is available by calling the professional resource center of Reading Rehabilitation Hospital at (215) 775-8296.

SHADY GROVE ADVENTIST HOSPITAL

■ Shady Grove aids disaster relief

Within hours of the devastation caused by Hurricane Andrew, Shady Grove Adventist Hospital joined national relief efforts by sending a wide assortment of medical supplies, including baby diapers, formula, bandages and orthopedic goods via Andrews Air Force Base to disaster relief sites. A few days later during a hospital-wide collection drive, employees, physicians and volunteers donated requested supplies and funds for disaster victims, and a local merchant donated boxes and sealing tape to package the contributions, which were delivered to Adventist Community Services for distribution. "Like so many others in our community, our goal was to provide the most appropriate support possible to those affected by this terrible catastrophe," said Bryan Breckenridge, hospital president.

■ Shady Grove first Maryland hospital with new waste processing system

Shady Grove recently installed a new San-I-Pak waste processing system that is environmentally safe and expected to cut down the costs of medical waste disposal. The new system, the first in the state of Maryland, can process 320 pounds of medical waste per hour while simultaneously compacting general refuse. "The new system uses high vacuum steam sterilization technology to make waste safe for disposal at local approved sites," said Cory Chambers, executive vice president for operations.

■ Shady Grove Recycles

For the first six months of 1992, Shady Grove Adventist Hospital collected 11,049 pounds of recyclable materials. This amount represents a substantial reduction

in the Hospital's waste-to-landfill volume and means savings from solid waste disposal costs of approximately \$662.94!

In addition to the financial value of the program, Shade Grove conserved the equivalent of 94 trees, 38,672 gallons of water, 57,487 kilowatt hours, 331 pounds of air pollution emissions, 3,768 gallons of oil, and 18 cubic yards of landfill space (figures taken from "Your Office Paper Recycling Guide," published by the San Francisco Recycling Program and the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection).

WASHINGTON ADVENTIST HOSPITAL

■ Hospital performs laser coronary angioplasty

Washington Adventist Hospital now offers laser coronary angioplasty, a new technique for opening blocked arteries. For many patients, laser coronary angioplasty is the only alternative to coronary bypass surgery. The procedure is safer than surgery and can be performed more quickly—taking about an hour and requiring only a local anesthetic.

Ways to Wellness

Water...it's something we all use on a daily basis.

However, many of us forget to drink it! Eight glasses of water each day can not only cleanse our bodies of impurities, but it can also help our weight management by facilitating our metabolism and the fat-burning process.

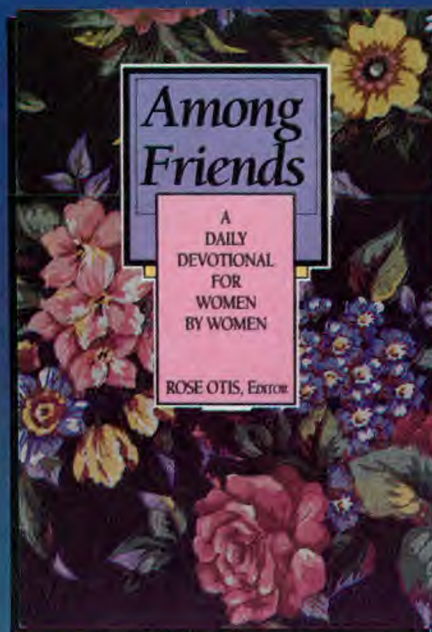
Adventist Home Health Services

1993 Devotional Books

ADULTS

Morning Praise

Enrich your life with the power and joy of praise! Each inspiring reading by Bob and Marie Spangler presents a special reason to praise God and invites you to express your thoughts of thanksgiving to Him. These devotionals also touch on all 27 fundamental SDA beliefs. Hardcover, 400 pages. US\$9.95, Cdn\$12.45.



WOMEN

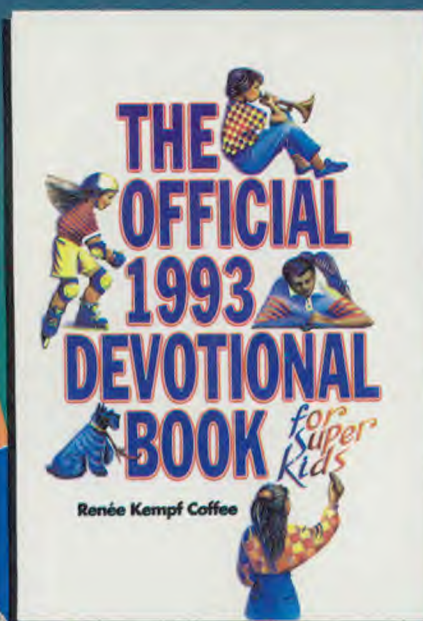
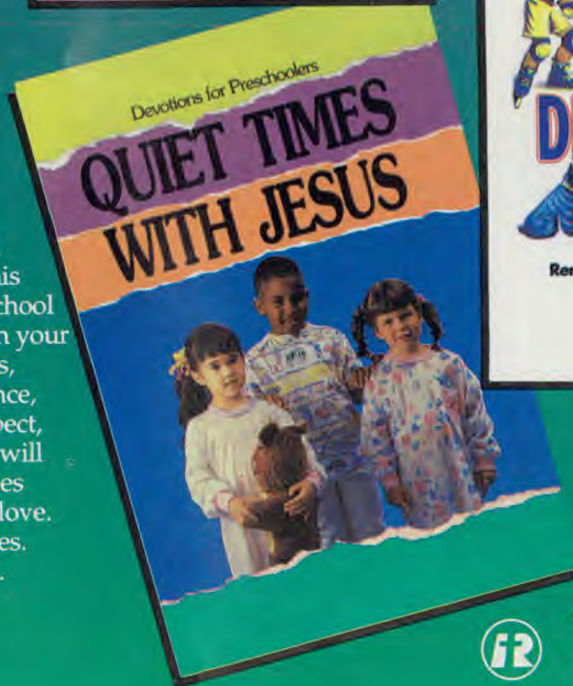
Among Friends

Written by women for women, this daily devotional draws together the wisdom and creativity of more than 170 Adventist women from around the world. Representing all walks of life, they open their hearts, speaking candidly about their problems and worries and rejoicing at evidences of God's love. Join this celebration of friendship among women who love the Lord. Hardcover with dust jacket, 432 pages. US\$14.95, Cdn\$18.70.

PRESCHOOLERS

Quiet Times With Jesus

Through stories and worship activities this multiauthored preschool devotional will teach your child about kindness, forgiveness, obedience, heaven, prayer, respect, and trust. Each day will bring new discoveries about God and His love. Hardcover, 190 pages. US\$9.95, Cdn\$12.45.



JUNIORS

The Official 1993 Devotional Book for Super Kids

Filled with intriguing stories, these junior devotionals by Renée Kempf Coffee bring kids fresh insights into

topics such as self-esteem, worry, peer pressure, salvation, friendship, heaven, and God's love. Hardcover, 377 pages. US\$9.95, Cdn\$12.45.

Add GST in Canada.



To order, call your local Adventist Book Center at
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"Christmas" continued from page 11

"Don't interrupt me. I mean it. We're through. What we thought was love, wasn't. It just wasn't . . . No sense in prolonging a dead thing. Don't worry, I'll see to it that you don't suffer financially—I'll keep making the house payments. . . And uh . . . and uh, you can keep what's in the checking and savings accounts. . . And uh, uh, don't worry, I'll send child support for Julie!"

"John!"

Almost, he came to his senses as he looked into Catherine's anguished eyes, and saw the shock and the tears. But his pride was at stake, ignoring the wounded appeal of those azure eyes, he had stormed out, his leaving punctuated by the three slammed doors.

Three weeks later, here he was, pacing a lonely motel room 3,000 miles from home. Home? He had no home. He had only his job—a very good one—and his Mercedes. That was all.

Unable to face the prosecuting attorney of his mind, he turned on the TV, but that didn't help much. There were Christmas-related commercials or programs on every channel—one of these ads featured a golden-haired little girl who reminded him far too much of Julie.

He remembered Julie's wide-eyed anticipation of every Christmas. The presents under the tree that she'd surreptitiously pick up and evaluate by weight and size and sound, and the finesse with



which she unwrapped and rewrapped them . . . he found it hard to be stern with her for did not Catherine too unwrap them on the sly? It seemed that Catherine had been constitutionally unable to wait until Christmas should reveal what hid within gaily-wrapped packages bearing her name, so poor Julie came about this affliction naturally.

Again, he switched channels. Wouldn't you know it—yet another Christmas special. Had to be Perry Como . . . Still at it. Why, the Christmas special advertised as Como's farewell performance was a number of years back—in fact, he and Catherine heard it the Christmas season of Julie's birth . . . Como no longer had the range, but his middle

tones still carried him through.

Oh no! Not "I'll Be Home for Christmas" . . . "you can plan on me . . ." On the wings of Como's voice he soared backward in time, all the way back to his own childhood.

Was it his seventh Christmas, or his eighth? "The eighth!" . . . for that was the year his parents had surprised him with an adorable shaded—silver Persian kitten, which he promptly named "Samantha." Samantha had lived a long time—15 years, in fact. It was hard to envision life without that bundle of purring fur that cuddled up next to his feet every night until he left for college. And even then, whenever he returned home, every night, like clockwork, within 60 seconds from when he turned out the light and slipped

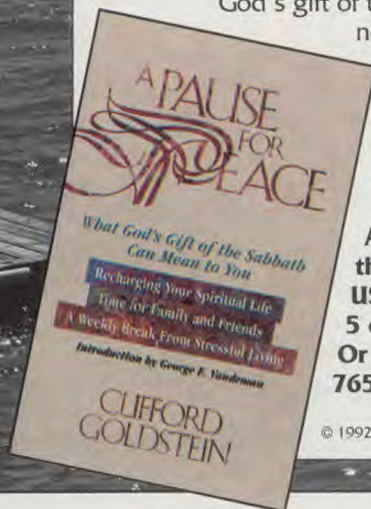
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into bed, he would sense a slight vibration resulting from a four-point landing; he would hear a loud purr, and feel a whiskered head searching for a head—scratching.

Memories flooded in upon him in torrents now. How he had loved Christmas at home. His had always been the responsibility of decorating the Christmas tree—a tree he got to pick out himself. A *real* tree, never a fake! The fragrance of a real tree, the sticky feel of a real tree, even the shedding of a real tree, were all intertwined in the memories of the years.

Strange . . . passing strange . . . how he measured the years by specific Christmases.

The Christmas of the "Broken Phonograph Records," with its now legendary "lean-to" by . . . uh . . . Mari Sandoz—yeah, Sandoz wrote it. How everyone had laughed and cried over that Nebraska frontier tale. "Lean-to" had gone into the family lexicon of memories. And, as usual, all four of his grandparents had been there, and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, and family friends.

Then there was the Christmas when Dad, for the first time, read all of Dickens' "Christmas Carol"—he had thought it would never end. But strangely, ever since that first reading, the story of Scrooge and the Cratchits seemed shorter every time it was read. And theater and movie renditions? They but reinforced the impact of the core story.

And how could he ever forget the first time he had heard Henry Van Dyke's "The Other Wise Man"? Like Dickens' tale, it normally took several evenings to read. That poignant conclusion where the dying Artaban, under the extended shadow of Golgotha, at last finds his king—it never failed to bring tears to his eyes.

"That's enough, John! You've got to put all that behind you. Christmas? What is it but Madison Avenue's annual process of grafting sales to sentiment? That's why the first Christmas sale now takes place the day after Independence Day." But it wasn't enough: he just could not convince himself that Christmas meant no more than that. Instead, his mind flung open a door and replayed the scene in his parents' kitchen three weeks before.

It had been anything but easy—rather, it had been perhaps the hardest thing he had ever done, telling them about the separation and impending divorce. And he had begged off from being home for this Christmas, telling them that a very important business meeting on the East Coast would make it impossible.

Mother had broken down when she heard about the end of his marriage, for Catherine had slipped into their hearts, becoming the daughter they had always yearned for, that first Christmas when he brought her home from college. Catherine had taken it all in: the warmth and radiance of the real tree, the crudely carved nativity scene (John had made it when he was 12); the exterior Christmas lights; the Christmas decorations everywhere; the Christmas music played on the stereo and sung around the piano; the Christmas stories read during the week; the puns, jokes, kidding, and ever-present

laughter; the crazy annual trading game—which was more fun than the usual exchange of presents; the bounteous table groaning with delicious food day after day; parlor games such as Monopoly, caroms, dominoes, anagrams; the crackling fire every evening; the remembering of the Christ Child; and the warmth and love that permeated every corner of the modest home.

When he had proposed—on Christmas Eve—and apologized for the plainness of the home, and compared it to the Marin County estate where she grew up, her eyes had blazed and she had hushed his lips with her fingers.

"Don't you ever apologize for your home, John!" she exclaimed. "There is love here, and Christ, and Father, and Mother—not just my lonely embittered father rattling around in all those endless rooms, alone. No, this," . . . she paused as her gaze took it all in again. . . "this is the kind of home I've longed for all my life." Then her eyes, reflecting the firelight glow, softened and emanated such tender, trusting love—unqualified and unreserved—that time stopped for

him as he gathered into his arms what had once seemed virtually unattainable.

"This has got to stop!" he admonished himself. "There can be no turning back!" Out of the room he strode, down the hall, down the stairs, and out into the city. The streets were crowded with people—it was December 23—all with one goal: get those last minute gifts. He passed two Salvation Army bell ringers, and left a five-dollar bill with each one.

Happiness and seasonal good humor were all around him. Strangers wished him a very merry Christmas. Christmas carols were piped into almost every store.

His attention was caught by a crowd in front of Macy's biggest window; he pushed himself far enough in to be able to see what they were all looking at. What he saw, in a fairy-land setting, were hundreds of cashmere teddy bears in varying

costumes. Julie had fallen in love with them the first time she saw them (long before they had become the rage of the season). And he had planned to surprise her on Christmas morning by bringing it to her at the breakfast table rather than putting it under the tree. Oh well, perhaps Catherine would remember to buy it, that is—which he rather doubted—if she was in the mood to have Christmas at all.

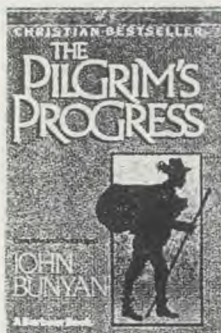
He moved on, but seemed to feel an invisible force pulling him back to Macy's. Two hours later, unable to resist any longer, he went back, bought one of the last three in stock—even the window had been cleaned out—and returned to the motel. He shook his head, not understanding in the least why he had bought it, for he was a continent away from Julie and tomorrow was Christmas Eve.

After depositing the teddy bear in his room, he returned to the street. This time, he walked away from the downtown district. He came to a large white New England-style church. The front doors were open, and floating out on the night air were the celestial strains of "Ave Maria." He stopped, transfixed; then he walked up the steps and into the church. There, down candle-lit aisles, at the front of

continued on page 25



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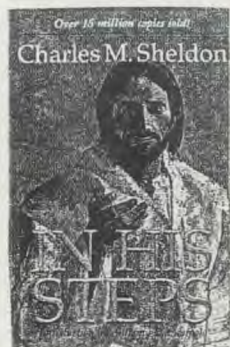
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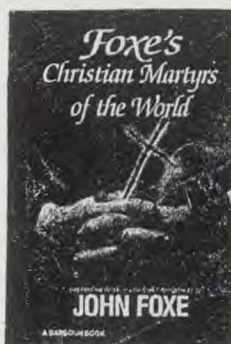


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"Christmas" continued from page 23

the church, was a live nativity scene. Off to the side, a lovely brunette, eyes luminous with the illusion of the moment, was singing the same song he had first heard Catherine sing, and with the same intensity, forgetfulness of self, and sincerity.

When she reached those last few measures and her pure voice seemed to commingle with the angels, chills went up and down his spine; when the last note died away into infinity, there came the ultimate accolade of total silence . . . followed by a storm of applause.

John closed his eyes, soothed yet tormented by what he had just experienced, by whom the singer reminded him of, and by the significance of that mother's love and sacrifice 2,000 years ago.

Out of the sanctuary he strode, and down the street, mile after mile, until he had left even the residential district behind. On and on he walked; he did not stop until the city lights no longer kept him from seeing the stars. As he looked up into the cold December sky, for the first time in three traumatic weeks he faced his inner self.

And he did not like what he saw.

Etched for all time in the grooves of his memory were the terrible words he had spoken to the woman he had pledged his life to. How could he have been so cruel—even if he no longer loved her? That brought him face to face with the rest of his life. The question, the answer, and what he would do about it, would, one way or another, dramatically affect every member of his immediate family, from now and until the day they died.

What was his answer to be?

It was snowing! For the first time in 10 years, declared the radio announcer, there would be snow on Christmas. The windshield wipers kept time with Bing Crosby, who comes back to life every December just to sing "I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas." The lump in his throat was almost more than he could handle. Would this be a Christmas "just like the ones I used to know"? Could she—would she—consider taking him back?

Although bone-weary from staying up all night and from the frantic search for airline reservations, he was far too tense to be sleepy. The flight had been a noisy one, and a colicky baby right behind him had ensured a wide-awake trip. He'd rented a car, and now . . . his heart pounded louder as each mile slipped past on the odometer.

Now that he had thrown away the most precious things in life—his wife and child—he no longer even had a home. Belatedly, he realized that without that, life's skies for him would lose their blue. How odd that his mind meshed the graying of his personal skies with the cold-graying of Cathy's eyes when he mentioned divorce: the blue of both was now as silvery as the ice and snow-bedecked trees that flashed by.

The road became icier and he narrowly averted an accident sev-

eral times. Occasionally a vehicle would spin out of control in front of him, but somehow he got around them safely.

At last! The city limits. He could hardly keep his runaway heart from jumping its tracks.

Had the road to his house ever seemed so long? Then he turned that last corner . . . Darkness: no lights, no car! He fought panic as he skidded into the driveway, got out, and fought the bitterly cold wind and snow to the back door. Inside, all appeared normal—nothing to indicate that Cathy and Julie had left on a long trip.

Maybe they were at his parents' house! He rushed back to the car, backed out onto the street, and sped out of town, hoping against hope that he was guessing right. He didn't dare to trust his fate to a telephone call.

About an hour later he saw the cheery lights of his folks' place. Through the front window he could see the multicolored lights on the Christmas tree. And *there*, in the driveway, was his wife's car.

He passed the house, then circled back on an alley road, cutting his lights as he reapproached the house. His heart now thumping like a jackhammer, he brushed off his clothes and shoes and ever so quietly opened the back door and stepped into the gloom of the dark hall.

He heard a child's voice, singing. He edged around the corner into the foyer. Kerosene lamps, as always, gave to the room a dreamy

serenity. His folks sat on the couch intensely watching their grandchild as she softly sang, kneeling by his nativity stable:

"Silent night, holy night,

All is calm, all is bright, . . .

There was a look of ethereal beauty about her, lost as she was in her Bethlehem world.

"Oh, God," he prayed, "shield her from trouble, from pain—from growing up too soon."

Then, like a sword thrust through his chest, came the realization that he—her own father—had thrust her out of that protected world that children need so desperately if they are to retain their illusions, that child-like trust without which none of us will ever reach heaven's gate.

The sweet but slightly wobbly voice continued, then died away with the almost whispered "Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth."

continued on page 28



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"Christmas" continued from page 25

His heart wrenched as he drank in every inch of that frail flowering of the love he and Cathy had planted. Oh, how little it would take to blight that fragile blossom!

He wondered what his daughter had been told. . . . Would she still love him? Would she ever again trust him completely?

Upon completion of the beloved Schubert hymn, Julie sank down to the level of the nativity figures and, propping her head on her elbows, gazed fixedly into another time.

John now turned to an older version of Julie; this one leaned against the window frame. She was wearing a rose-colored gown that, in the flickering light from the oak logs in the fireplace, revealed rare beauty of face and form. But her face—such total desolation John had never seen before. In all the years that followed, that image of suffering was so indelibly burned into his memory that he was never able to bury it in his subconscious.

How woebegone, how utterly weary, she appeared. A lone tear glistened as it trickled down that cheek he had loved to kiss.

Oh, how he loved her!

He could hold back no longer. Silently, he approached her. Was it too late?

Suddenly, she sensed his presence and turned away from the vista of falling snow to look at him. She delayed the moment of reckoning by initially refusing to meet his eyes. . . . then, very slowly, she raised her wounded eyes to his. . . . and searched for an answer.

Oh, the relief that flooded over him when he saw her eyes widen as they were engulfed by the tidal wave of love that thundered across the five-foot abyss between them. In fact, it was so overwhelming that neither could ever remember how the distance was bridged—only that, through his tears, he kept saying, as he crushed her to him, "Oh, Cathy! Oh, Cathy! Forgive me, Cathy. Oh, Cathy, I love you so!"

And then there were three at the window—not counting the snow-coated teddy bear—the rest of the world forgotten in the regained heaven of their own.

And the snow of Christmas Eve continued to fall.

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MERCHANDISE FOR SALE: Barhi dates—\$32 for 12 lbs. shipped UPS (in the lower 48 states). Available approx. November 9. Send check with order to: Cloverdale Adventist School, 1081 S. Cloverdale Blvd., Cloverdale, CA 95425. (1215)

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TENURE-TRACK POSITION IN MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS available September 1993. Should have a Ph.D. in mathematics or statistics and a commitment to teaching. Interested Adventists, contact: Dr. Ken Wiggins, Mathematics Dept., Walla Walla College, College Place, WA 99324; phone: (509) 527-2088; fax: (509) 527-2253. (1115)

ELTERNHAUS AND RAMBLE IN: Adventist care for the Adventist elderly. We have so much for which to be thankful. God has helped us maintain one of the only Adventist retirement homes in our union, where there will be a vegetarian turkey and Sabbath-keeping this Thanksgiving weekend! We are also thankful to Him for each of our 15 Adventist residents, who are an inspiration, and for our volunteers and our doctors, who have taken such good care of us all! Call Diane Crane at (301) 854-2776 to learn more. (1115)

HIGHLAND VIEW ACADEMY alumni are reminded that every dollar given will be doubled for the first \$12,000. That is a wonderful investment! You give \$20, and our donor will match your donation, so now your donation has become \$40! Make your donation to HVA before December 31, 1992, and mark it "New Church." For Q&A, call Dan Lindow at (301) 739-8480. Thank you! (1215)

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SERIALS LIBRARIAN position beginning July 1993. Should have ALA-accredited M.L.S. and strong interest in collections development, public access for periodicals, computer skills and new technologies. Interested Adventists can contact: Director of Libraries, Walla Walla College, College Place, WA 99324; (509) 527-2133. (1115)

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OBITUARIES

"For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ... Therefore encourage each other with these words,"—*1 Thessalonians 4:16, 18 NIV*.

CALFEE, Carl E. Sr., born February 20, 1917, Bluefield, WV; died September 10, 1992, Princeton, WV. A member of the Valley View church in Bluefield, he was trust director of the Mountain View Conference for 13 years. In 1980 "Mr. West Virginia" became conference Sabbath school director, and in 1981 took on the responsibilities of stewardship director as well. He chaired the Mountain View lay advisory council for six years and was a former literature evangelist. Survivors: wife Mary, son Carl Jr., sisters Frances Witt, Betty Renfro and Jeanette Wright, brothers James and Donald, three grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

DIGEL, Robert A., born March 19, 1900, Coleville, PA; died September 24, 1992, Olean, NY. He was a member of the Bradford, PA, church. Survivors: daughters Hannah Potter, Mirabel Sweet and Anne Potter, sons Robert Jr. and Howard, 21 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

HAMMOND, Lynniell, born October 4, 1948; died July 22, 1992. She held several offices with the Ethnan Temple congregation in Wilkesburg, PA, and is survived by her mother, Christine, as well as two brothers and two sisters.

LAMBSON, Roulette N., born 1897; died September 5, 1992. A member of the Roanoke, VA, congregation, she was the first woman to serve as president of the Potomac Conference Dorcas Federation. Survivors: daughters Ann Bowers, Betty Crawford and Marydora Hudgins, son W. Donald, sister Mary Cowling, 11 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

OSMER, Florence S., born April 16, 1914, Fertigs, PA; died September 18, 1992, Greenville, PA. She held numerous offices at the Seneca, PA, church and is survived by daughter Brenda Parker, sister Alice Stover, brother John King and two grandchildren.

PIATT, Wesley F., born May 21, 1899, Nanticoke, PA; died September 23, 1992, Wilkes-Barre, PA. He was an active member of the church in Kingston, PA, for 50 years. Survivors: daughter Muriel Siegel and several nieces and nephews.

PUGH, Verna E., died August 22, 1992, Harrisburg, PA. She was a faithful member of the First church of Harrisburg for almost 59 years. Survivors: daughters Florence Wheeler, Janet Kreiser and Helen Moyer, sons Earl and Paul, 18 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

WRIGHT, Eleanor A., born November 20, 1926, Dayton, OH; died May 24, 1992. A member of the Dale Wright Memorial church in Germantown, OH, she served as a Bible worker and used her musical talents at evangelistic crusades for many years. Survivors: husband Harold, daughters Jacquelyn Palmer, Carla Coleman and Marcena Kelly, sons Phillip and Mark, brothers Emmanuel Crews, Samuel Crews, David Crews and William Crews, sisters Elizabeth Cooper, Ruth Smith and Mary Wonders, 11 grandchildren and many other relatives and friends.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Announcements must be in the *Visitor* office four weeks before the date of issue.

Amazing Facts carried by cable network

The *Amazing Facts* program is now being aired nationwide on the Black Entertainment Television cable network every Wednesday at 8 a.m. (Please check your local cable guide for the station airing *Amazing Facts* in your area.)

ABC SPECIAL FOR NOVEMBER



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Eastern Standard Time

	Nov. 13	Nov. 20	Nov. 27
Baltimore	4:54	4:49	4:46
Cincinnati	5:26	5:21	5:17
Cleveland	5:08	5:03	4:59
Columbus	5:17	5:12	5:08
Jersey City	4:40	4:35	4:31
Norfolk	4:57	4:53	4:50
Parkersburg	5:14	5:08	5:05
Philadelphia	4:47	4:42	4:38
Pittsburgh	5:05	4:59	4:55
Reading	4:49	4:43	4:40
Richmond	5:00	4:56	4:53
Roanoke	5:11	5:07	5:04
Toledo	5:17	5:11	5:07
Trenton	4:44	4:39	4:35
Washington, DC	4:56	4:51	4:48

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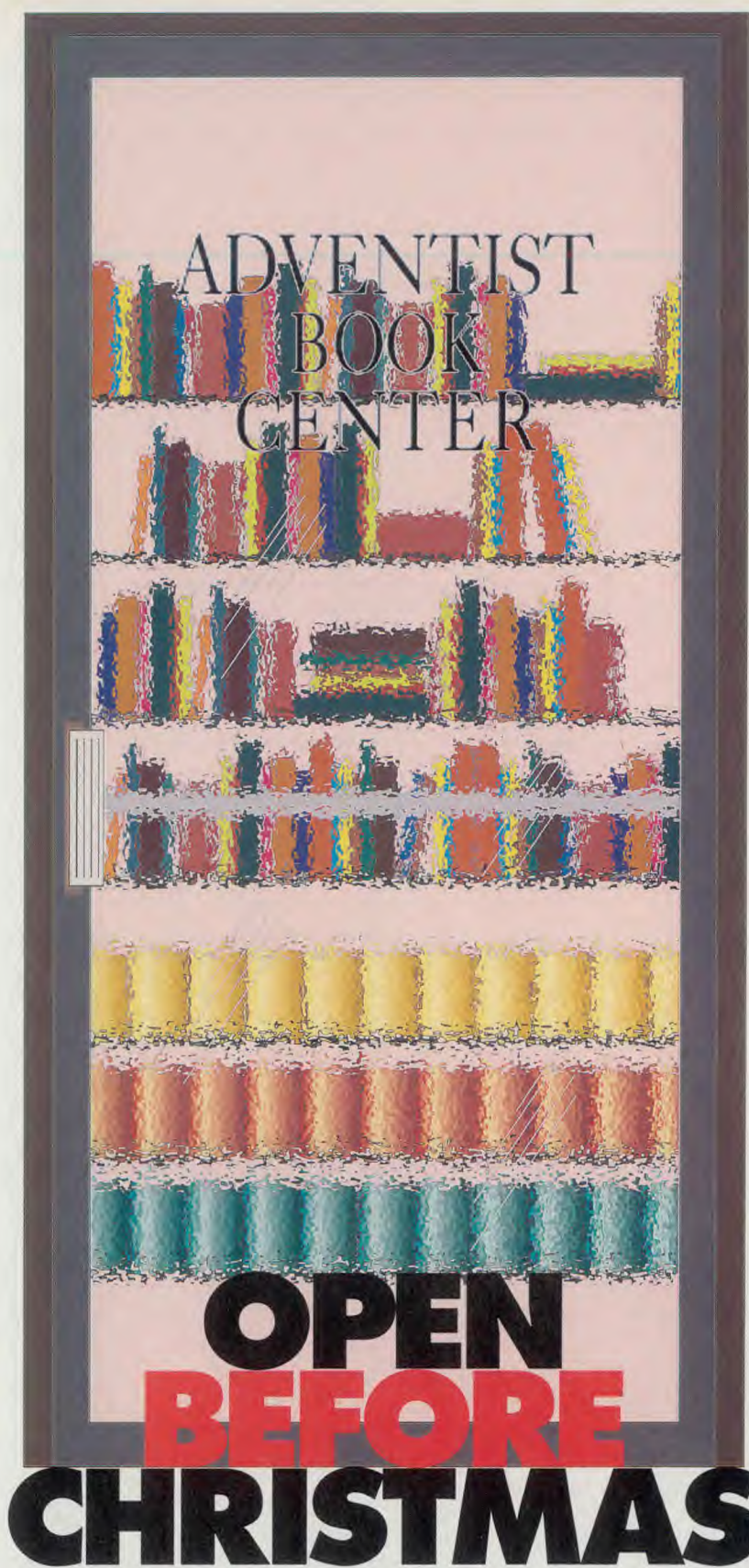
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Chesapeake CHALLENGE



COULTER'S COMMENTS

Our dream continues ...



J. Wayne Coulter

The development of Mount Aetna Camp/Highland View Academy has been a major \$3 million project. At the same time, we have not let up on other energetic conference programs. I will address these at a later date after I have reviewed with you the building program at Mount Aetna.

First of all, we want to give all the credit and glory to God. We must be Christ-centered in everything we do. Our purpose and only reason for existence is to build God's kingdom and labor for its enlargement—to prepare a people, both young and old, to meet the Lord.

This issue of the *Challenge* emphasizes our new camp facility at Mount Aetna. We are including pictures that will make it easier for me to describe what has and is taking place. First of all, the 10 new cabins are now complete. They can be used year-round by different church groups and organizations. They can provide housing for 20 private parties or lodging for 160 campers. There is also a director's cabin with four private sleeping quarters.

Our new cafeteria/lodge is now complete! On the top floor there is a dining area to seat 250 individuals with a new modern kitchen facility. On the lower level there is a beautiful auditorium that can seat 200 people. Both levels have large picture windows, which give one the sensation of sitting in nature. There are lovely brick fireplaces on each level that provide a comfortable atmosphere during the winter months. There are also six private sleeping rooms on the lower level. It excels any camp cafeteria I have seen in North America.

Another focal point of the camp is the nature center. By the time you read this report, we will have already broken ground for the construction of this new building. The facility will include a 48-foot observation tower, a display room, a separate auditorium for nature studies and an area highlighting the different days of the creation week.

The first phase of our building program is almost complete. We have not borrowed any funds for this important building program. We had decided earlier that we would not go into debt. We have been faithful to that decision. You have all helped us by your gifts and monies to make this a reality.

We have now come to the end of our funds. I am sure, you would not want us to stop the project. We need to complete our camp.

I am including a brief financial report (box to the left) to show how we have used the funds. After you have read it, please decide how you will continue your financial support by filling out the box below.

Mount Aetna Camp development

Youth Camp Phase I	Projected costs	Cost as of 9/23/92	Needed to complete
Youth camp—general		\$181,922.50	
Pond		32,972.39	
Cabins (10)		498,790.38	
Director's cabin		60,458.79	
Admin. Cabin #12		2,475.00	
Cafeteria	650,000.00	580,683.80	69,316.20
Nature center	400,000.00	33,499.07	366,500.93
Total youth camp	\$1,826,608.06	\$1,390,790.93	435,817.13
Projected funds needed to finish Phase I			\$45,157.73

This does not include Phase 2; roads, parking lot, trails, RV camp, shrubbery and additional lodging.

If you have not fulfilled your one percent obligation for the camp, please continue to send your money committed for the one percent. You may even want to send the remainder in cash.

My main appeal is for everyone to take the time to fill in the form to the right to help finish building Phase I of the campgrounds. We only need \$45,157.73.

Please prayerfully consider this appeal and then fill in the form. Thank you for your support and prayers!

Chesapeake Challenge

is published in the *Visitor* each month by the Chesapeake Conference, 6600 Martin Road, Columbia, MD 21044. President, J. Wayne Coulter; Editor, J. Neville Harcombe.

You can count on me to help finish **Phase I** of Mount Aetna Camp development.

☐ Cash \$ _____
☐ Monthly; 12 months:
☐ \$10 ☐ \$20 ☐ \$30 ☐ \$40 ☐ \$ _____
☐ Other _____

Name _____

Address _____

Please cut this out and mail it to:

J. Wayne Coulter
 Chesapeake Conference
 6600 Martin Road
 Columbia, Maryland 21044

Pictorial report of

The campground was first built in 1949 by the dedicated support of the members in Chesapeake.



The new two-level cafeteria/lodge has an excellent view of natural surroundings.



A beautiful full-width wooden deck gives a wonderful view of nature from the new cafeteria/lodge.



The new ballfield is directly in front of the new director's cabin, which also houses a first aid station.



The new dining area has large, picturesque windows and doors. There is also a brick fireplace to give a warm atmosphere during the winter months.

The lower level of the cafeteria/lodge has a lecture room and six guest rooms.

Two cabins have handicap facilities; a special ramp, bathroom facilities and sleeping accommodations.



The director's cabin has four sleeping quarters that are available for church groups.



Each cabin has been built for year-round camping. The wooden architecture combined with unique window design enhances the beauty of the 10 cabins.

There are two units in each cabin that can house 16 campers or four family units.



The new fire bowl can seat 175 people. There is a fireplace on each side of the wooden platform.



The new Highland View Academy church is quickly becoming a reality. The facility will be extremely useful during camp meeting.



This is one of the three basic architectural styles used on the 10 cabins.

The camp swimming pool provides opportunity for all campers to learn the basics of swimming.

Mount Aetna summer camp report

BRENDON PRUTZMAN

Camp friendships are easily formed as campers live together in the new cabins.

As the summer came and went, so did the season for summer camp. Once again the Chesapeake Conference was active during the summer camp season as Mount Aetna rolled out the red carpet for your campers as all shared exciting new experiences. In fact, more than 340 of your children enjoyed the challenges of horseback riding, swimming, rock climbing, caving, water skiing, etc. At night they settled in after returning from the new campfire bowl. However, the greatest experience of all wasn't riding the Appalachian Trail on horseback or jetting across the water behind the ski boat on a five-man torpedo, it wasn't the dynamic staff or awesome slams on the basketball court, it was the face-to-face spiritual impact of Christ touching each of their lives. This took place through morning worship, talks with their counselors or the special Friday night Passion Play. Enthusiasm is already building for next year. With more activities, the completion of the new cafeteria/lodge and the start of the nature center, the camp will be able to better meet the needs of our Chesapeake youth. Attendance at Mount Aetna Camp has grown by nearly 100 percent over the past three summers as more children discover the excitement, new friends and spiritual growth from attending camp. Make plans now to send your children to Mount Aetna in 1993.

Brendon Prutzman is a Task Force worker at Mount Aetna Camp.



The aquatic camp program at a nearby water park is also a favorite.



Daily activities such as archery teach campers team spirit and sportsmanship.



Young campers enjoy companionship and a healthy program at the new campgrounds.



Youth Director Richard Parker is pleased with the new camp facilities and the 100 percent growth in attendance over the past three summers.



Counselors provide a spiritual program for their campers through music, devotional talks and prayer.



The "cowboy" camp is a favorite among young people who learn the elementary rules of horsemanship.



A rodeo program ends each weekly camp program.

Hurricane Andrew victims receive relief

The Chesapeake Conference's response to Florida/Louisiana's Hurricane Andrew was massive, according to conference Community Services Coordinator Bill McVay. "At least three semi loads have been donated to date. Members gave tons of canned goods, hand tools, dried foods and roofing materials, among other things," said McVay.

In addition, there have been major corporate donations in Maryland from companies such as Playtex, Wal-Mart, K-Mart and General Foods.

"Wherever we asked for donations, companies were more than happy to furnish needed materials," said Gary Strang,



Gary Strang (top) helps with the donated food items at the Dover, Delaware, church. Above: members of the Spencerville, Maryland, church, help pack food items for hurricane victims.

Federalsburg/Harrington pastor and volunteer driver for the project. Doug Rennewanz, Dover First/Middletown pastor, also approached major corporate donors.

Church members sensing the urgency of the project gave liberally of cash as well as materials. One church alone received over \$2,000 in donations to go for disaster victims.

Division, union and conference officers send their thanks for the heartfelt support of our members who have been rocked by Hurricane Andrew.

Seventh-day Adventist runs for public office

Roscoe Bartlett, an elder in the Adventist church in Frederick, Maryland, is running as a candidate in Maryland's 6th District for the United States House of Representatives. He recently won the Republican nomination and hopes to win the campaign in November.

Bartlett is a third-generation Seventh-day Adventist. He is also a direct descendant of Josiah Bartlett, one of the original signers of the Declaration of Independence.

He and his wife, Ellen, live on a farm in Frederick County. He has been a resident of western Maryland for 31 years.

Bartlett first began his teaching career as a graduate assistant at Washington Missionary College, now Columbia Union College in Takoma Park, Maryland. He also taught at Loma Linda University in California from 1952-1954. He served as head of the Space Life Sciences Division at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore and has represented NASA and the American space program in the former Soviet Union. In Europe he represented NATO in various conferences.

Bartlett has strong convictions that he can serve his country and church in the United States Congress. He states his platform with down-to-earth philosophy built on traditional principles.

It is not often that a Seventh-day Adventist has the opportunity to serve his community in an elective office of government. If elected in November, Bartlett will be the third Seventh-day Adventist to have served in Congress.



Hudson school receives special program

As of the fall of 1992, an exciting event is taking place at Hudson Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School in the Chesapeake Conference. The school board, with the appropriate approval of the conference department of education, has decided to use Home Study International's Alternative Program for Learning Enrichment (APLE) to provide grades nine and ten to the families in the area.

Home Study International's APLE program was created in cooperation with the North American Division department of education to support local Adventist churches and schools.

By using the APLE program, schools can use a combination of Home Study International courses and campus resources to offer an additional course or to add an entire program.

The APLE program helps local schools live up to their potential by meeting the growing needs of their students. For example, Forest Lake Academy in Florida is planning to provide a health course to its students through the APLE program,

and the C.F. Richards school in Virginia has used APLE to move to junior academy status.

For some families, the alternative to an APLE program is public school. Hudson Elementary is a case in point. Faced with the prospect of losing young people to the public school system, the school board recognized the need to meet the needs of the parents of ninth and tenth grade students reluctant to send their children to boarding academy.

To date, 14 families have expressed interest in moving their children from public school to Hudson Seventh-day Adventist Elementary as a result of the expanded program.

Many families have realized that investing in their children's education provides great returns. A Adventist education can give a child that grounding in biblical principles so essential to an adult Christian. The public school cannot provide a substitute for a Christian foundation.

The APLE program was designed to promote a partnership among the parents, the local school and Home Study International to make a Christian education possible for all young people.

Dateline New Jersey

New Jersey Conference, 2160 Brunswick Avenue, Trenton, New Jersey 08648 / (609) 392-7131

What's happening around New Jersey

November 15

Garden State Academy Board
New Jersey Conference
Board of Education

November 19

Conference Executive
Committee

November 21

New Jersey Church Leadership
Seminar

Al McClure, president of the
North American Division

November 26 and 27

Thanksgiving holiday—Con-
ference Office and ABC closed

December 13

ABC open

December 13-24

ABC Holiday Sale

December 20

ABC open

December 19

Sabbath - Day of Reconciliation
and Adjustment

December 24

Holiday - Conference office and
ABC close at 12:30 p.m.

December 25

Christmas - Conference office
and ABC closed

January 1

Holiday - Conference office and
ABC closed

Dateline New Jersey

is published in the *Visitor* each
month by the New Jersey Confer-
ence. President, Bob Boggess;
Editor, Alyce Boggess.



Bob Boggess

Loving and lovable Christians

I am frequently approached by a church member who in the zeal for progress and purity in his/her church presents a critical view. This happens most often in connection with the promotion of some publications that appear to demean some of our pastors or church leaders, judge the spirituality of fellow church members and suggest that God's church is in apostasy. It is not infrequent, however, that similar accusations are leveled against another church member, perhaps in a family quarrel or a church conflict.

In the Morning Watch reading of September 30, Ellen White speaks of the transforming power of the gospel of Jesus and tells how His love within transforms the life-style.

"When Christ dwells in the heart, His presence is apparent. Good and pleasant words and actions reveal the Spirit of Christ. Sweetness of temper is manifested. There is no angry passion, no obstinacy, no evil surmising. There is no hatred in the heart because...ideas and methods are not accepted and appreciated by others,"—*This day with God* page 357.

This passage echoes the work of the apostle Paul, in which he describes love as a relational rather than emotional experience "that is, love as acts in relationship with others rather than a mere personal sentiment.

Love is patient
Love is kind and envies no one
Love is never boastful,
nor conceited,
nor rude,
never selfish,
not quick to take offense.
Love keeps no score of wrongs,
does not gloat over other men's sins,
but delights in the truth,
there is nothing love cannot face,
there is no limit to its faith,
its hope,
its endurance.
Love will never come to an end.
I Corinthians 13:4-8 NEB

Perhaps we could all grow in Christ as we follow the admonition of the gospel in Ephesians 5:1,2 NEB: "In a word, as God's children, try to be like Him and live in love as Christ loved you and gave Himself up in your behalf."

The personal experience of many of us testifies to the accuracy of Ellen White's counsel that the greatest argument for (or evidence of) Christianity is a loving and lovable Christian.

Let us pray for one another and our church, and let us believe that the unforgiving, condemning spirit will be healed wherever it exists and will never start wherever it does not exist. Let's pledge ourselves to the ideas of Jesus in John 17:21 NEB:

"May they all be one, as Thou Father art in Me and I in Thee, so also may they be in us, that the world may believe that Thou didst send Me."

He is coming, alleluia!



Boarding the bus for an off-campus activity.



Artist at work!



Camp store!



Preparation for the water slide!

Memories of summer camp

New Jersey's summer camp this year experimented with a new "all age" concept of having all ages of campers at the camp simultaneously but separated by age group and activities. This year Youth Director Murrell Tull reports a total attendance of 160, which includes 50 youth, 50 juniors and 60 Adventurers. Volunteer and stipend instructors organized activities like swimming, shirt painting, basketry, leathercraft, water slide, archery and off-campus programs like horseback riding, water skiing, bowling and roller skating. Spiritual emphasis for the camp was provided by staff counselors and Ed Keyes, who served as camp pastor.



Great camp shirt!



Good shot!



Off to another activity!



Splash!

Is it Warm?



First Aid!



Basketry!



Good Food!

New Jersey conducts family enrichment

Sabbath, August 22, was a day of riches for many couples of the New Jersey Conference as they assembled in the dining room of Rider College in Trenton for a seminar designed to enrich family relationships and build spiritual commitment.

Conducted by conference Youth Director Murrell Tull with the able assistance of his wife, Ginger, this one-day seminar modeled several communication skills, united spiritual exercises and offered tips that would help any family to

deal with life's ebb and flow and live a life victoriously in Christ.

In the course of the day couples were given the opportunity to pray together, talk together and share together their deepest feelings of love and responsibility. Although definitely not designed for marriage crisis information, the experiences emphasized in the seminar of practices in life will prevent many crises from developing and provide a process by which home crises can be resolved. One couple discovered it to be an excellent marriage preparation seminar. Both young couples and older ones, like President and Mrs. Boggess (35+ years) had a delightful time fellowshiping, studying and growing together.



Another happy couple at the family enrichment seminar: Vidya (left) and Vilas Urtekar.

Hasel attracts record crowd to leadership seminar

On September 12 Dr. Gerhard Hasel, professor of Old Testament, attracted the largest crowd ever to attend the quarterly New Jersey Conference Leadership Seminar.

Originally organized with the four-fold purpose of (1) generating fellowship and understanding among the leaders of all New Jersey churches (especially cross-culturally), (2) establishing a forum for the dissemination of information about conference programs and activities by conference officers, (3) providing inspirational and spiritual nurture to local church leaders and (4) building a sense of unity and team spirit among all the churches; these seminars have become for many a favorite assembly, taking on the "air" of a mini-camp meeting. Speakers for the seminars are chosen for the contribution they can make to spiritual growth, training for ministry and the ability to communicate information about the advances of the Adventist church in all its various segments of the world.

Dr. Gerhard Hasel, with a rich background in pastoral as well as teaching ministries, has served on the campus of Andrews University as professor in the theological seminary in Berrien Springs,

Michigan, since the mid-1960s. His presentation on "How to Interpret Bible Prophecy" was an important explanation to the New Jersey leaders of problems with the popular theories of prophetic interpretation and a clear analysis of the biblical fallacies of the



Dr. Hasel keeps the attention of New Jersey Conference leaders.

dispensational theory popular in today's evangelical churches.

New Jersey leaders reviewed and renewed their belief in the near second advent of Jesus Christ and ended the seminar with a reassurance that "we have not believed in vain." The program was coordinated by conference President Robert Boggess and Ministerial Director Ron Gladden.

New Jersey welcomes Pastor and Mrs. Jerry Bandy

Jerry and Tania Bandy have served many years as assistant publishing director in Hawaii, Washington and California and as pastor in Oklahoma. Jerry has carried the pastoral assignment of the Greeley Hill church while at the same time fulfilling his duties as literature evangelist.

Jerry and Tania moved to New Jersey in October to pastor the Browns Mills/Toms River district. Jerry and Tania have four children. The Browns Mills/Toms River district and the entire membership of the New Jersey Conference welcome Jerry and Tania Bandy.



Executive Committee Notes

1. Pastor Jerry and Tania Bandy have been called to the Browns Mills/Toms River district. The Bandys come from California.

2. Pastor Frank and Trish Kean have been called to the Collingwood Park/Hightstown district. The Keans are veteran New Jersey workers who are returning from the Seminary at Andrews University.

3. Beverly Marchesano and Pastor Mike Gill have been invited to fill vacancies on the conference executive committee.

4. The Northern Moldavian Conference in the former USSR nation of Moldavia has been adopted as a "sister conference," opening opportunities for individuals and churches in New Jersey to assist with the mission opportunities in Moldavia.

5. The New Jersey Conference financial report shows a tithe gain of 5.9% for the year to date. Almost all areas of the conference expenses are below budget,

with the exception of evangelism, youth ministries and property management. Conference cash flow is very restricted largely due to heavy accounts receivable from schools and churches. Because of this heavy AR, the auditors recommended establishing a heavy reserve for past due accounts that is further impacting the financial statement.

6. Garden State Academy has an enrollment of 84 students and is operating on a budget balanced at 76 students. We welcome Mr. Tom Foggs as the new principal of Garden State Academy.

7. Pastor Robert Janssen's retirement request was approved. We pray heaven's blessings on the Janssens as they move to California.

8. The NAD request to permit sending a letter from General Conference President Robert Folkenberg to the membership explaining Global Mission projects was approved.

9. The Three Angels Seventh-day Adventist group at Hope, New Jersey, was granted conditional status as a church company. Steve Snow as appointed as pastor.

10. Columbia Union Revolving Fund loan requests were approved for the Lillian Whitfield school, the Perth Amboy State Street Spanish church, Garden State Academy, the Meadow View school, and the Collingwood Park church.

Happy birthday!

On August 28, 1992, the Pathfinders from the Union City, New Jersey, Stars of the Master visited a nursing home in Brooklyn. It was the director's mother's birthday. Elena Miranda was celebrating her 75th birthday with her family and friends. The Pathfinders sang a spiritual song to everyone's delight. As soon as the Pathfinders arrived, the



Back row, left to right: Jane Gomez, Godwin Carmenatty Jr., Lucy Munoz, Godwin Carmenatty Sr., Ilcias Vargas and Jessica Gomez. Seated: Elena Miranda.

social worker gave them a tour of the facilities and answered any questions they asked. The workers, along with other visitors, were impressed with the uniforms and the discipline of the Pathfinders. They were asked to visit again. It was a special day for me as a son and a director; I saw the happiness in my mother's eyes. I praise the Lord for giving me a mother whom I will always love. Because of her I found God, who I am serving with all my heart.

GODWIN CARMENATTY
Pathfinder Director

Jersey City Heights English celebrates community VBS graduation on Sabbath

The closing exercise of the community VBS conducted by the Jersey City Heights church was celebrated on Sabbath morning, July 25. Although the daily average of attendance fluctuated from day to day, more than 40 boys and girls attended the graduation ceremony and received certificates and awards



during the Sabbath school hour. Several have started attending Sabbath school now on a weekly basis.

The Heights breaks 100 barrier

The Jersey City Heights English congregation has had, since May of this year, a very exciting reason to rejoice in the Lord—the breaking of the 100-member barrier! It couldn't have happened on a more joyful day than World Baptism Day, May 30, when the church family witnessed the baptism of six precious souls and celebrated for the first time going over the 100 mark. The Hudson County is the most densely populated and ethnically diversified territory in our conference, and I think it's a special blessing to see a group of people representing four different ethnic backgrounds (Hispanic, Anglo, Asian and Brazilian) being baptized on the same



Left: Checking out last-minute details with the VBS director, Jerry Kiely. Top: The Jersey City Heights English VBS choir performs. Above: Lots of love to go around.

day!" said Pastor Robson DeOliveira.

Since the church building was built in 1921, the highest the congregation had come to was a total of 94 members in that same year. There seems to be an opening of the way for greater things at the Heights as the church prepares for fall evangelism with Ken Wilber for a five-week Revelation Lectures crusade.

With the other two ladies who were baptized at camp meeting this year, the Heights has now 107 members.

ROBSON DEOLIVIERA



Left to right: Luiz Gonzalez, Tim Herrick, Raul Camposagrado, Glenn Glaraga, Robson DeOliveira, Lucy and Alexandre Herback following their baptism on May 30.

MISSION OHIO

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AND CHURCHES

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SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

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Mark Your Calendar



November 13-15
Columbus Area Youth Rally
Worthington Activity Center

November 20-22
Men's Retreat
Camp Mohaven

November 26-28
Adventist Singles Retreat
Camp Mohaven



Raj Attiken

What are we doing?

I occasionally glance through the job description for my position at the Ohio Conference. It lists 33 areas of responsibility and function. I am expected to perform all of these to some degree of excellence. ***I want to do things right.***

A few years ago the North American Division published a manual entitled "Responsibilities in the Local Congregation." It is a compilation of six-page ministry descriptions for 50 "positions" in the local church (more positions than there are people on Sabbath mornings in over 38 percent of Ohio churches).

Around this time each year, the nominating committee, selected by the local congregation, works through a process of identifying individual members to serve in one or more of these positions. These individuals then begin, or continue, their ministry, usually with a commitment to doing their best. ***They want to do things right.***

My obsession with doing things right, and our collective desire as a church to do things right, may keep us from asking ourselves frequently, ***"Are we doing the right things?"***

There must come to each of us personally, and to the church collectively, those times when only the ***right*** consumes our attention. During those times, the unnecessary must be overlooked and the trivial bypassed. Only the ***right*** must surface. Jesus drew attention to this priority in His words to Martha:

"You are worried and bothered about so many things: And only a few things are necessary, really only one . . .,"—*Luke 10:41, 42.*

The apostle Paul settled on ***"I press toward the goal"*** as the one ***thing*** that consumed his interest. He said:

"I count everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ . . .,"—*Philippians 3:8, 9.*

Have you given thought recently to what it is that presently consumes your attention and interest and that of your congregation?

RAJ ATTIKEN
Conference Secretary

Mission Ohio

is published in the *Visitor* each month by the Ohio Conference. President, Ed Motschieder; Editor, Jeanie Hal-deman.

TOUCHING LIVES AND COMMUNITIES

Reaching Out . . .

. . .to victims of Hurricane Andrew

Ohio members quickly responded to a plea from the church ministries department of the Ohio Conference to collect specific items needed to support those affected by the devastation of Hurricane Andrew.

The truck picked up supplies at Cincinnati, Columbus, Medina and Youngstown and left Ohio only five days after the storm hit Florida. Dedicated community service leaders coordinated the collections, according to Marwood Hallett, church ministries director. The Columbus church reported that the overflow of supplies was contributed to television's Channel 4 News project, *Hurricane of Hope*. More than 300 additional boxes of clothing, nails and hammers were contributed.

. . .to local business persons

■ Perky Davis honored by area business persons

Perky Davis, a valuable leader at the Wooster church, was selected "Lay Person of the Year" by the Wooster Kiwanis Club. Davis is very active in a number of community organizations, in which she shares her expertise and talents. She owns and operates a day care center, *Perky's World of Children*, which cares for more than 200 children.



. . .to the homeless in Ohio

■ Fairfield members care for Cincinnati homeless

Members of the **Fairfield** mission church rent their meeting place from a Presbyterian church. Five different denominations, including the Fairfield congregation, minister to the homeless of Cincinnati for one week each month. The homeless are bused to the church each evening during that week. Fairfield members prepare an evening meal and supervise the group overnight, provid-

ing a place for them to sleep in the church.

■ SVA students "look a little closer"

Students delivering food and clothing to needy families in downtown Dayton in August "had an experience that will be on their minds forever," said Brennan Francois, SVA chaplain.

The group met "Spider," a drug-dealing alcoholic, who escorted them to the doors of needy families. Students prayed



for each family while leaving food. "Our only problem was there was not enough to give away," said Francois.

Students proceeded to distribute literature when food supplies ran out. Several students shared their personal testimony with a man named Edward from Kenya. To their surprise, they learned that Edward's brother is an Adventist in Kenya and Edward himself was raised an Adventist.

"We encouraged him as we sang songs



of his childhood, songs of faith, hymns of home. Prayer was offered and addresses exchanged. Some promised to be pen pals with his teenage brother in Kenya," said Francois.

■ Toledo First feeds 80 homeless each month

A group of Toledo First members prepare a large vegetarian meal one day each month and deliver and serve it at the Cherry Street Mission, a homeless shelter in Toledo. The mission provides housing for men and invites women as well to meals during the day. Other volunteer members prepare desserts for the meal.

■ Ohio Community Services directors observe homeless

Leaders experienced first hand several impressive approaches made by help organizations in the Dayton area, according to Marwood Hallett, church ministries director.

Commuting by bus, the group, numbering close to 35, received personally the meal prepared for and served to the homeless at the "House of Bread," a soup kitchen in Dayton.

Following the meal, they made their way to a shelter provided for the homeless of Dayton. This facility, operated by the Catholic Church, housed 28 women and children and 55 men. "Everywhere we went, we witnessed an unconditional outpouring of love," said Kathy Giebel of the Chillicothe church. The group visited two other organizations of the same type.

"One thing is sure: We (Adventists) need to do more," said Giebel.

. . .to boys and girls through VBS 1992



- Every one of the regularly attending members helped in some way with the best Vacation Bible School the **Jackson** church has ever had, reported Bridgett Davis, communications secretary. Nearly 75 percent of the children attending were non-Adventist.
- The **Kettering** church presented a Bible times theme giving children a chance to observe characters, clothing, customs and Bible-time cultures.
- The **Athens** church used the suggested programming "*Kids in the Kitchen*," as did many other Ohio churches. Special feature presenters at the Athens VBS were a nutritionist and a dentist. A follow-up program is planned.
- "*Kids in the Kitchen*" program at the **Zanesville** church averaged attendance of 80 children per night. One of the non-Adventist children is enrolled in the church elementary school.
- Pastor Mark Swaisgood reported that the **Grove City** church conducted its first VBS in a number of years.
- Nearly half of the congregation attending the closing VBS program at the **Ashtabula** church were non-Adventists. One VBS parent has enrolled a child in the satellite elementary school operated by the church.
- The **Springfield** and **Defiance** churches also reported VBS programs; many other churches have not reported.

One thing is sure: Ohio boys and girls were presented with the love of Jesus through the VBS ministry provided by dedicated members in Ohio during 1992.

...to youth

■ Lancaster member takes anti-tobacco campaign to high school

Tom Lefever speaks to students who have been caught with tobacco products at area high schools regarding his experience with throat cancer. Lefever tells students about the habit he developed at age 10 of smoking cigarettes and later of chewing tobacco and its harmful effect on his body, according to Mary Bensonhaver, communication secretary.

Sponsored by the American Cancer Society, Lefever hopes to influence young people to avoid habits that will effect them physically as well as spiritually.

...to claim for Christ

■ Piqua church growing

During the past three years, the Piqua congregation has shown consistent growth, reported Alice Mae Idle, communication secretary. Don Barnt, conference evangelist, recently conducted a series of evangelistic meetings that is expected to add many more to the membership of the Piqua church.

■ Barnt conducts evangelistic series

Don Barnt, conference evangelist, recently returned from the republic of Lithuania in the Baltic Sea region where he conducted the first large-scale Adventist evangelistic series.

Nearly 1,000 individuals faithfully attended, receiving free Bibles. More than 100 individuals were baptized, and 150 are to be baptized soon. Before the meetings began, the entire membership for Lithuania was only 35.

"Many lives were changed," reflected Barnt. One cabinet member showed little interest as Barnt visited (through translation) in his home. His wife continued to attend, and at last he came with her. Both were baptized, and he will attend the Adventist seminary soon.

■ Lorain Spanish church continues to grow

The recent baptisms of Luz Elenia Martinez and her mother, Ana Maria Padilla, represent a total of 14 baptisms within the past two years at the Lorain Spanish church, reported Rodney Hyde, coordinating pastor. Angel Ortiz is the



lay pastor for the congregation. Luz has very poor health, making it necessary to conduct the baptism in her bathtub.

■ New members at Lima

Approximately 16 new members have joined the Lima church as a result of an evangelistic effort conducted by evangelist Don Barnt and Pastor Rick Remmers in Lima. "One baptism was very special," reported Barbara Hughes, communication secretary.

Milton Colvin dated Mary Williams before she left home to attend Mount Vernon Academy in her youth.

Milton married an Amish woman who discovered the Sabbath for herself. Milton had heard the Sabbath truth when he dated Mary. Mary married someone else, too.

In recent years, both of their spouses died. Hearing that Milton was ill in the hospital, Mary made a visit to encourage him and their friendship was renewed.

Milton attended the evangelistic series with Mary and was baptized in June. In August, they were married.



...to the Soviet Union

■ Russians grateful for felts

With an anxious smile, waving a sign marked "Moldavia," a Russian layman greeted Ed and Valeetah Motschieder as they arrived at a Moscow airport with over \$2,000 worth of Sabbath school felt from Ohio.

Valeetah had discussed with Alice Boggess, wife of the New Jersey Conference president, the need of children's Sabbath school leaders and teachers. Alice had conducted Sabbath school training during her recent visit to Moldavia and knew of the desperate need for felts. She was very happy to arrange for someone to pick the felts up and deliver them to anxious leaders.

Support came from special offerings taken at the Blooming Grove, Dublin, Mansfield, Marengo, Mount Vernon, Mount Vernon City and Clayton, New Mexico, churches. Many members from these churches also assisted in the cutting out of the felts.

IN TRANSITION

Tom and Kay Schroer have assumed pastoral responsibilities in the Mount Vernon City/Fredericktown district. Since 1988 the Schroers have been pastoring the Rockville, Maryland church in the Potomac Conference. Their family includes: son Billy, who will be a senior at Mount Vernon Academy this year; son Johnny, 13, and daughter Heidi, 9.

Harold and Geraldine King are new to the pastorate at the Madison/Willoughby district. Harold has pastored in the British Columbia Conference since 1979. They have been pastoring the Chilliwack and Hope churches since 1989.

MVA NEWS

New Staff

Joining new Principal **Steve Davis** are several other new staff members. **Joel McQuistan** is boys' dean. Joel was formerly a teacher in Pennsylvania. Taskforce workers include **John Norman**, assistant boys' dean, from Southern College and **Tera Unklesbay**, assistant girls' dean, an

MVA alumni. **Kent Sharpe**, formerly assistant treasurer for the Ohio Conference, is the new treasurer. **Fern Loomis** of Mount Vernon is school nurse.

Events

Fall events have included **Hide-Away Day**, the annual **barn party** and a biannual **father/son brunch**.

Student Week of Prayer will be conducted November 16-21 by Stacy Nelson from Atlantic Union College. Dick Duerksen, vice president of the Columbia Union, will present a special closing service on Friday evening.

Parents and friends are invited to attend the weekend services, including **Fall Festival** on Saturday night, November 21, at the MVA Pavilion!

SARI BUTLER
MVA Registrar

Seniors fellowship at Mohaven

Ohio Adventist seniors (55 years old and beyond) and friends were inspired by presentations at the second annual seniors retreat held at Camp Mohaven in August. The retreat is sponsored by

the Buckeye Fellowship of the Greater Dayton Area.

Dr. Raymond Holmes and his wife, Shirley, guest speakers for the weekend, planned inspiring and thrilling presentations, including "Retirement by Grace," and "From Lutheranism to Adventism."

"I loved the messages and the speakers were great, but I believe I enjoyed the group sings most of all," said many of the campers. Other highlights were two Sabbath afternoon walks for those who liked a challenge and those who prefer to take it easy, evening table games and even the teamwork of performing the necessary kitchen duties. Throughout the entire weekend, campers were blessed with a special sense of the presence of Christ and wonderful fellowship.

Plan now to attend the 1993 seniors retreat! If you would like to be placed on a mailing list to receive information about next year's retreat, send your name and address to Eugene Cowling, 605 Clareridge Lane, Centerville, Ohio 45458-2605.

EUGENE R. COWLING
President, Golden Buckeye
Fellowship

ADVENTIST SINGLES RETREAT

November 27-29
at Camp Mohaven

Guest Speakers: Dr. Walter and Jackie Wright

Come and enjoy a weekend of inspiration, fun and Christian fellowship!

☛ Cost for food and lodging is \$50 for members and \$55 for non-members of ASM.
For more information phone Jim Kriner (614/393-5021) or Carol Green (614/888-7199).

Ever Wonder . . .

WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE WORLD OF MEN?

Men from Ohio are gathering to explore and celebrate a thoughtful, more intelligent masculinity that can lead toward powerful, life-long, unshakeable friendships with other men and their God.

To register, call Mary Parrett, Ohio Conference Office
(614) 397-4665

Registration fee: \$20

The 2nd Ohio
MEN'S RETREAT
Nov. 20-22, 1992
at Camp Mohaven

Speaker: Marwood Hallett

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Jerry Page

Adventist education—worth the investment

In 1956 I got a real dose of the home/school/church reality. That was the year I was in first grade, and my mother taught me in the one-room school in Waynesboro, Virginia.

My mother was great with the “hopeless” cases. You know, those students who were tough, rebellious and loved to give teachers Excedrin headaches. But like the Master Teacher, she would come close to those rebels, trust them with special responsibility and while remaining firm to principle, she let them know that she loved them and saw great potential in them. The combination was irresistible, for the responses and transformations were tremendous.

The prophet understood this process and phrased it like this: “In the highest sense the work of education and the work of redemption are one, for in education, as in redemption, ‘other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid, which is Christ Jesus.’”

Only Adventist education can lead young peoples’ lives to be restored in the fullest sense of God’s plan. Even though I rebelled against Christ for some years, my parents’ commitment to have me in our schools sowed seeds that I believe the Holy Spirit used strongly to bring me to Jesus and His work at a later time.

Is Adventist education worth the cost? With the financial challenges facing our schools, is it worth all of us giving something extra? I thank the Lord that in my home Adventist education was never seen as an option or a luxury. It was seen as one of the great core teachings of this Advent movement. How much should one give in exchange for a soul? We won’t really begin to understand until we have spent that first million years investigating the universe with our loved ones.

To keep our schools excellent, academically and in every way, it is vital that we all see them as “church” schools and not only “parent-supported” schools. We must keep supporting with prayers, effort and finances so the Lord has every possible tool to transform our children’s lives. Let’s pray specifically for and support all of our teachers and students.

They weren’t giving Zapara Awards in 1956, and I’m sure it won’t get through committee, but I’d love to nominate my mother for a retroactive Zapara Award as an example of all our Adventist teachers who have given their lives to encourage, instruct and inspire young people to be all the Lord plans for them to be in His power.

Now my son, Zachary, began first grade in an Adventist school this fall. His teacher has the same excellent spiritual gifts and commitment to Jesus that have changed so many lives, including my own. And thanks, Mom, for not giving up on me and for seeing potential.

JERRY N. PAGE
President

Hurricane Andrew draws relief response

On Tuesday morning, August 25, 1992, the reality of Hurricane Andrew’s impact on southern Florida charged through the media and ignited the compassion of Pennsylvania Adventists.

Heather White, WLYH-TV Action News reporter from Lebanon, contacted Church Ministries Director Sheldon Seltzer that morning. Her question: “What are Pennsylvania Advent-

ist Disaster Services plans for response to the devastation?” The six o’clock news carried his answer: “We are prepared to send 700 blankets and clothing immediately. The Adventist Disaster and Relief Agency and our North American ADS network is now assessing the urgent needs. We will respond to their shopping list of needs.”

continued on page 16

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND PENNSYLVANIA

NOVEMBER 15
Southwestern Federation
Johnstown Church

NOVEMBER 15
Parent Day
Blue Mountain Academy

DECEMBER 4, 5
Christmas Concerts
Blue Mountain Academy

DECEMBER 6
Hispanic Federation
Spanish I Church

DECEMBER 6-JANUARY 6
Hurricane Andrew
Mission Trip to Florida

DECEMBER 7
Conference Committee
Reading Rehab Hospital

DECEMBER 24, 25
Conference Office Closed

FEBRUARY 5-7
Pathfinder Winter Retreat
Laurel Lake Camp

PENNSYLVANIA PEN

Published in the Visitor by the Pennsylvania Conference

President
Jerry Page

Communication Director
Sheldon Seltzer

Pennsylvania Conference
720 Museum Road
Reading, Pennsylvania 19611
(215) 374-8331



Reading Eagle photographer and Sheldon Seltzer, Pennsylvania ADS coordinator, rejoice together over the 16 tons of relief supplies being prepared for shipment.

ADVENTIST EDUCATION IN ACTION

GPJA fills the "Unicorn"

Greater Philadelphia Junior Academy anticipates a third year of active association with the Upper Moreland Unicorn Project. This local agency, begun in 1981, brings Thanksgiving and Christmas boxes to deprived children who are not served under normal welfare assistance guidelines.

Walter Dunn led his fifth- and sixth-graders while they collected food for "Unicorn" during the '90-'91 school year in response to the agency's request.

"So successful was the student involvement," stated Principal Harold Greene, "that three trucking trips were necessary rather than the anticipated one."

During the '91-'92 school year, the Student Association adopted the project. Left at about 600 homes were letters that included the facts of the collection opportunity.

Seventy boxes of food required four transportation trips. "We were able to fill their food shelves beyond their needs for holiday distribution," reported Principal Greene.

Home school alert

"Home schooling needs much prayer, research and commitment," warns James Stephan, Pennsylvania Conference superintendent of education. Dr. Stephan points out a few critical suggestions:

1) Pennsylvania "compulsory school age" begins at 8 years old until the age of 17 years. No formal home school arrangements need to be made before the child's eighth birthday.

2) All arrangements must be made with the local public school

superintendent, whose permission is necessary. Get acquainted with the superintendent! Some are highly unsympathetic with home schooling activities. Regular evaluation of curriculum and student progress will be made by public school officials. Lack of educational progress may force a child (or children) into a public school educational program.

3) Home Study International, our Seventh-day Adventist accredited school, should be used for home schooling subjects and activities. Adventist educational standards and Christian teachings and life-style are emphasized throughout their curricula.

Pennsylvania teachers are in a class by themselves

Nineteen teachers have an M.A. or M.A.T. degree with the proper years of teaching and the required college courses, giving them professional teacher certification.

Seventeen teachers have a college degree with the proper years of teaching and the required college courses, providing them a standard teacher certification.

Two teachers have the college degrees and required college courses, but lack the years of teaching experience so they hold a basic teacher certification.

Four teachers having college degrees, but lacking the proper courses for certification, are taking six or more semester hours of classes each school year. They now hold conditional certification. Three of these teachers have M.A. degrees.

Forty-two elementary teachers work within Pennsylvania.

continued on page 15

Angels speak through teachers' voices

Pennsylvania elementary church school teachers met August 16-19 at Laurel Lake Camp in Rossiter for their annual preschool opening orientation. James Stephan, superintendent of education, and Agnes Eroh, classroom supervisor, organized the retreat, which instructed, encouraged, counseled and directed

they recognize that "kids are people, too." "The Relationship of Children to Jesus Christ" and "The Teachers' Relationship to their Pastors," presented by Duerksen, focused on the vital human element in the teaching profession.

Marion Hartlein, North American Division associate director of education, brought an integrated view of Adventist classroom subjects. Willard Santee, pastor of the Reading Hampden Heights church, brought three studies on practical current issues: "The Fall of America," "The Keys of this Blood" and "Rock and Roll—The Message Behind the Music."

Principals April Schander, Harold Greene and Beverly Boyer and Pennsylvania Religious Liberty Director Sheldon Seltzer also participated in the convention's presentations.



Dave Morgan, of the Mountain View school and Harold Greene of Greater Pittsburgh Junior Academy.

those who are teaching the 597 students in the 22 schools of the Pennsylvania Conference.

Richard Duerksen, Columbia Union vice president for communication, marketing and special ministries, challenged the educators on their spiritual life, so



Agnes Eroh, associate superintendent of schools, and Marion Hartlein, associate director of education.

ADVENTIST EDUCATION IN ACTION

More Blue Mountain elementary classroom space

The ground-breaking ceremony for two new additional classrooms for the Blue Mountain elementary school in Hamburg took place on August 4.

"After much prayer and deliberation," stated Principal Vaughn Jennings III, it was decided by the constituent churches to enlarge the existing building. Grades one, two, three and four will occupy the new space. "The old classroom will serve the music and art appreciation needs of the student body," Jennings said.

A public school renovation project provided a donation of 65 school lockers, a group of wall cabinets, bookshelves, six new doors and acoustical tile panels to reduce noise echoing. New commercial carpeting was secured at half price, installed, from a cus-

tomers-rejected custom stock in which a color and design mistake was made. The ATT Corporation donated a personal computer to the school. The PC, with a hard drive and color monitor, became available due to ATT equipment upgrading.



Jim Halye, building coordinator (left), and Vaughn Jennings, principal.

Passing the torch

Principal Dale Walker of the Mountain View Adventist School in Williamsport reports that six students made the decision to be baptized into Christ during the past school year.

Christian education at Greater Philadelphia Junior Academy guided a non-Adventist girl to church membership. Joan, the non-Adventist, was friends with Heather, an Adventist. Joan decided to attend GPJA during her 10th grade of education. She attended the '91 Women's Retreat and was baptized last spring. "Her plans now include Blue Mountain Academy in Hamburg for her final year of high school," stated

GPJA Principal Harold Greene.

Taking a tumble for Christ

Students of the Mountain View Adventist School are preparing to "tumble for Christ."

Dave Morgan, who is organizing the Mountain Praise gymnastic team, brings 10 years of experience in gymnastic coaching to his new teaching assignment in Williamsport. They plan to learn and practice tumbling skills during the first semester and then perform for local public schools, nursing homes, non-Adventist church groups, etc. during the spring of 1993.

"Each presentation," stated

Morgan, "will speak of teamwork, healthy living and hard work. Through our actions, we hope to speak volumes." Old makes way for the new.

Pressures of various kinds have sparked new school construction. The Erie congregation has put its school property up for sale. They plan to build their new school near the church sanctuary.

The Wyoming Valley school was forced to close because of an asbestos problem in the Kingston church school location. A new two-room school was constructed, and they are now adding a multi-purpose room.

Students want Christian action

A Community Services outreach is in operation at the Lehigh Valley school. Kalyani Prakasam, lower grades teacher, and students visit a local nursing home weekly with an "Adopted Grandparent" approach.

Lehigh Valley students also assist in an every-other-month-second-Sunday food program for homeless people in Allentown in cooperation with other concerned agencies.

Adventist education supporters display creative conduct

Children and church members are enjoying increasing interaction across the conference. School children are assisting in church services, participating rather than just listening to the children's story or sermonette. Children are interviewing adults on their childhood and conversion experiences. Adults are being asked to tell students "what they do in their work." Some workers have had children come to their place of employment to

observe their work first-hand.

Stroudsburg school Principal Don Krpalek made the worship service on the Sabbath following the start of school an education for the congregation. His offering appeal for the church budget highlighted the positive results in Christian education, which is a major expense item funded by the budget.

The Lebanon church, with no school of its own, transports two students to the Blue Mountain elementary school. A purchased station wagon is driven by parents in the morning and a retired pastor in the afternoon.

Vision nears reality

The Gettysburg congregation is moving ahead toward establishing a new two-teacher school. "Increased membership, attendance and renewed interest in Adventist Christian education," related Pastor Bob Williams, "has motivated us to put God's will into action for our children."

"Teachers" continued from page 14

Twenty of the 42 were born or lived most of their lives in Pennsylvania. The average years of teaching for these teachers is 17.4. Many of these teachers have done most of their teaching for the Pennsylvania Conference.

"Pennsylvania was at the top for certified teachers during the 1991-92 school year in the Columbia Union," reported James Stephan, conference superintendent of education. This past school year two schools had to close due to enrollment and asbestos. However, one school has been opened (Philadelphia Adventist Academy) for the Spanish in Philadelphia, and one has had to add another teacher due to an increase in enrollment.

Laurel Lake summer update

Three hundred youngsters attended Laurel Lake Camp's 1992 summer programs. Thirty-seven of those campers requested the rite of baptism and church membership in their local Adventist church. Camper April Cavender received baptism by Pastor DeWayne Boyer of New Brighton during her camping experience.

Reading Rehabilitation Hospital sponsored several handicapped children, the Wuchenich Foundation helped in sponsoring 100 children, and several churches throughout the Commonwealth sponsored one or more children.

"The 35 seniors who enjoyed the 1992 'Young-at-Heart' week composed the largest group yet," according to Don Baker, youth and young adult associate in the church ministries department.

Pennsylvania trust services receives certification

The Pennsylvania Trust Services received Level A Accreditation from the North American Division Trust Services Certification and Accreditation Committee at the NAD Trust Department Advisory on August 9 in Farmington, Connecticut.

Jake Knight, services director, and Jeanne Franke, trust officer, were certified by the examining committee, finding them meeting "the educational, ethical and administrative standards" for Level A Accreditation.

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Two McKean County churches consolidate

On September 29, the conference committee gave its approval to the merger of the Bradford and Eldred congregations. Pastor Alex DuBee announced the favorable decision of both congregations to purchase a substantially constructed former Methodist church and parsonage in Derrick City and form a new congregational leadership group. The property, purchased for \$70,000,

is located east and slightly north of Bradford, the county seat, and has sanctuary seating for 200 worshippers.

"Hurricane" continued from page 13

Wednesday conversations with James Clements, Columbia Union church ministries director, and Monte Sahlin, North American Division disaster coordinator, provided the facts and encouragement to "go public" for relief supplies in the Reading area and financing through our churches and the public.

Results of media notifications—TV, newspaper and radio—were gratifying. Sixteen tons of supplies—non-perishable food, water, children's clothing, personal care kits and building supplies—were assembled for shipping from August 29 to September 1. Reading Junior Academy staff members and students, the Spanish Medical Cadet Corps, local Pathfinders and others efficiently repackaged and loaded the supplies.

membership of 53, according to Pastor Bob Hoyt.

The Philadelphia Chestnut Hill church has embarked on major refurbishing and remodeling projects. A pipe organ installation, exterior painting and remodeling to provide additional Sabbath school areas and better use of the basement are on their "must-do" list, according to Pastor Franke Zollman.

Seventeen families left homeless by the Jamestown Apartment fire were assisted by Erie church Community Services personnel. More than 1,000 pieces of clothing, along with bedding and some dishes,

were made available at the request of the local American Red Cross chapter. "Some of these victims escaped with only the clothes on their backs," according to state federation President Millie McCullum.

"Archeology, the Ancient World and the Bible" is an evangelistic leap into the past that anticipates an exciting future of the Chestnut Hill church. Pastor Franke Zollman's opening night was Sunday, September 27. He is incorporating archeological data with biblical material to attract non-members from this economically upscale community.

Drivers Paul Shobe and Will Comley left about 9:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 1, and arrived at the Fort Lauderdale receiving center 26 hours later. All supplies were delivered effectively and were distributed through one of nine ADS distribution centers.

The conference ADS disaster fund was given over \$3,700 through our local churches and an additional \$2,300 direct through the conference office. The Adventist Disaster and Relief Agency also received over \$4,000 during August. "Additional donations are still anticipated," Seltzer affirmed.

Don Baker, conference youth director, and his young adult network are organizing a Florida construction maranatha from December 6-31. Donated building materials are being requested for their projects. Details are available through his office, and information will be sent to the churches.



George Crumley (left), North American Division treasurer and Trust Services Accreditation Committee chairperson, congratulates Jake Knight for his leadership in securing Level A Accreditation for the Pennsylvania Conference Trust Services Department.

Blue Mountain Academy COMMUNIQUE

Showers of blessings?

Well... yes, maybe... no, definitely yes!
The cafeteria roof is leaking.

When Blue Mountain Academy opened its doors in September 1955, the campus consisted of a farm, a cafeteria, two dorms, several houses and one quonset hut. The cafeteria was the center of all the school's activities. Not only was it used for meals but the students also met there to socialize and work and play. They had "soybean bees" where the local crop was shelled, they played Battleship on Saturday nights, had relay races and talent programs and became a school family.



The building was not quite finished when that first school year began. Some of the windows were glass, and some were plastic sheeting. The floor was part cement and part dirt. The cement bags and other building materials piled in the corner on the "girls' side" were used as bookshelves and coat racks during meals. Tarps hung ceiling to floor as curtains separating the finished section from the section still in process.

But the building was sound—the walls solid, the foundation sturdy and the roof secure. The original cost was \$111,029. That was 1955—37 years ago.

Today, it looks a bit different. There are carpeted floors and stenciled walls with coordinating curtains. There is updated equipment, a new boiler and a sound system. But the original building is still here. The same floor plan, the same red brick exterior, the same roof. Yes, a 37-year-old roof that is now leaking.

It's amazing, isn't it, that the roof lasted 37 years? (I'm told the average life of such a structure is 20 to 25 years.)

Every time it rains we are reminded of how God has poured His blessings on Blue Mountain Academy. When we see buckets catching water, we are reminded of the storehouses in heaven that He has always open.

Our Pennsylvania constituency knew that God would always provide for and sustain Blue Mountain Academy when, in the late 1940s, they voted to establish and maintain a boarding academy for the youth of the Pennsylvania Conference. They had little money and no land. But they had faith—the early voices called it "an adventure in faith." And the Lord showered them with blessings. I love hearing the stories!

How the Lord provides for this need will be a wonderful miracle story. And as we begin to rebuild this 37 year old institution, we look forward to experiencing another "adventure in faith."

CARON OSWALD
Director of Advancement

Christmas Concerts

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| December 4 7:30 | Sylvan Singers
Bel Canto
La Sonnette Ensemble |
| December 5 4:00 | Piano/Organ Vespers |
| December 5 7:30 | Band Christmas Concert |

Thirty-first annual Leadership Camp

Blue Mountain Academy Leadership Camp—now a 31-year tradition—is always an eagerly anticipated and long-remembered event for BMA student officers and leaders and the staff families who are privileged to share this special weekend with them. The 1992-93 outing was no exception.

Fifty campers gathered sleeping bags, flashlights and all the usual camping gear and headed for

Camp Shehaqua, a group camp that is part of Hickory Run State Park in Pennsylvania's Pocono Mountains. After settling into their woodland "homes", the events of the weekend began. It was already evident that this was to be a very special time together.

What would be the most treasured memory-makers of this weekend away from the routine of life at BMA? Would it be the exhilarating mountain air or the warm glow of the fire in the lodge? The abundance of delicious food prepared by Mr. Allen or the spiritual food provided through the inspiring words of guest Rob McIntyre from Andrews University? Would the games enjoyed together be the best part or the challenge of the picture puzzle being put together on one of the tables? Perhaps the hike down the stream bed or the run across the rocks at the amazing Boulder Field would be most remembered.

Students say, "Yes, it was all of these things, but much more." Listen to what was most significant to them about the 1992-93 BMA Leadership Camp:

- "Time with God without pressures."
- "Staff and students working and playing together."
- "I found a new excitement about getting to know Jesus."
- "The Sabbath evening prayer circle when everyone prayed for the person on their left."
- "The bonding together and unity we felt."
- "I saw how we could work together to help others."
- "I especially liked all the singing we did together."
- "The closeness with everybody, especially in the prayer circle."
- "Pastor McIntyre helped me to realize that I don't have time for Satan's distractions. I need to get down to the business of preparing for heaven."

The staff concurs wholeheartedly with student reaction to the weekend and are very confident that the Lord will bless our school through this year's student leadership.

ELAINE FERGUSON
Business Manager

A Message from the Principal

On the first day of orientation, the students were separated into family groups and asked to visualize the "ideal BMA" and make a list of what they saw. They were then instructed to choose the most important item they listed. Here is what each family group's majority thought was most important:

I see ...

Students reflecting Christ; Looser boundaries on social behavior; Christ; No hatred; A school where everyone loves God; Less supervision; Everyone as friends; Competitive basketball teams; Friends; No segregation of race or sex; Music in the dorms; Interaction with other academies; A school where everyone knows God.

Young people are going to be vitally involved in finishing the Lord's work on this earth. Young people who have learned that Jesus must be first, last, and best in everything! I am encouraged because many of those young people are right here at Blue Mountain Academy!

"These are the commands, decrees, and laws the Lord your God directed me to teach you to observe..., so that you, your children, and their children after them may fear the Lord your God as long as you live..."

"These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up,—Deut. 6:1, 2, 6, 7 (NIV).

When we talk to our youth, what topics dominate? When we remember our academy experience, how do we indicate what is important? When we speak of God and how He affects our life, what do we really say?

Ellen White puts it this way:

"Who has the heart? With whom are our warmest affections and our best energies? If we are Christ's, our thoughts are with Him, and our sweetest thoughts are of Him. All we have and are is consecrated to Him. We long to bear His image, breathe His spirit, do His will, and please Him in all things,"—*Steps to Christ* page 58.

May God teach us how to be immersed in Christ and with excitement, joy and conviction share Him and His power to change lives with our youth!

STAN ROUSE
Principal



F.Y.I.

Spiritual Retreat	November 6-8
Senior Recognition	November 13-14
Parent Day	November 15
Thanksgiving Homeleave	November 25-29
Christmas Concerts	December 4-5
Christmas Holidays	December 18-January 3

F.O.C.U.S.

"This past week has been the devil's nightmare. So much 'out front' truth about God and how His rules apply to us today. No hard to understand, beat around the bush stuff, just straight to the point," said senior Daniel Dunn about Rob McIntyre's candid preaching during Blue Mountain Academy's Fall Focus On Christ's Ultimate Sacrifice.

McIntyre, a seminary student at Andrews University, stressed his theme of "Awesome God, Awesome Love" throughout the 12 services in which he spoke. McIntyre combined humor and stories with a strong Bible base.

April Russell, another senior said, "most of the stuff he covered was age-old and elementary, but it was nice to get back to the basics, to be reminded of it all."

And Elizabeth Patton, a student from Philadelphia said, "He spoke so bluntly and straight to the point that it was hard to ignore what he was trying to get across. I've learned a lot about life and what role I need to play. I can say that I've truly changed."

The week was far from just listening to sermons. The student body and faculty knelt together in small groups before the week even began and prayed for each other. Everyone was given two names to pray for throughout the week. Some students formed their own prayer groups in the dormitories, and after many of the meetings over one-third of the student body would stay by to pray.

Also, outside of the chapel, Pastor McIntyre spent time in each of the religion classes talking with students and answering questions. The freshmen painted banners about the week's theme and various sermon topics.

Friday evening after vespers, over half the student body chose to stay for a communion service in the gym. For many this was the most memorable moment of the week. Chuck Holtry, a student from Hamburg, Pennsylvania, said, "Although I didn't talk to my friends, I felt close to them by worshipping God with them."

Other students stood and spoke positively of the communion service during family sharing time on Sabbath morning. Others spoke of the study and prayer groups they were forming in the dorms. But it was words like those of junior Elisha Torres that reflect the greatest success of the week: "My mother's



an Adventist, and my father's an Adventist preacher. I've always been a P.K. It's always been my parents' religion. But this week, I made it my religion."

DAVID STONE
English/Religion Teacher

Freshmen students
make banners for the fall
F.O.C.U.S. week.

Girls' club

Every year, the girls' club has a "Secret Sister" program for all of the girls in the dorm who would like to participate. We start the program by having a party in September. At the party, the girls' club officers let everyone pick a piece of candy that has another girl's name taped on the wrapper.

The dean keeps track of who has who. But you DO NOT tell anyone else who your Secret Sister is.

From then on you write your Secret Sister to give her encouragement and to let her know you care. Many of the girls also leave little goodies in their rooms (with the dean's help).

Then a week or two before we leave for Christmas break, the girls' club has another party. This time you bring a small gift for your Secret Sis, and you finally get the chance to find out who your own Secret Sister has been.

This has been one of the most enjoyable parts of dorm life here at BMA.



BETH LEMKELDE
Junior



David Stone (left) and Duane Ferguson serve students breakfast in their dorm rooms.

Surprise!

The sound of familiar voices and carts rolling down the dorm halls aroused quite a stir among the students in both BMA dorms. It was Sabbath morning, and the day began with an unexpected visit from the staff serving them breakfast in bed.

Some students were getting ready to go to the cafe, some had just jumped out of the shower, and for others, morning hadn't quite arrived yet when a knock came on their door.

"Good morning! Happy Sabbath! Breakfast is served!"

The staff greeted surprised, sleepy-eyed, confused students with smiles and hellos, bringing behind them a cart full of food for the special occasion. Soon staff were hustling about taking orders, and the once-full cart was emptied of its variety of home-made breads, cereals, juices and fruit.

The students' response was overwhelmingly favorable. "It was a total surprise!" "It was very sweet of them." "It was really kind of the staff." "What touched me the most was that they took time out of their Sabbath morning to spend time with us."

The normal weekend life of BMA was altered for just a few minutes, but the memory will always carry on. Whether it be the students remembering how great it felt to be treated so special or the faculty remembering the fun of creating a surprise, a wonderful Sabbath day blessing was felt by all.

SARAH BEAGLES
BMA Junior

Seeing Beyond 3-D

BMA graphic arts students recently experienced the largest graphic communications exposition of 1992. "GRAPHEXPO92", held in New York City, featured the three dimensions (3-D) of the industry—printing and publishing, graphic design and

computer publishing. More than 400 exhibitors filled most of the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center and displayed everything from promotionals for increasing sales to the latest in equipment technology.

Computer design and content manipulation fascinated many students and helped them understand better that one can no longer believe what one sees in print. Watching major press manufacturers spar off intrigued others. Seeing a 38" Komori press change over from one job to another, with paper size and plate changes, and be up to color and running at 11,000 impressions an hour in less than 15 minutes was impressive. But so was seeing Heidelberg's GTO-DI system, which took a computer image, output it directly to the printing plates necessary for a four-color job and again had the press up to color and speed in less than 15 minutes.

Students left the show enthused and rich with their bounty of free posters, pencils and pins. It was a big thrill for me, as their teacher, to see the students developing an even greater interest in printing. I also knew the students would grasp more quickly the concepts still to be learned, having experienced this demonstration of today's trends and tomorrow's technology.

The tremendous strides being made in graphics also prompted us to look beyond all these things to the One who is still in control. The Lord has always provided a means to spread His message, and as the need has increased, so has He increased the capabilities of this industry. From Gutenberg's press and Bible to today's web-press technology, which produces our publications at over a million pages an hour, God has provided a more efficient means to spread His message of hope to this dying planet.

HAROLD CURTIS
Graphic Arts Teacher

Meet the new task force assistant boys' dean



Dan Plank has recently joined Blue Mountain Academy's faculty as task force assistant boys' dean and industry worker.

Dan graduated from Southern College in 1991 with a B.S. degree in health, physical education and recreation. He spent six months in Korea at the Seventh-day

Adventist English Language Institute. Dan believes in Christian education and looks forward to working with the young men at the dorm and helping out in the campus industry.

Potomac People

Potomac Conference, P.O. Box 1208, Staunton, Virginia 24401 / (703) 886-0771 or (202) 554-4581

What's happening around Potomac

Beltsville Teacher Commissioning

November 14
3:00 p.m.

Beltsville, Maryland, Church

Men's Retreat

November 20-22

*Fort Magruder Inn
Williamsburg, Virginia*

Remember Ingathering during November and December!

Handel's "Messiah"

December 5, 3:30 p.m.

Takoma Park Church

*Concert Series
featuring*

La Camerata Nuove Singers
New England Youth Ensemble
Francisco de Araujo, director
A benefit for a new church in
Moldova, Russia

Free tickets available at
Adventist institutions in
Takoma Park November 1

Christmas Special "The Other Wise Man" a dramatic presentation

December 19, 4 p.m.

Takoma Park Church

*Concert Series
featuring*

La Camerata Nuove Singers
produced and directed by
Francisco de Araujo

Potomac People

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President, Ralph Martin; Editor, Sue
Bendall.



Skip Bell

It's been good to be here

The years I have spent in the Potomac Conference have been among the best of my life! Our family has loved the beauty and diversity of this conference; we have built lasting friendships and I have enjoyed my ministry tremendously. Thank you for the privilege of serving here for four wonderful years!

I would like to remind you of the strengths of this conference. We are blessed in Potomac with a diversity of population that strengthens the quality of our fellowship. Members living in the world's most important city mingle with those living in the hills of southwestern Virginia. People of the beautiful Shenandoah Valley and central

Virginia are complemented by the sprawling cities and military bases of the Tidewater area. We are stronger when we value people unlike ourselves and learn to live and work for God's kingdom together.

Potomac's lay people involve themselves in God's church. We meet for prayer and study in small groups. We participate in planning for growth. We support world mission. We are enthusiastic about evangelism. We address issues important to the world church, thus giving counsel and direction to it from the "grass roots."

Potomac is blessed to have an educational system, both K-10 and secondary, beyond compare. It has been my special privilege to work closely with our education department personnel and I have learned to value their professional expertise and to love them as individuals. Our two academies are addressing the challenges of secondary Christian education in today's society and doing a tremendous job. We can praise God for the vision shared by our members and staff for Christian education!

Much more can be said in praise of the Potomac Conference, but to do so might cause us to miss the point. We have much to be thankful for because God has given and multiplied so abundantly! I thank God for each of you and His grace to His church! As I consider the challenges met, the miracles of God's providence and the advancement of God's kingdom over the past four years, I can only praise Him. We serve a wonderful God!

Now permit me a personal note. I have worked with many of you in difficult situations. We have prayed together, reasoned together and enjoyed fellowship together. Through these experiences I have grown to respect and to love you. Leaving to assume the leadership of the New York Conference has not been an easy decision. I will miss you deeply. I prefer to think of myself as a friend and fellow soldier for Christ just a few miles up Interstate 81. God's blessings will continue with us all and I will look eagerly for news of your lives, your churches and your schools. Potomac will always be a big part of my life!

I pledge myself to pray for you continually. Thank you again for your love and friendship and please pray for your fellow believers in New York.

SKIP BELL

*(former) Vice President for Administration
President, New York Conference*

Adventist Community Services and Adventist Refugee Ministries

Adventist Community Services and Adventist Refugee Ministries teamed up to assist King Kigali V of Rwanda, who was forced out of his country in 1960. King Kigali is in the Washington, D.C., area to seek United Nations and United States support for reinstatement and settlement of the bloody violence that has continued off and on between

the Bahutu and Watutsi tribes.

According to John Gavin, executive director of Silver Spring Adventist Community Services and national coordinator for Adventist Refugee Ministries, "King Kigali and his secretary, Benzing Boniface, had very few resources and were found to be in need of basic hous-

ing, food, furniture, household items and transportation assistance." Within days after learning of the case, Community Services staff arranged for housing and delivered essential furniture, household items and food.

Monte Sahlin, adult ministries coordinator for the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists, is the executive who oversees both Adventist Refugee Ministries and Adventist Community Services. "This is an unusual case, as the service delivery system we have in place is really not set up to help people of this stature. Nevertheless, I am pleased with the caring service and hard work on the part of Community Services and Refugee Ministries," stated Sahlin.

Adventist Refugee Ministries provided assistance with the asylum application process, as well as an emergency grant for housing. "I have never done social work with a king before," admitted Gavin. "It has been a little awkward, since our services are designed to help very poor families or homeless persons."

Community Services and Refugee Ministries stayed involved in the case for several months, until the king and his associate were in a stable situation whereby they could begin to build an independent network of support.

Profile

Potomac Executive Committee

Potomac's prodigious Peggy

Gliding toward me was a towering presence. Immediately I was swept up into contagious enthusiasm. Wreathed about the woman's face was a gigantic smile that relaxed every anxiety of entering a new church. Her outstretched hand invited mine into a warm welcome, flooded with words of genuine caring and concern. Yes, you guessed: It was Peggy Harris, co-founder of H.O.P.E. Ministry (a hospitality ministry). I was the new pastor of her church, but she had taken the initiative to make me feel like a royal guest. She and her team of first-impression Christians in the church foyer reached every worshipper that morning with a duplicate of my welcome.

Never a person to allow a moment to pass her by without some constructive development, she has busied herself through the past dozen years in church leadership. The Beltsville church has felt Peggy's dynamics as local elder, head deaconess, hospitality expansion coordinator, fellowship dinner coordinator, personal ministries leader and presently church growth director. In each office Peggy found time in the quiet of her computer corner to reduce each position and its responsibilities to a manual. Now others can read and follow her ambitious lead.

However, her professional life never robs her personal and family devotion. Husband Mel delights in her careful attention. Her busy children always feel her motherly touch, and grandchildren now throw open new doors of service for prodigious Peggy.

Spiritual life and growth are measured by opportunities to become immersed in God's Word. But this is not the end for Peggy. After learning God's principles of spiritual oneness with Him, she then translates her experience into the lives of the people she works with as an insurance agent, with her church family and with members of the Potomac executive committee. Her life touches many others over the North American Division as she conducts biblical hospitality seminars that teach people how to use the principles of hospitality from Scripture in their everyday lives. "We talk a lot about being the caring church," she says, "and then go about our business and don't really care that much."

Beyond the limits of most, she has ventured into the new and almost uncharted lands of women's ministries. From trailblazer and leader in these unknown reaches of her church, she has been called to a higher role of leadership, the presidency of the Association of Adventist Women. Peggy Harris has achieved what most women only have energy to dream about, yet she is still so humanly real that she can weep with those who are hurting in ways transcending our understanding.

Peggy is truly a woman for all seasons. Being a woman among women does not keep her from also being a Christian among all people. Keep your eyes open to see this dynamic leader of Potomac people as she spreads the warmth of her Lord's love everywhere.

ROBERT C. CLARKE—Pastor, Staunton Church



Back-to-school Sabbath

August 22 was "Back-to-school" Sabbath at the Staunton, Virginia, church. Students—whether they were going to C. F. Richards Jr. Academy, Shenandoah Valley or another academy, college or public school—received special attention.

Students presented the call for the offering, the scripture reading and the prayer.

Pastor Bob Clarke called all students to the front of the church where, in a special prayer, he asked God's blessing upon them.

Bob Rice, C. F. Richards school principal, presented the sermon. He stressed that spiritual training must be combined with intellectual training.

A fellowship dinner followed the worship service.

LURA DEMERS
Staunton Church

"Youth, youth and more youth and you!"

The title of this report almost makes you feel tongue-tied. But the intent is not to cause you to start lisping; it's to entice you to commence listening!

For several months the Potomac Conference Personal Ministries department has been promoting small group ministry. One of the ways this promotion has taken place has been to relate positive results from small groups around the conference. However, this quarter we want to highlight a group from Hagerstown, Maryland, in the Chesapeake Conference (After all, they're in the same business!). Rhett Eklund, a new teacher in Vienna, Virginia, led us to this inspiring story.

Don Draper, leader of this youth Bible study small group is a very enthusiastic man. He, along with his wife, Sue, fill their home every Friday evening for two hours (8 to 10 p.m.) with young people ages 19 to 25. They are not there to play; but rather to study God's Word.



When Mike, 21, and Danielle Draper, 19, conveyed an invitation to friends to come to their house to have tough biblical questions answered, they probably didn't realize the eternal blessings that were to be achieved.

attending each meeting.

As they have gotten better acquainted, the Drapers have found that many of these young people have personal problems, in addition to meeting with difficulty at home. This has allowed them to minister in a broader sense. There have been times when one or more of these young people discussed their problems with Don and Sue until the wee hours. But the time invested has had a profound effect on at least four of these precious searchers. As of August

latest convert, was baptized on August 15.

In the Bible we are told that the first shall be last and the last shall be first; but nowhere can it be found that the first and the last shall be one—except here. Donnie and Genny have discovered Jesus and each other. They are now engaged to be married! What a lovely way to start life together—in Jesus Christ.

This youth small group makes it a practice to go out on Sabbath afternoons and distribute literature. They go from door to door and witness to others by giving them a lasting testimony to enjoy after they leave. After the Sabbath hours you'll find them relaxing and playing ball at a gym or engaging in another social activity of some sort. This bundle of energetic lives has become, as it should be in small group ministry, a close-knit family. And in doing so, they share their joys and problems.

One young man who doesn't "party" is on the verge of being thrown out of his parents' home—you see, they do! The drastic measure this young man's parents are contemplating only proves that when one life is constantly in contrast with another, the difference is magnified. The group is now in the process of choosing prayer partners. This will give each of them a specific prayer buddy from whom to draw encouragement and strength. Just think, more prayer, more power.

This story is not inspiring only because of new members gained; it also disproves what so many believe: that the kids of today don't care about spiritual things! There are youth all around us who want to know how to have a better, happier lifestyle. The young people of today have rough seas to sail, and it is up to each and every one of us to be an approachable and loving pilot.

Well, have you been lisping, oops, I mean listening? There are numerous youth who hope you've caught the vision. Go find a group of young people and start a small group directed toward youth. Without the leadership of young people, the future is dark. The survival of this church depends on dedicated youth, and they need you. With this in mind, I know you'll agree that what the church needs most is "youth, youth and more youth—and YOU!"

May God bless you as you minister through small groups in Potomac.

PATTI HIGGS

Personal Ministries Department
Secretary



Standing, left to right: Joy, Donnie, Genny, Tim (pastor), Mary Kay, Troy, Lisa, Tom, Sue Draper and Shirley Kline (Sue's mom). Front, left to right: Allen, Chuck and Don Draper.

Don and Sue have two children. Their son, Mike, 21, is really at the root of starting this group. When friends posed questions regarding religion that he didn't feel qualified to answer, he would tell them, "I don't know, but come on over to the house; my dad can answer your questions." One thing led to another, and it wasn't long until Mike's sister, Danielle, 19, was inviting people to join the study group. Soon the invitees invited others and voila!—a full house! They now have eight to 14 young people

15, four young people, all from non-Adventist backgrounds (as are most of the group), have been baptized.

Donnie (the first convert) didn't want his public commitment to be in a baptism. So in the middle of winter he and the pastor donned wet suits and penetrated the icy waters of a river! Mary Kay was the second to commit her life to Christ through baptism. Troy, son of a Methodist minister, was the third individual to bury his six-foot-eight-inch frame in the watery grave. Genny, the

Blue Ridge— it's more than a camp



They come from all over, black, white and brown. They are tall, skinny, short, fat; some have freckles, some have blond hair, and some have curly hair. Though all are different, all are similar. Each could tell you stories of happiness and stories of sadness; each is searching for a better understanding of life and how he or she fits into the fast-paced world of today.

No longer are young people able to be

"just kids." Society has pushed them into being "grown up" before they are ready. Thankfully, by choice, our conference has Camp Blue Ridge, a place where some of this slowing-down process can take place, where our young people can be young people and where they can just be kids again.

You know what I mean—playing in the water, shooting arrows, making crafts or just goofing around with new friends. God did not intend for youth to slip by without the opportunity to enjoy the simple pleasures of childhood. Because of the choices our conference committee and administration have made, we have a wonderful place where our young people can go to enjoy being kids again.

Yet, more than play takes place at Camp Blue Ridge during the summer. As the young people ar-

rive, they are met by a staff that has been hand-picked for its ability to care, have fun, take responsibility and be genuine role models. The staff come committed to providing the very best time possible for each camper. All during our week of staff training, it is emphasized over and over again that we are not just providing fun but also providing an adventure of a lifetime. The adventures young people experience during camp are ones which they will cherish forever, ones which they will hopefully remember forever.

Not only do we have the opportunity to provide exciting and spirit-filled programming for our campers; but we are allowing our staff, who are mostly college students, to realize what leadership is all about and thus have the chance to develop their leadership abilities. This not only provides an excellent program at camp, but also will eventually enrich our local churches as staff members go back home.

Having remote-controlled cars, horseback riding, jet ski rides, exciting campfire programs, workshops on life issues, crafts, etc., are great; but there must be a purpose and a reason for their existence. Our goal at Camp Blue Ridge is to not just entertain young people but to also give them something that will help them in their walk of life.

As we are aware, not all young people come from homes where everything is great, safe or happy. By providing them a place where they can see a different lifestyle, learn a better understanding





of who God is and who God is not and how they can know Him better, we hopefully can provide a direction that will make a difference in each camper's life.

Every morning at staff worship before we had prayer requests, we would repeat our summer text, a passage that I chose to encourage and direct us in our mission for the summer, a text which I believe needs to be understood and lived daily. Hopefully, the staff and the young people who came to camp learned that

they are chosen by God, that He has a special place for their talents and that as they follow Him they will be guided in the direction they should go.

"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own



people, that you may declare the wonderful deeds of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were no people but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy but now you have received mercy,"—1 Peter 2:9, 10.

Camp Blue Ridge truly is a place to begin an adventure of a lifetime. If you doubt it, just ask a young person or staff member who attended last summer.

MARC ROTT

Youth Ministries Director

Building the 24th of April church



In August of 1492, 90 sailors departed from a Spanish harbor in three ships. Five hundred years later to the month, a group of Maranatha volunteers from the Potomac Conference departed from the Dulles International Airport. Both groups eventually wound up in the same place—the Caribbean island nation of the Dominican Republic. While the voyage of Columbus was one of business and enterprise, the re-

lives, while others were members of frequent flyer clubs and had seen much of the world.

Both the area and the church are named "The 24th of April" to commemorate that country's revolution in 1965. The old church is a small wood and metal structure that the 100-plus membership outgrew long ago. Hundreds of homes were being built in the 24th of April area, but the church site was the only construction area where workers were encouraged to occasionally chat or play with the curious onlookers.

The group stayed in a home in San Pedro and began their typical work day with breakfast at 5:45 a.m. The day ended

by 2:30 p.m. Volunteers also conducted evening sessions of Vacation Bible School that attracted hundreds of children, many of whom waited on the cement block seats long before the appointed time for an hour of songs and Bible stories.

One volunteer, Joshua Guzman of Laurel, Maryland, spoke Spanish fluently and immediately became the group's interpreter. He was overjoyed and sometimes overwhelmed by the service he provided the entire project. The only problem? "Sometimes I don't know if I should respond in English or Spanish," he said during a rare quiet moment when someone wasn't asking: "Hey, Josh, how do I say ...?"

But the volunteers discovered that communication was never a real problem. Each spoke the language of love and brotherhood. "They understand smiles, even if we can't understand what we're saying to each other," said Darcy Wine of Grottoes, Virginia.

The trip wasn't all work and evange-



Three of the village children have their picture taken by the "Americanos."

cent group of explorers took flight to help build another church, restore lives, renew hope and revitalize hearts by spreading God's word.

It was "a great experience," said Barbara Craighead, who assisted Marc Rott, Potomac's youth ministries director, in developing this 11-day mission trip of 27 volunteers to build a church near San Pedro. A project of the Potomac Conference's youth ministries department and Maranatha Volunteers International, the group ranged from the young to the young-at-heart. Some were on the first or second plane trip of their



Heidi Bell (right) and Josh Guzman team up to tell a story on the first night of Bible School.



The new 24th of April SDA church, shown from the side.



Rachael Cottrel and Mike VanArsdale make hard work look fun.

Domingo honoring the quinquennial voyage of Cristobal Colon (Christopher Columbus).

Although several of the volunteers had participated in other missions projects, there was only one professional builder in the group: Fred Krall, a veteran mission construction superintendent. Krall's optimistic prediction was that the Potomac group of relatively inexperienced volunteers would lay concrete blocks reaching about four feet high around the structure during their allotted time.

No way! During six days of work, volunteers mixed cement, set reinforcement rods and footings and laid thousands of cement blocks. By the last day of construction, roofing and the entire interior brick work was completed, along with the baptistry and a major portion of the walls for the small Sabbath school classrooms. Krall could not hide his joy at the progress when he surveyed the church.

Skip Bell, vice president of the Potomac Conference and one of the volunteers, delivered the first sermon in the new church. At the evening service, the group was welcomed and praised by Feliberto Martinez, president of the Eastern Conference. Each of the volunteers also received a gift from the church members.

Another group of volunteers will help complete the project, said Maranatha's Jessica Gilbert. Maranatha hopes to gather \$12,000 in donations to help pay for the remaining work, which includes plastering, laying the floor, landscaping and providing the church with additional pews and other furnishings.

Earlier this year 25 churches were built in the Dominican Republic's Central Conference by other groups of

Volunteers had time each day for beach activities, as well as a day for just shopping and sightseeing. A highlight of the trip was a visit to the nearly completed construction site of the "Faro a Colon," the huge lighthouse monument in Santo

Maranatha volunteers. Approximately 1,500 people annually become members of the Adventist church in the Dominican Republic. The island nation is challenged to have a new church every month, if it were possible.

For information about next year's trip to the Dominican Republic, call Marc Rott, youth ministries director, at the Potomac Conference office, (703) 886-0771.

DEBORAH BURSTION-WADE
Rockville, Maryland, Church

From some who were there

Several who went on the Santo Domingo trip were asked about their experiences. Here are some of the responses.

"Working with the people of Santo Domingo and the children was a highlight for me. Everyone was so willing to help with the work. On the last Saturday, church members gave each of us gifts. It's one of the best gifts I've ever received because the people gave it from their hearts.

"I worked on the cement mixer the first couple of days and then cut block for the block layers. It was hard work, but I would most definitely go on such a trip again. It was one of the greatest experiences of my life."

Michael Van Arsedale, Shenandoah Valley Academy

"I remember a special highlight was when I saw the smiles on the faces of kids peaking in the windows of their new church. I worked as a block layer and also helped coordinate the Vacation Bible School. Go on another trip like this? You bet!"

Craig Heinrich, Beltsville Youth Pastor

"The Sabbath services were particularly special to me. How the people showed their appreciation for their new church was very touching. My job on the trip was cooking for the group, and I would definitely like to go through a great experience like this again."

Charlene Sheffer, Potomac Education Department Secretary



Native Americans come to Yale school

The Chickahominy Redmen Dancers, consisting of men, women and children, shared some of their native American heritage in the gymnasium of the Yale elementary school on July 11.

The Chickahominy tribe, as explained by Wayne Adkins, program coordinator and emcee, is an agricultural tribe. Their program included dances that were performed before the crops were planted, a dance at harvest time, a dance the women used to display the shawls they had made, a dance of prayer and a dance to welcome visiting tribes. The outfits they wore are called regalia, and head-dresses are called roaches, Adkins explained.

We were pleased to have the chief of the tribe, Leonard "Lone Wolf" Adkins. He explained that his headdress, which looked like a stovepipe, was not what is usually seen on TV. He also displayed handmade items, such as arrows, sports equipment, vases and other native American artifacts.

After the program, refreshments were sold. Proceeds for the evening were for the benefit of the school.

"We have big plans for our school this year," said Bob Lehrer, principal. "Our enrollment has doubled: We have seven students in grades one through three and three students in grades seven and eight. We are saving aluminum cans and selling fruit to raise money; and as a community project, we are going to adopt a highway," added Lehrer.

BARBARA SHANKO
Yale Communication Secretary

Potomac Achievement Test results

The September 1992 Education Issue of *Potomac People* referred to a summary chart. The chart was inadvertently omitted. You will find it below.

Potomac Conference schools use the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) to gain an indication of the success the schools are having. The national average for ITBS is the 50th percentile. The term means that half the students taking the test scored lower than that level.

Potomac schools have an average percentile of 65. That places them in the top 35 percent of students throughout the nation.

Principals and teachers use their test results as a basis for planning their lessons. The Potomac Conference Education Department also uses the results to help them plan curriculum changes.

When the superintendents noticed low scores in the work study skills, they initiated a program for including how-to-study skills in the active curriculum. Math scores prompted the Potomac curriculum committee to examine math textbooks and recommend a new series to the Potomac Conference Board of Education K-10 for approval.

"Potomac teachers use the data generated by the ITBS to improve instruction," said Elaine Plemons, coordinator

of testing. "Before the beginning of each school year, we expect the teachers to prepare a plan based on the scores of their students," noted Plemons.

Test results for Potomac schools have improved during three of the past four years. This improvement testifies to the quality instructional program Potomac schools have and the usefulness of the test results, noted Violet Weiss, superintendent.

CLARENCE DUNBEBIN
Associate Education
Superintendent

Potomac schools are state approved

The September 1992 Education Issue of *Potomac People* had an article about school evaluation. Some readers understood from the article that the seven schools described in the article are the only Virginia state-approved schools in Potomac. Actually, all schools but one are approved schools. The one that is not approved will gain approval following evaluation in April 1993.

Potomac schools gain state approval through the General Conference school evaluation procedures. The process is the result of cooperation between the Virginia Council of American Private Education (VCAPE), the Common-

wealth of Virginia and the Potomac Conference Education Department.

VCAPE has approved the General Conference Office of Education evaluation program, said Violet Weiss, superintendent of schools. She presented the denominational program to VCAPE three years ago and won approval for the program. VCAPE serves the Commonwealth of Virginia as liaison with the private schools.

The following Potomac schools in Virginia will undergo evaluation in April and May of 1993:

- Appomattox Adventist School, Appomattox
- Galax Adventist School, Galax
- Konnarock Adventist School, Konnarock
- Oxford Elementary School, Roanoke
- Echo Valley Adventist School, Wytheville
- Powell Valley Adventist School, Big Stone Gap
- Fredericksburg Junior Academy, Fredericksburg
- Tappahannock Junior Academy, Tappahannock
- Tidewater Junior Academy, Chesapeake
- Stanley Adventist School, Stanley

Potomac Conference Achievement Test summary

April 1992—Iowa Tests of Basic Skills (ITBS)

Levels 7-14/Form G

Average Composite Percentile Rank [65]

Grades 1-8 Averaged (Top 35% of all schools nationally)

Grade	Language Skills							Work Study Skills			Mathematics Skills				Composite (not incl. Soc. Stud. & Sci.)	Number of Students	Social Studies	Science
	Vocabulary	Reading	Spelling	Capitalization	Punctuation	Usage	Total Language Skills	Visual Materials	References	Total Work Study Skills	Concepts	Problems	Computation	Total Math Skills				
2	70	71	67	71	72	64	70	72	67	72	65	65	69	69	71			
3	61	61	59	65	60	61	63	56	54	56	59	53	53	58	61		67	69
4	66	60	64	64	59	59	62	61	54	59	67	60	57	64	63		70	66
5	66	62	62	58	57	59	60	56	54	56	64	55	54	61	62		60	66
6	63	60	61	53	47	60	55	52	54	55	63	56	51	60	60		61	61
7	58	58	59	54	60	63	61	59	56	59	59	57	56	61	62		61	65
8	68	69	65	58	70	69	67	61	64	65	64	57	54	61	69		73	67
average	65	63	63	61	61	62	63	60	58	60	63	58	56	62	65*		65	66

* Last year's average composite score was 62.

TATODAY

Takoma Academy News

Takoma Academy—God's Hands Touching the World

Community service is woven into the fabric of life at Takoma Academy. Students regularly serve as God's hands xboth in the local community and overseas. Young men and women demonstrate their Christian commitment in a variety of situations.

Volunteer opportunities

For six years students have devoted their spring breaks to Maranatha trips. Under the sponsorship of Don Tripp, Bible teacher, students have traveled to Mexico and the Dominican Republic, where they've helped build a number of churches.

"Students return with a

deeper appreciation of what God has done for them and the sense of joy that comes from helping others," observes Tripp. "Four of these students have indicated a serious interest in becoming missionaries."

In the local community, Takoma Academy students participate in the "Loaves and Fishes" feeding program, which operates Monday-Friday. They join Columbia Union College students in the Sligo Church kitchen to prepare the sandwiches and assemble the rest

of the meal. About 5 p.m. the volunteers load up the meals and drive to the designated neighborhood. After the food is handed out, the volunteers play with the children and visit with their parents.

"I really enjoy the children and have made some friends," comments Stephanie Hollis, president of the TA National Honor Society.

Whether volunteer babysitter or drill sergeant for a Pathfinder club or helping with Sabbath school and evangelism projects, students search for ways to serve. Still

On August 27 TA Junior Joycelyn Thompson was interviewed on the CBS Evening News regarding her response to the victims of Hurricane Andrew.

Photo by Carlos Medley



This special report on Takoma Academy was prepared by Norma J. Sahlin, director of advancement. For more information, contact: Takoma Academy, 8120 Carroll Avenue, Takoma Park, MD, 20912 (301) 434-4700. Larry D. Blackmer, principal. Dunbar Henri, vice principal. Karen Baldwin, vice principal for finance.

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"God's Hands" from page TA1

other students have helped with the North American Division Global Mission church-planting project in Baltimore. Up to this point, the students' efforts were spontaneous. Beginning this year, however, community service is an integral part of the complete academic program.

"Recognizing the benefits of service for individual students, the board voted to promote the concept of service within the student body," states Larry D. Blackmer, principal. "Students are to accumulate at least 20 hours of service each year they are enrolled at TA."

Responding to Hurricane Andrew

Takoma Academy students joined thousands of volunteers across the U.S. in responding to the incredible needs generated in the wake of Hurricane Andrew. Within days of the devastating disaster, TA students were gathering food and clothing and volunteering at the Adventist Community Services center in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Vice Principal Dunbar Henri and half a dozen students were pictured on the CBS Evening News as part of footage showing people giving time and goods for the victims. A quote by TA Junior Joycelyn Thomson was also included in the national news report. The NEWSBREAK section of the *Adventist Review* featured pictures of TA students in two different reports on the Adventist response to the crisis.

Celebrating Global Mission

The Sligo church designated Sabbath, October 10, as a celebration of the international church. Delegates to the annual council of the General Conference were invited to a special Sabbath morning worship experience, followed by a fellowship dinner, and concluding with a Global Mission festival presided over by Robert Folkenberg, president of the General Conference.

Takoma Academy students Ron Brathwaite, Christina Scriven, Jeremy Duerksen and Patricia Zavala led a panel discussion for the adult Sabbath school program. Their clear, concise points impressed a number of world leaders.

The fellowship dinner was held in the Takoma Academy gym. The student council decorating committee assisted in transforming the large room into an attractive setting. Flags from around the world and other clever decorations enhanced the international atmosphere. One hundred TA students served as hosts and hostesses for the dinner, guiding visitors and delegates to their tables and helping serve the meal.

"The students were phenomenal," comments Ron Hyrchuk, the Sligo pastor who coordinated the day's activities. "Their participation was a large part of the success of the day!"

After the meal was finished, tables and decorations were cleared away within 10 minutes and replaced by chairs. The Global Mission festival began at 3 p.m. The TA choir and orchestra joined other musical groups to provide inspirational music.

Vision-to-Action Planning

"We Look a Lot"

During the past year, more than 400 constituents of Takoma Academy participated in a "vision-to-action" process under the direction of Skip Bell, then secretary of the Potomac Conference. The result has been a master plan that identifies major issues and action steps to accomplish five priorities.

"There was a sense of unrest, of questions about the direction the academy was heading," reflects Bell as he reviews the reason for embarking on an intense examination of the school. "The outcome of the planning process is a shared vision for a more effective future for Takoma Academy."

We listened

The Takoma Academy board voted to begin the planning process at its September 19, 1991, meeting. A steering committee was appointed to guide development of materials, conduct eight visioning sessions and integrate findings into a master plan.

In early 1992, 330 people participated in a series of visioning meetings. A special session with 71 TA board members, students, staff and constituents was held June 15 and 16 once the new principal, Larry D. Blackmer, had assumed his duties. Based on the input

gathered during the visioning sessions, the steering committee drafted recommendations to the academy board.

We heard

Through the process of discussion and prioritizing, the participants identified concerns and challenges facing Takoma Academy. Students and parents were dismayed by the misconceptions about TA.

"It's highly important that the visioning committee took the time to incorporate the viewpoint of TA students," said Ron Brathwaite, student council president for 1991-92. "The students have the best perspective, as they are the ones living with the program day by day."

As the process continued, certain areas were brought into focus. The consensus was to zero in on faith and values, academic quality, alternative financial strategies and marketing.

We responded

Once major issues were determined, the steering committee formulated a master plan that will guide activities through 1995. Goals and action steps were developed for the five highest priorities. The plan addresses school effectiveness factors as identified through Valuegenesis, a

Like Heaven"



During East Indian Awareness Week, students honored the peacock through drama.

Photo by N. Sahlin

project of the North American Division Department of Education.

We're taking action

The Takoma Academy board adopted the action steps recommended by the steering committee. Implementation is underway.

"The new principal embraced the concept of planning and whole-heartedly threw his support into the process," states Bell. "This is crucial to successful implementation."

Fostering a strong spiritual climate is Priority #1. The goal is that students and teachers engage frequently in faith dialogue. Action steps include:

- Dedicate the first 15 minutes of the second class period as a time of well-planned worship.
- Ask each student and staff member to be involved in local community service projects.

- Encourage the student council to reach out to the community with a Youth or similar program designed to acquaint teenagers with the Christian vision of life and relationships.
- Appoint a board committee to guide the spiritual program.
- Plan a faculty retreat.

Developing a positive school image is Priority #2. Action steps include:

- Create and fund a full-time public relations and marketing office.
- Publish a monthly newsletter for church members within the academy's major feeder zip codes.
- Activate a marketing committee.

Priority #3 is to increase academic excellence by building an environment of creative teaching and curricular diversity. Action steps include:

- Employ a full-time fine arts instructor.
- Establish a committee that affirms the professionalism of the faculty.
- Institute a merit-based recognition and scholarship program designed to draw and retain student leaders.
- Promote a sense of teamwork between the faculty and major constituent groups.

- Provide opportunities for academic challenge, such as debate clubs, math and science fairs, essay and story competitions.
- Implement a test-preparation program to prepare students to demonstrate their true academic knowledge and score well on PSAT, SAT, ACT and other achievement tests.
- Support the concept of a required life skills class.

Priority #4 is to pursue successful financial strategies. Action steps include:

- Establish a taskforce that will accept responsibility for raising increased income through project giving, activity sponsorships, matching grants, scholarships and other specific projects.
- Ask the Potomac Conference to increase its participation in funding a truly quality educational program at Takoma Academy.
- Change the TA constitution to include officers of Allegheny East and Chesapeake conferences as members of the board.

Model Christian unity in relationships is Priority #5. The vision is of a student body where relationships between students of diverse backgrounds and races demonstrate the respect, harmony, peace and

positive self-image that are the outgrowth of Christian commitment and love. Action steps include:

- Purposefully develop a program of consciousness-raising regarding the challenges and possibilities of the cultural and ethnic diversity of the Takoma Academy family.
- Adopt the motto, "The TA Family—We Look a Lot like Heaven!"
- Design and implement a cultural exchange program among families so that students can spend up to a full week in the home of a fellow student from a different cultural or ethnic background.
- Set a schedule of "awareness weeks" to highlight the unique assets of various groups within the school family. These weeks would feature special chapel presentations, dress-up days, informational displays, bulletin boards, sports events, cafeteria foods, etc.
- Ask the student council to

continued on TA4

336 students are enrolled, the largest increase in any Columbia Union academy.

Sept. 28-Oct. 2 Fall Week of Spiritual Emphasis featuring Pastor Paul Anderson

Sept. 27. PSAT/SAT Prep Seminar

October 8. Career Day

October 30 Teacher Commissioning

Recent Happenings



Senior Tarun Sardana played the role of Mahatma Gandhi during the chapel program that increased awareness of the East Indian culture.

Photo by N. Sahlin

"Like Heaven" from page TA3

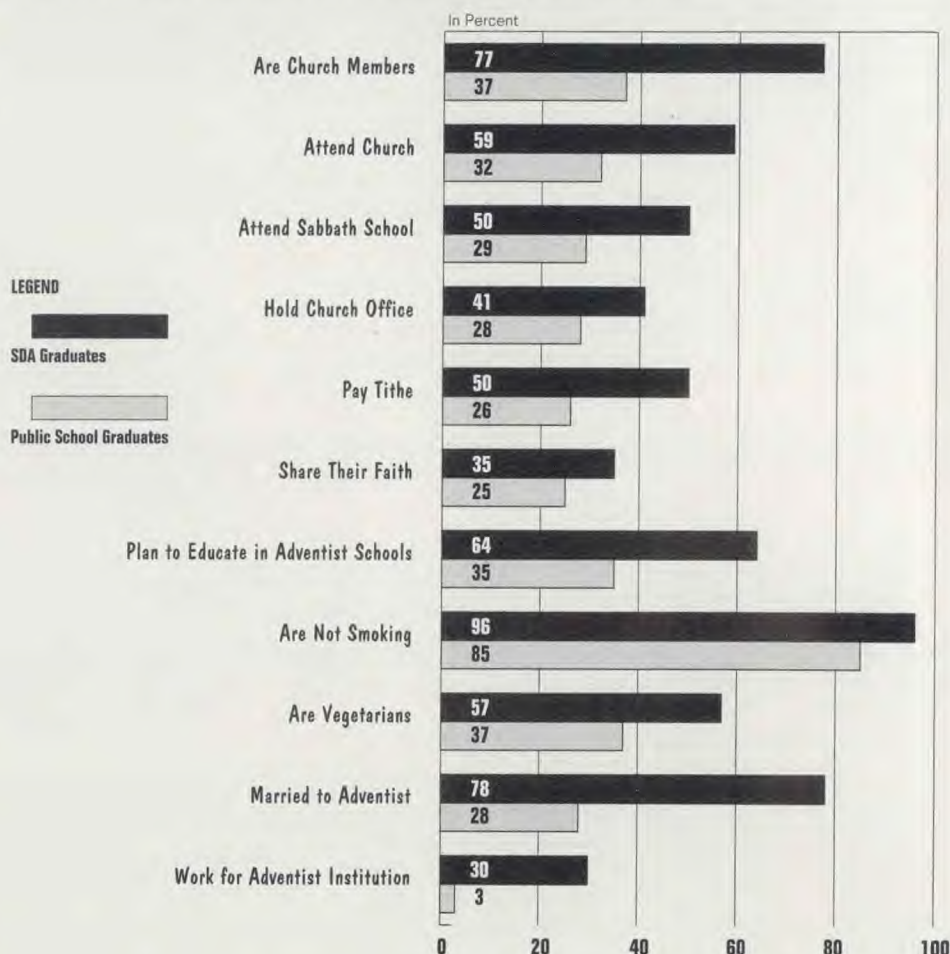
set up a subcommittee on human relations. This group will work closely with school administration and community professionals to organize and conduct sessions to sensitize students and staff to the challenges and opportunities of our ethnic, cultural and gender differences.

- Make the process of teaching at TA more culturally sensitive.

Trained as a facilitator by Search Institute, Dr. Bell initiated and coordinated the vision-to-action process. He has provided similar leadership for planning at a variety of organizations, including Union College, Loma Linda Academy and local churches.

SDA Educational Update

The rising costs of operating Seventh-day Adventist schools has caused many people to question the value of these schools, both to the parents and the church. Many have concluded from their own experience that such schools are worth the cost. Others have asked for scientific evidence that a significant difference exists between the graduates from Adventist schools and those who have graduated from public schools.



BOOKS WORTH READING:

- *Winning Teenagers over in Home and School*, Francis Walton
- *How to Live with Your Teenager: A Survivor's Handbook for Parents*, Buntman and Saris
- *Raising a Responsible Child*, Dinkmeyer and McKay
- *How to Live with and without Anger*, Albert Ellis
- *Raising Self-Reliant Children in a Self-Indulgent World*, H. Stephen Glenn

For answers to your questions about Seventh-day Adventist schooling, call **Takoma Academy** at 434-4700. Our goal is to put your child in touch with Christ, the Master Teacher.