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C O L U M B I A U N I O N

Visitor

Atkinson offers rest for the weary

pages 6 & 7

Family enrichment Resources

... a report to the constituency

pages 8-13

President's Scope

page 16



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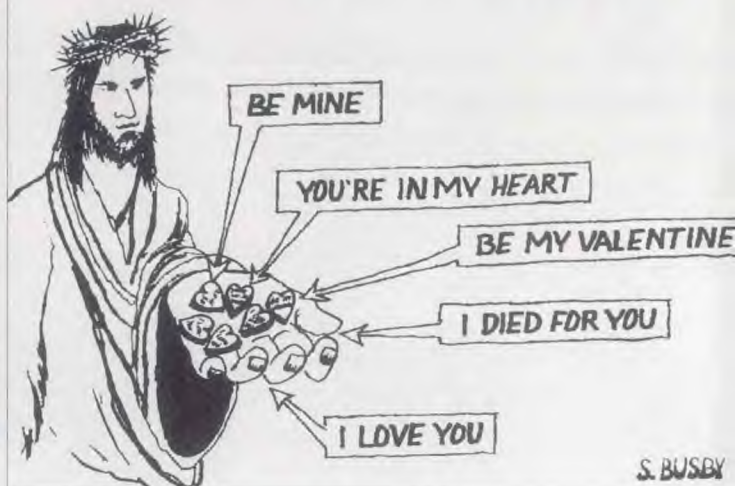
Volume 102

Number 4

"TIS SO SWEET..."

ABOUT THE COVER:

Andrew and Minnie McNeil are the coordinators/proprietors of W.C. Atkinson Memorial Community Services, Inc., in Cotesville, Pennsylvania. Even though they both have full-time jobs, the McNeils keep the Atkinson Project's four services up and running, with the help of dedicated volunteers. See pages 6 and 7 for the story.



A recommitment service for all church leaders

Seventh-day Adventists within the Columbia Union rejoice that we are saved by grace alone and resolve that the gospel of Jesus Christ will permeate all we do.

Sunday evening, March 9, has been set aside as a special time of dedication and recommitment for all church leaders. Beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Spencerville church sanctuary, this one-hour program is planned as a time of focusing on Jesus Christ and His transforming grace.

The evening will feature music by Paul Saint-Villiers, Roseann Metrisko and others. The recommitment sermon will be given by Wallace Coe, former president of the Columbia Union. Sponsored by the Columbia Union Conference, this is a time for all members who serve in their congregation to join with conference presidents and union officers in a renewed commitment to Christ-focused service. "We are here," one leader said, "to show others what Jesus would be like if He lived in our town." This service is a recommitment to that goal.

All Columbia Union members are invited to attend this service, a place where no one will be "audience," but each will be an active participant.

Dedicatory music begins at 7 p.m. The worship is from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Call (800) 438-9600 toll free for more information.



The sound of commitment at the Spencerville church in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Contents

4 Living the Vision
"Michael Irvin didn't do it!"
 by Dick Duerksen

5 Smiling at God
"The warm apartment"
 by Amy Swett

6 Allegheeny East
"Help, home, hope, haven"
 by Kimberly Luste
Atkinson offers rest for the weary

8 Columbia Union
"Family Enrichment Resources"
A report to our constituency

14&15 Columbia Union College Gateway

16 President's Scope

17-20 A Healing Ministry

21-24 Chesapeake Challenge

25-28 Highland Views

29-32 Pennsylvania Pen

33-36 Blue Mountain Academy Communiqué

37-44 Potomac People

45 Dr. Kay's Q&A

45-47 Bulletin Board

Love is more than roses

Nancy Lamoreaux
 Data Management Director

I look into the back yard but what I see in my mind's eye is winter breaking out into spring and the old-fashioned, fragrant roses working at bursting into bloom. One of my favorite roses among the 59 bushes in our garden is the Belle de Crecy, one of the most attractive of the Gallica roses developed over 168 years ago. As this beautiful mauve rose begins to open, its rich essence fills the air. As it matures, the color changes to soft parma-violet and ultimately to lavender-gray. The pedals open wide and rearrange the rose's shape, always giving us a different, spectacular image. I am the recipient of this beauty which is nurtured by my husband. The rose garden is for me.



The rose brings beauty to our lives with its constantly changing splendor. There are other things that also bring beauty to our lives, such as allowing others to bloom to their full potential. God created each of us in His image and gives us the responsibility to nourish ourselves and each other. The *Phillips* translation of I Corinthians 13:8 says "Love knows no limit to its endurance, no end to its trust, no fading of its hope; it can outlast anything. It is, in fact, the one thing that still stands when all else has fallen."

My husband designed and planted the rose garden as a gift of love. God gave me His Son to atone for my sins—a priceless, loving gift. As I take in God's love, His love begins to reflect in my life and enhance my inner beauty to those around me. This love takes many shapes and colors: tolerance, patience and understanding, which become the essence of my being. Just as the beauty and fragrance of the rose fills my home, the beauty of God's love fills my soul. He wants me to have the very best. He gives me opportunities and choices and room to grow and allows me to make mistakes. He is always there to listen and nourish me and fill me with His glory and goodness. Do I understand this love? Not completely. But I accept it and celebrate His loving gift to me simply because He loves me.



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Michael Irvin didn't do it!



*An exotic dancer had
accused Michael Irvin and
Dallas Cowboy teammate
Erik Williams of sexual
assault. Newspapers put
the accusations on the front
page, evening newscasts
gave the story prime time,
and the Internet started
chat rooms on sex, sin and
the Cowboys. Past sins
gave the story a juicy edge.
Everyone began to "pile
on" as if the players had
just fumbled the ball in the
their own end zone.*

Then the accuser recanted. "It was a lie," she said. Reporters stumbled over themselves to make sure they proclaimed "Innocent" as loudly as they had shouted "GUILTY (maybe)." Since Irvin and Williams had not done what they'd been accused of doing, there was relief in Dallas and everywhere the Cowboys are loved.

But the "piling on" and "believing the worst" continued. Only the players changed.

Consider the Boulder, Colorado, family whom the tabloids are suggesting may have killed JonBenét, their tiny beauty queen daughter. Yes, the accusations came before the evidence and before the police made any charges, but the talk show switchboards were jammed with people eager to point fingers and make accusations. To use an illustration from the world of great white sharks, there was a "feeding frenzy." It's as if we feel better about ourselves as we devour the reputations of others.

By the way, did you know that Paula Jones is really being paid by President Bill Clinton's enemies? And that flying saucers loaded with aliens land each night and visit with Hillary on the White House lawn? That there are at least a dozen Jesuit priests employed in the General Conference offices? And that Pastor McGillicuddys is out to get you?

You're right! Those stories are all wrong. But they sure are fun to hear and tell, especially when the Clintons and Jones and McGillicuddys may already have tarnished reputations.

And what about the "feeding frenzy" that typically takes place around Sabbath meals in Adventist homes? We often carve the sermon into tasty morsels while ignoring any application it may have to our own lives. Then we start on the deacon's old suit and the choir's offbeat soprano and "Why can't they keep the kids quiet in the balcony?" My, how we love to feast on "roast person." In fact, there is so much to chew on that our meals sometimes take all week.

I have been especially fascinated by this phenomenon during the past couple of weeks. On January 12, the Columbia Union placed a news release regarding Family Enrichment Resources in the news section of the Adventist Forum on CompuServe. Since the Columbia Union is truly YOUR organization and since you are its stockholders, we feel it's crucial to keep you as clearly informed as possible. This report isn't all niceties and affirmation. It includes descriptions of errors and heartfelt apologies for decisions made. It's painfully honest. But its honesty is not a call for a "feeding frenzy." It's a call for forgiveness and confidence in the strength of lessons learned.

The responses to this news release have made for fascinating reading. There have been numerous messages of affirmation for the openness of the reports. There has been appreciation for the thoroughness of the report given by the special study taskforce. And there have been messages that shouted the worst possible imaginings.

I read accusations of administrators pocketing money from FER. I hear that no church leaders can be trusted and that committees are only filled with "rubber-stamp" members. I see tiny bits of prose blown into giant hot-air balloons of mistrust. For a couple days, my computer was home to a "feeding frenzy," a willingness to imagine the worst in others.

Now it's your turn. Pages nine through 11 include considerable information about Family Enrichment Resources and its impact on the Columbia Union. Read it carefully. Feel the commitment of leaders to "find a better way to distribute God's Word." Listen to the humble apologies for mistakes made. Hear the words of forgiveness and the offers of support as we work for improvement.

The personal and financial losses suffered through the FER situation are painful. But your church is a growing, learning and dynamic organization, a safe place for you and others to grow side-by-side in Christ's love.

Maybe it's time for an Early Spring Resolution: "I will give you every benefit of belief, even when your reputation precedes you. I will hear no evil about you until you yourself confirm it, and then I will work for your healing. I will be a protector, a champion of others. I will believe the best about everyone, especially you."

Dick Duerksen is the vice president for creative ministries for the Columbia Union and editor of the Visitor.

The

Winter

apartment

I am into my winter visits this year, and winter visits in my district are different than summer. The stark reality of poverty is much more real in the winter.

I arrived at the little row house of a new patient. I couldn't wait to get out of the cold wind and warm up for a while. I was greeted by a very small little lady wearing men's clothing. She was pleasant and friendly. I was out of the wind, so it took a few minutes for me to realize that it wasn't much warmer in her house than it was outside.

She saw that I was cold and turned on a little heater the size of a small shoe box. "I can't leave it on long," she said. "Mack, the man next door, can't afford a big electric bill, and he has four of us on heat now." After a little more discussion, I found out that the little man next door got a pension and Social Security, so the four little ladies in the row houses attached to his had extension cords plugged into his house, and they very frugally used little electric heaters to keep warm. Since their husbands had died, and they had never worked, they didn't get much Social Security, and somehow they fell between the cracks in the welfare system. They all got Meals on Wheels, which gave them a hot meal each day.

I asked why they just didn't all move into one house and all be able to keep warm. I knew the answer before she gave it. If the women left their homes, vandals and drug dealers would come in. As owners, they are responsible. They couldn't fix their places up enough to sell, and these little run-down homes were all the ladies had left. They had sold most of their furniture to antique dealers years ago, and any savings had gone to bury their husbands.

I was so struck not so much by the raw poverty or cold, but by this woman's cheerfulness. In fact, while telling me her story and how she and the others were living, she kept saying, "The Lord is good." After talking to her for a while, it occurred to me that her faith in how good God is has nothing to do with living circumstances. The Lord is good—the world isn't. God loves her and stays by her, and her reward will be someday far away from this world.

I dressed her leg ulcers with more dressing than needed to keep her a little warmer and heard just what I expected to hear when I left. "Oh, I don't need anything, dear. I have all I need. Go with God." And I did. I walked out of there thanking God for again giving my faltering faith a boost. In the car, I quietly talked to God. "You are good, and I am sorry I lose sight of that so often." This was another one of those moments when I think God and I smile. This time, it was one of those smiles the teacher and the student give each other when the student has finally got it!!!

Amy Swett is a visiting nurse in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Her "parish" is the inner city and those special people to whom God sends her.



They had sold most of their furniture to antique dealers years ago, and any savings had gone to bury their husbands.

Help, home, hope

Atkinson offer

Atkinson was built in the early 1920s by an African-American physician. It had four beds. In the 1970s, the building was a 120-bed hospital. Atkinson was purchased by the Allegheny East Conference in September of 1988 and was dedicated for service to the community surrounding Coatesville. After overcoming the challenge of a \$2.6 million renovation, which was paid by public and private agencies and foundation investors, four different "services" were created.

One of the first-floor tenants in the Atkinson 18-apartment complex pauses outside her apartment after visiting a neighbor. The complex offers living quarters on two floors.

Greasy road mist sparkled on my windshield as I pulled up to the edifice. Shiny white paint, crisp black railings and brilliant red chain-fencing bore a sharp contrast to the browns and grays of the brick homes sharing the street with the structure. Down a block, a bulky factory surrounded with chunky piles of debris made the place look even more depressed. And the church across the street, 176 years old, gave the Coatesville, Pennsylvania, neighborhood an ancient air.

But when I stepped out of my automobile, I was greeted by the smiling, blithe countenance of Andrew McNeil, and the sad, gray, aging neighborhood became only a shadowy background. Andrew gripped my hand firmly and opened the door into the W.C. Atkinson Memorial Community Services Center.

About two months before, Andrew and his wife, Minnie, had spoken to me about Atkinson. Minnie, who works full time at Brandywine Hospital, coordinates the running of the four services offered—the low-to-moderate-income 18-apartment complex, the community resource center and the two-office health/family care center—with Andrew, who also works full time at a steel maintenance company. Many volunteers from the community—neighbors, church members and even businesses, such as State Farm—donate their time. The benefit of volunteers, explained Minnie, is that "they give of their time and means and expertise because they want to, because they're committed." Andrew runs the shelter with the support of the guests who stay there and one paid full-time employee.

The first of the four service components, the community resource center, emphasizes the successful creed of the center, "Community Provides for Community." Agencies such as Family Services of Chester County, Legal Aid of Chester County, Handy Crafters and the Department of Aging rent space, making their programs accessible to area residents. Beyond these set programs, the resource center offers help and tutoring with homework, computer literacy, arts and crafts, disease prevention and a wellness program. The center will also be completing its kitchen for nutrition programs with a \$3,000 grant. The burnished gold-red oak floors, long, friendly tables in meeting rooms, small, quaint sofas in counseling rooms and the lending library, several computers with their white-gray modern casings and even the wide, shiny wooden banister spiraling up to the second floor give the resource center the feeling of peace. Of discovery and happiness. Of home.

Twenty-five matching bedspreads pulled neatly across bunk beds and cots and tidy yellow pine cabinet-closets that line the lower level room with spotless, waxed floors make the second component of Atkinson a temporary home for area men. The emergency shelter for men, complete with dormitory, bathrooms, a recreation/dining room and a full kitchen, is open



One guest, back to pick up something returning to work, poses in the shelter trance, which opens into an alley.



This is one of two medication rooms in the Atkinson Health/Family Care Center. More than 5,000 have been treated here since April.

haven

rest for the weary

seven days a week, from 5 p.m. to 8 a.m., and charges \$2 per night. The shelter gives guests clothes, toiletries, a warm bed, supper, breakfast and a sack lunch for work. All the items, including the food, are donated—the county gives a certain amount and the rest people volunteer.

Along with counseling programs held in the adjacent resource center, the shelter also offers Opportunities Industrialization Centers, developed in Philadelphia by Pastor Leon Sullivan, twice a year. This six-week program is designed to teach the men how to prepare resumés and teaches job skills like computer literacy and transportation, if needed. Substance-abuse counseling is also given twice a week. Bible studies, according to Andrew, are not pressured. "We take care of the person first. We ask, for example, on Wednesday nights, 'Who would like to study the Bible?'" Help comes first.

The pristine halls of the 18-apartment complex lead to the Atkinson Project's third component. Here, Atkinson—along with



Each morning, guests in the men's shelter make their beds and put away their belongings. The floors are also mopped daily by the guests. The shelter, opened in 1992, is always clean and pleasant-smelling.

the management services of the Housing and Development Corporation—provides low- to moderate-income housing. Demand for these spacious, mostly one-bedroom apartments with new plumbing and heat fixtures is great, and the waiting list is long. Each apartment is different, with the hospital room-converted space being used very effectively. Each apartment is cozy.

The fourth component, the health/family care center, treats patients in two well-equipped



The first tenant of the Atkinson apartments relaxes in her cozy one-bedroom apartment. The apartments opened in 1993.

examination rooms and has, as each service does, a separate entrance. Clients pay a low fee for service, and doctors from local practices and hospitals offer medical services. Temperance posters, abuse hot-line numbers and beautiful paintings by W.C. Cheatham line the walls in the small but very efficient clinic.

Being in the dynamic presence of Minnie and Andrew, having an opportunity to feel the compassion and humble dedication and witnessing the kindness manifested in every aspect of the Atkinson Project opened my eyes and my heart. Within each part of Atkinson, I saw faith and Christian love in action. And with each car and pedestrian that passed the center waving in friendship to Andrew as he walked me to my vehicle, I saw what being part of a community really means. It means help. It means home. It means giving hope. And sometimes, as exemplified at Atkinson, it means offering a refuge.

It sits perched on a corner, in a neighborhood that looks to it for light. To those in need, it gives help, a home, hope and haven. Atkinson—an inspiration, a place of love. Jesus Christ alive in the hands of His servants, giving rest for the world-weary.

Kimberly Luste is a communication intern for the Columbia Union Conference.



The "Atkinson Project," as it is widely known, has gained national recognition for its project scope and is funded, in part, by state and federal grants and low-interest loans.

Under the direction of Chair Minnie McNeil and an 18-member board of directors comprised of area clergy, community and business leaders, the charter of the Atkinson Project is to provide: help for the helpless, home for the homeless, hope for the hopeless and haven for the weary. —W.C. Atkinson Memorial

Community Services "Project" brochure

Toys lining the corner of this room, which is part of the community resource center, give children something to play with during sponsored programs. The resource center is under development to become the catalyst of the Atkinson Project.

R e p o r t r e g a r d i n g **Family Enrichment Resources**

The October 24, 1996, Columbia Union constituency session included a discussion regarding Family Enrichment Resources (FER), the organization that was responsible for literature evangelism in the Atlantic, Columbia and Pacific unions. During that discussion, the delegates asked that the union administration give immediate study to the operating policies and financial viability of FER and report their findings.

It has taken several months to discover answers to many of the questions asked about FER. The company, which had developed a \$3.4-million negative net worth, was dissolved by the board on December 3. A 10-member transition team, headed by the secretary of the North American Division, Harold Baptiste, has been established to guide through the process of closure. This team meets weekly and is caring for all legal, financial and personal aspects of the transition. Its work should be completed by early March.

FER employed 65 people in management and field leadership positions. Approximately 200 employees were active commissioned sales workers and 100 others full- or part-time "cash sales" employees. The company also employed more than 200 college and high school students in summer sales programs.

During its five years of operations, FER generated \$30 million in sales and was influential in more than 4,000 baptisms. Even after the losses projected in closing the company, the three unions will have saved \$3.5 million over their previous literature evangelism programs. Students working in the Columbia Union sold \$1.4 million worth of literature in 1996.

Historical background

By the middle of 1991, the Columbia Union's literature evangelism program (Home Health Education Service) had accumulated a loss of more than \$300,000. Realizing that this situation could not continue "as is," the union administrative council began to look for alternative approaches for delivering Adventist books and magazines within our union. About the same time, encouraged by the North American Division, the Atlantic and Pacific unions began a similar exploration process. Together, the unions developed Family Enrichment Resources and employed Harold Otis Jr. as president. FER began operating in January of 1992.

The conference executive committees approved the four major goals of this innovative company:

1. That the conference expense for the program be a maximum of one percent of tithe income, a considerable savings over previous sales programs.
2. That the product sales be increased.
3. That new products be made available for sale.
4. That the financial situation of the literature evangelists be improved.

Each of the three participating unions loaned money to help the company get started, with the Columbia Union's portion of FER's net worth being \$1.3 million or 32.23 percent of the total. The Atlantic Union's portion is 7.88 percent, the Pacific Union 59.89 percent. The Pacific Union also made money available for research and development of the new products that would be necessary for FER to be successful.

In response to these goals, the company endeavored to develop modern distribution systems and a cost-saving management approach while also providing a greater variety of products. Gross sales nearly doubled between 1992 and 1996. However, there was a pressing need for new products, and financial difficulties arose while the company was attempting to secure financing for a new series of animated Bible videos. This search, and other management issues, resulted in a severe cash shortage during 1996. Since the earnings of student summer literature evangelists were used to cover a portion of that shortage, each union had to vote a special allocation to care for 1996 student summer income.

FER financial situation

During its first two years, FER's operating losses totaled more than \$1.4 million. One of the main reasons for these early losses was the attempt to retain as many of the management team from the old literature distribution organizations as possible. The FER board felt they could not just terminate a large number of workers who had faithfully served the church for many years. However, in 1993, management made major cuts in staff and other expenses.

In 1994, FER reported a \$735 gain, and a \$38,241 gain was reported in 1995. However, in 1996, the General Conference auditors made adjustments to FER's financial statements (these adjustments were corrections of errors the auditors missed in their 1994 and 1995 audits of FER) that would probably have resulted in operating losses for both of those years.

Unfortunately, the deteriorating financial status of the company was not clear until the fall of 1996. The first hint came in August, when the FER officers told the finance committee that there was a cash shortage. A clearer picture started to emerge on September 11, 1996, when the board learned for the first time that FER was actually losing money each month. The board immediately ordered an audit for the first nine months of 1996 and asked the auditors to prepare a preliminary report in time for their November 8, 1996, meeting. That report revealed that the company was in serious financial difficulty.

The audited statement for September of 1996 showed losses totalling \$1,292,000. This loss, plus the auditors' adjustments of \$1.6 million, yielded a negative net worth of \$3,375,584 and dramatically changed the board's understanding of FER's financial situation.

On December 3, 1996, the FER board voted to discontinue company operations effective February 28, 1997. The General Conference auditors report that there is no evidence or indication that anyone has received improper personal financial benefit from the operations of FER.

Columbia Union management response

When asked why FER's financial situation was not presented to the October 24 constituency session, Ralph Martin, Columbia Union president and chairman of the FER board, said: "By October 24, we did have some indications of financial and management problems with FER, and it probably would have been wiser for me to share those in more detail than I did. We were certainly not trying to hide anything; however, I did not fully understand how serious the instability of the company was until the November 8 meeting. At the November 8 board meeting, I presented the challenges to the conference presidents, and five days later, I asked Ed Mortschieder, president of the Ohio Conference, to head up an investigating Taskforce to discover all the facts about FER and report to the union executive committee."

The Taskforce began its work in early November of 1996 and presented its report to the union executive committee on January 10, 1997. That report focused on management issues and the Columbia Union's participation with FER in pursuing funding for the animated Bible videos.

FER management issues

The FER Study Taskforce detailed nine management issues in its report.

From the FER Study Taskforce report:

1. Some actions were taken but not followed up. For example, at one of the first FER board meetings, it was voted that the conference would approve the hiring of all literature evangelists and that the conference presidents would be consulted before area leaders were appointed. Neither of these happened.
2. The chairperson was not rotated by unions as required by the corporate bylaws. The Columbia Union president has always served as the chairperson.
3. Meetings were required only twice a year. The justification for this has been that the Andrews and Loma Linda university boards only meet twice a year. This might be often enough for an established institution, but not sufficient for a new, experimental company.
4. The finance committee met monthly, mostly by telephone conference

FER Student Division Summer 1996

Students involved	235
Homes Visited	1,900,000
Total Sales	\$1,433,390

Literature delivered	
*Happiness Digest	101,855
*Peace Above the Storm	7,373
God's Answers	4,853
Great Controversy	4,846
Vegetarian Cook Books	19,621
Children's Books	18,128
Hardback Books	2,857
Other	460
Total	159,992

*Steps to Christ

calls, but minutes were not sent to board members. Even if they had been, the minutes were so skimpy as to be of almost no value. Board members had almost no communication about the company between board meetings.

5. There was little reporting to the conference presidents or union committee. When reports were given, they only talked about the company's successes.

6. There was not a financial report from FER at any of the three unions' constituency meetings.

7. It appears management was so involved in trying to develop videos that insignificant attention was given to managing the company. Expenses were greater than income, and the company became cash poor.

8. Internal accounting misstated the financial condition of the company, and the problem was compounded when General Conference auditors did not make proper adjustments to the 1994 and 1995 financial statements, thus giving FER officers and the FER board a distorted picture of FER's financial health.

9. The only lay person on the FER board at its end was Ron Wisbey, [who is not paid by the church but] whose job description requires him to report to the Columbia Union president. There were lay people on the committee at the beginning, but as they resigned, they were not replaced.

Funding the Animated Bible Story, step one

The FER board put great emphasis on developing the *Animated Bible Story*. It voted consistently since 1993 to produce 15 videos based on the best-selling books, *The Bible Story*. The benefits of this product would be increased sales for the literature evangelists and a strong financial return to the company. Marketing consultants projected that the video sales would produce a revenue stream of up to \$40 million, which would allow FER to become a financially secure ministry and provide full medical and other benefits to the literature evangelists.

FER signed a contract with a marketing firm, Blue Duck, to produce and market the new videos. To date, after paying more than \$370,000 to this firm, Otis says FER has a production/marketing plan and one completed video script. The videos were more than a dream, they were a real product in process.

FER Board membership, November 1996:

Ralph Martin, Columbia Union president, chair

Harold Otis Jr., FER president, secretary

Tom Mostert, Pacific Union president

Ted Jones, Atlantic Union president

Don Russell, Columbia Union treasurer

Sylvester Bietz, Pacific Union treasurer

Leon Thomassien, Atlantic Union treasurer

Herb Broeckel, Potomac Conference president

BJ Christensen, Southern California Conference president

Elmer Malcolm, Northern New England Conference president

Ron Wisbey, Columbia Union HealthCare Liaison

Eunice Winston, Southern California Association treasurer

Finding funding for the videos was a long and difficult process.

At the January 5, 1996, meeting of the FER board, the marketing company made a presentation regarding a possible source for the funding. This plan was based on placing \$2.4-\$2.6 million on a "no risk" hold in a bank. It was expected that this money, through a complex international banking investment, would generate the \$15 million needed for the videos. The board authorized Otis to pursue funding but requested the process be approved by the FER attorney. The FER attorney, however, was not contacted regarding this transaction. FER continued to pursue the funding and found a Canadian investor who agreed to implement the process.

Otis and FER Treasurer Reg Frood went to Toronto and visited with the investor at the Bank of Nova Scotia. They talked to the banker and were fully convinced that the investor was putting together resources that would allow the videos to be made.

Knowing that the FER board action did not allow the company to put any money at risk, the FER officers asked the Columbia Union to place \$2.4 million of union and association funds in an account controlled by FER and the union association. Through that arrangement, FER sought to demonstrate financial substance to the agents in hopes of obtaining the promised funding. However, some of the investor's requirements changed, and it looked as if the money might actually leave the union's control. When it was obvious that participating in the search for funding required that Columbia Union money might be at risk, the union officers pulled out of the process.

Funding the Animated Bible Story, step two

When the Columbia Union pulled back its money, the investor was very upset but said he believed in the project enough to put together a private group of investors who would allow the profits from the investment to go to the video project. The Canadian investor told Otis that there would be some expenses involved.

On April 24, Otis asked Don Russell, Columbia Union treasurer, and Martin for an immediate advance on FER's subsidy to cover the payments the investor was requesting. The first payment of \$50,000 was wired to Canada on April 24. Several days later, Harold Lee, union secretary, was brought into the discussion, and the three officers authorized a \$300,000 advance from union operating funds. This was set up as an interest-bearing line of credit upon which FER could draw as necessary. The line of credit/advance agreement was signed by both FER officers, Otis and Frood. No FER finance committee or board approval was sought for this transaction. Otis told the officers that any money sent to Canada would be returned by the end of June 1996 and would eventually result in millions of dollars of profits. The investor also promised to give FER a donation of \$25 million.

Martin, Russell and Lee believed that if FER failed to repay any part of the \$300,000 (which was equal to six months of the FER tithe subsidy), the union could simply withhold future subsidies until the debt was repaid. The repayment plan broke down when it was discovered that the conferences pay their subsidies directly to FER rather than through the union.

Otis asked the officers if these electronic transfers could be made through the union treasury department. That was authorized, and between April 24 and June 11, four payments totalling \$264,500 were wired through the union to the investor. An additional \$60,000 was wired directly from FER. Except for \$34,500, which the investor says went to cover fines he incurred when the union pulled out of the earlier funding process, there is no documentation of why this money was requested or what it was used for.

It is important to note that no Columbia Union Revolving Funds were ever involved or at risk in these transfers. Dale Beaulieu, who was elected at the constituency meeting to replace retiring union Treasurer Don Russell, says: "The cash to help FER came from the union and association, not the Revolving Fund."

The FER Study Taskforce believes that this entire investment process was highly speculative. "The Taskforce has no way of knowing at this time whether this is a legitimate investment," the report reads. "The investor has promised the return of the money many times but has never met the deadlines he has given."

"The experience with the investor has been difficult," Martin added. "Harold Otis continued to hold out hope and was told frequently that '... the check is in the mail.' But the various promises never came to fruition. The investor's descriptions of these details and requirements changed regularly."

The Taskforce analysis of the \$300,000

Even if the \$324,500 is returned, the FER Study Taskforce believes "there are still some management issues that are of concern to the Taskforce."

From the FER Study Taskforce report:

The \$300,000 advance was authorized and made:

1. without the knowledge of the FER board or finance committee chairperson. The union officers made an advancement to FER, which then became a liability to FER, without contacting FER's board or finance committee chairperson. Therefore, the FER board has refused to assume responsibility for this liability, even though it is now shown on FER's books.
2. without the knowledge of the conference presidents of the Columbia Union.
3. with only three of the [union] officers involved in this decision. The two vice presidents were not made aware of this advance till months later.
4. without a voted action of the administrative committee of the union. This item was taken to the union administrative committee four months after the decision was made and after it became apparent that the money was not going to be returned immediately as promised.
5. with the knowledge that the money was to be used in an investment that was outside of denominational policy.
6. without having the union's in-house attorney advise on the wisdom or legality of such an action.
7. with the union officers willing to risk this advance because of the hope of a large return which would fund the animated video project.
8. wiring money to the Canadian investor with no written explanation of what it was going to be used for and no written contract that would guarantee its return.
9. without making the action public to the Columbia Union Executive Committee until after the constituency session.
10. with the Columbia Union officers failing to monitor how the \$300,000 advance was spent.

Union Executive Committee response — January 10

The Taskforce presented its report to the union executive committee on January 10, and then each person named in the report was given an opportunity to respond during the discussion period. Three individuals, Ralph Martin, Harold Lee and Harold Otis, responded to the report, occasionally disagreeing with some of the details as established by the Taskforce.

In his response, Martin said: "As chief executive officer of the union, I made a mistake. I should have gotten more authority to advance money to FER. There is no excuse or blame-shifting here, but I hope you understand my intense desire that the literature evangelism program be successful. We wanted products for the literature evangelists to sell. We extended our authority beyond what we were authorized to do. I was so intent on helping the literature evangelists that I overstepped the bounds, and I apologize."

Lee expressed appreciation for the thoroughness of the Taskforce and apologized for portions of the process. "There should have been documentation," Lee said. "We were not out of policy to make the advance, but our weakness was in the follow up."

Otis defended his position as president of FER and submitted a paper providing additional explanation for some of the items in the Taskforce report.

The Taskforce also submitted, at the committee's request, a series of recommendations for tightening the management processes of the Columbia Union. After receiving the report and the recommendations, the committee voted to accept the apologies of Martin and Lee.

Union Executive Committee Response — January 30

Two conference committees, Potomac and Ohio, took additional action on the FER situation after the January 10 union executive committee. The Potomac executive committee voted to ask Ralph Martin and Harold Lee to submit their resignations as a result of their performance in the FER situation. The Ohio executive committee voted to ask the union executive committee to call a special constituency meeting to explore FER issues and determine if Ralph Martin had the credibility necessary to lead as president.

A meeting of the union executive committee had been called for January 30 to consider plans for the future of literature evangelism in the union. This meeting was chaired by Alfred McClure, president of the North American Division.

Martin re-introduced the FER issues by reading a prepared response to the FER Study Taskforce report. "Eventually, FER drew \$264,500 against their line of credit and sent it to the Canadian investor. That is a huge amount of money. But it should be measured against the \$40 million that the videos were projected to return to FER. It also has to be measured against the profit that FER reportedly earned in 1995.

"We knew that the money was going to the Canadian investor," Martin said. "We knew that the money was going to Canada. But we were told by Harold Otis that the money was for the purpose of FER expenses. We should have gotten written substantiation for those expenses; however, we relied on Otis's representation of what the money was going for.

FER Finance Committee membership, November 1996:

Sylvester Bietz, chair
Don Russell
Harold Otis Jr.
Reg Frood
Leon Thomassien

"It is important to separate the Columbia Union from FER in this transaction," Martin emphasized. "The Columbia Union was never involved with the businessman in Canada. No Columbia Union money was invested."

Both the General Conference auditors and the FER Study Taskforce have stated that an advance from the union to FER is within policy. The Taskforce, however, added that: "This investment is outside of denominational policy. The union officers voted an advance to FER, which is not against policy. However, they knew why the money was being advanced and that FER was going to use it in a speculative investment."

Martin responded to that concern as follows: "Looking back with the wisdom of hindsight, the conference presidents should have been informed that money had been advanced against the income they would be sending to FER. The officers should have gotten permission for the loan at the September 5, 1996, union committee, and FER officers should have sent their request through the finance committee of FER."

Martin then placed his retirement before the executive committee. "I love the Columbia Union and take great pleasure in serving as president. But to give you a clear choice about my leadership, I am placing my retirement before you. I believe that I still have something important to contribute to my church as president. However, that is in your hands. If you want me to continue, then I will gladly serve. If you accept my retirement, then I will thank the Lord and the church for the many wonderful years I have enjoyed leading God's people. I am putting the decision in your hands. May God guide you."

Columbia Union Conference Executive Committee

In executive session

The committee considered Martin's report and retirement offer for several hours. The discussion was open and direct, with members sharing concerns and compassion. After considerable prayer, the committee voted not to accept Martin's retirement but to publish the following Statement of Discipline. Finding that Lee's relationship to FER had been incidental and peripheral, the committee made no mention of him in its action. Feeling that their action should conclude this matter, the committee also chose to deny Ohio's request for a special constituency.

Statement of Discipline

WHEREAS, Elder Ralph Martin has served the church well for 41 years and served admirably as Columbia Union president for the past three years; but

WHEREAS, he bears a major portion of the responsibility for financial losses connected with a \$264,500 advance made to FER, the Columbia Union Executive Committee hereby:

Expresses the conviction that no personal gain was contemplated or received in connection with Elder Martin's Family Enrichment Resources dealings and that Elder Martin functioned, and has made a habit of functioning, with admirable integrity, and acknowledges the shared responsibility of the Columbia Union Executive Committee, which over the course of the FER experience failed to seek the facts with sufficient diligence; and

States its disapproval of Elder Martin's poor judgment and unacceptable financial oversight in connection with this transaction, and specifically of his failure to document the transaction and to acknowledge the speculative purpose of the advance; and

WHEREAS, after lengthy and heartfelt consideration, the committee chose not to accept Elder Martin's offer to retire, the committee also:

Reaffirms his position as president of the union, and declares its commitment to support his leadership; and

Asserts its commitment to develop and implement more effective guidelines for execution of the fiduciary responsibility of union administration; and

Calls on all members of the eight local conferences to join the committee in focusing anew on the mission of the church.

Lessons learned

When asked what lessons he had learned through this situation, Martin replied: "I, as president and chairman, must be more engaged as spiritual and management leader of all the activities for which I am responsible, and I must make certain laity are active participants in church management."

"All of our church organizations," Martin continued, "must have closer guidelines and supervision. Tighter controls on FER may have avoided the problems that are causing us to repay a large debt. The FER board should have met more frequently and demanded detailed cash positions. When the cash position became perilous, the FER finance committee should have monitored the company almost daily. Better checks and balances need to be in place to test and review new products and programs. More people need to be involved, particularly wise business people."

What is happening now?

Management committee

The union executive committee has referred the FER Study Taskforce's report and recommendations to the union administration. Additionally, they asked "That in counsel with conference administrators—and with the laypeople who were on the FER Study Taskforce—a plan of action be designed that puts in place proper checks and balances for more effective managing of the Columbia Union." This plan is to be brought to the March 6 meeting of the executive committee.

Transition team's activities

The FER transition team has evaluated personnel, taken inventory of all literature and equipment and is carefully sorting through all of the company's assets and liabilities. These tasks should be completed by the February 28 deadline.

All FER employees have received termination letters which are effective on January 10, January 25 or February 22. The final employment day for Harold Otis, president of FER, was February 7. Reg Frood, business manager of FER, ended his employment January 10.

Because of the necessity to care for the final settlement of accounts, the disposition of inventories, the updating and securing of vital records and the satisfaction of requirements relative to the corporation, Deanna Trimarchi (on the East Coast) and Warren Gough (on the West Coast) will be retained for up to 90 days beyond the February 28 deadline.

In spite of the difficulty and pain brought about by this situation, the transition team is making every effort to be considerate and Christlike in what is already a very difficult situation. All employees have the option of working as door-to-door literature evangelists.

Ohio Conference Executive Committee

On February 4, the Ohio Conference committee, urging that "full accountability be established for the matters surrounding FER," asked Alfred McClure, president of the North American Division, "to initiate an audit to establish responsibilities for FER's losses" and requested that the NAD "direct the FER transition team to initiate legal action to recover funds advanced by FER to various companies and individuals, should improprieties be found."

Losses absorbed

According to new Columbia Union Treasurer Dale Beaulieu, "The Columbia Union losses from the closure of FER will likely run between \$1.3 and \$1.8 million. Rather than forward those charges to the conferences, the union administrators' council is recommending that the losses be taken from union operating funds over the next five years. Although we will not be able to give many special appropriations during that time," Beaulieu stated, "caring for the losses in this way will not reduce the regular subsidies that flow from the union to conferences."

Literature evangelism in the Columbia Union

The union executive committee voted on January 30:

1. "That the Columbia Union commit to the Review and Herald as our partner in the literature evangelism ministry within the union.
2. That the administrators' council, augmented by six literature evangelists and three other lay people who are active in direct ministry, work with the Review and Herald to develop an intentional literature evangelism ministry program that matches the goals and needs of each conference.
3. That this program be brought to local conference executive committees and to the union executive committee for adjustment and final approval as quickly as possible."

FER Study Taskforce membership:

Edward Motschieder, president, Ohio Conference, Chair

Alvin Kibble, president, Allegheny East Conference

Larry Evans, president, New Jersey Conference

Marvin Griffin, vice president for finance, Potomac Conference

Rudolph Pelley, treasurer, Pennsylvania Conference

James Palmer, layperson, Allegheny West Conference.

William Albright, layperson, Potomac Conference

Leon Trusty, layperson, Allegheny East Conference

Bruce Boyer, layperson, Mountain View Conference

William Ashlock, layperson, New Jersey Conference

As you can see from the length and content of this article, the FER situation is a very complicated story. These pages report from the Columbia Union's perspective and attempt to openly and accurately describe what has happened. If you would like additional details, please write for the FER Information Packet. That packet includes the taskforce report and the full text of other releases and reports.

Write to:

The Visitor

FER Information Packet

5427 Twin Knolls Road

Columbia, MD 21045

February 1997

CUC Sabbath is March 1

On March 1, a special offering dedicated to Columbia Union College will be received on what is known as CUC Sabbath.

Congregations throughout the Columbia Union will have the privilege of contributing financially for a specific cause at CUC. This year, the offering will support the Columbia Union College Spiritual Leadership Endowment Fund. This fund exists to provide assistance to those CUC students who serve as leaders for the campus ministries team.

From tutoring children to working in a soup kitchen to sponsoring prayer breakfasts to directing drama—dozens of young men and women spend hundreds of hours organizing, advertising and traveling to provide a wide variety of Christ-centered outreach opportunities for their fellow students. Such commitment helps to ensure that CUC students develop spiritually and socially, as well as academically.

On March 1, please consider honoring that commitment by investing in the Spiritual Leadership Endowment Fund.

New small group Bible studies

Starting this spring semester, the chaplain's office at CUC has added four new programs to supplement community church at CUC, a young adult contemporary worship service on Sabbath at 10 a.m., and Ground Zero, a midweek Bible study and time of fellowship.

These four new Bible studies will last for seven weeks and take place in the evenings to accommodate the students' hectic schedules. The Bible study topics are Jesus—up front and personal; Basics—confirming what I believe; Relationships—becoming a caring community; and, Gifts and Calling—targeting your passion.

New faces at CUC

Two financial aid assistants are the newest additions to the CUC family. Betty Johnson and Alvaro Diaz joined the financial aid office on November 25 and December 9, respectively.

Johnson came to CUC from Syracuse University in New York, where she worked in the office of supportive services. Here, she will focus on student verifications for federal financial aid and office management, according to Brenda Billings, director of financial aid.

Diaz, whose responsibility will be to help students with Perkins and Stafford loans, arrived at CUC after serving as a junior accountant for Family Enrichment Resources at the Columbia Union Conference.



Early registration at CUC

Registration Day madness was reduced substantially at CUC this semester by allowing early registration for classes. Pre-registration for the spring semester of 1997 began on November 14 to allow students to register for their classes without financial clearance.

According to Dr. Tony Futcher, the school's registrar, early registration is a common practice at most colleges and universities, and CUC has wanted to do it for some time. Unfortunately, the differences between the computer system used by accounting services and the one used by the records office made it difficult to coordinate the financial and academic part of the registration process.

As a solution, the records office decided to allow early registration without financial clearance. Students could complete their schedule, consult with their advisors and register for classes before going through the financial clearance process. Financial clearance had to be completed by January 10, the Friday before the official registration day for spring semester. Students who had not completed their financial clearance by January 10 had their pre-registration made void and were required to repeat the registration process.

Futcher reported that the feedback from the students regarding pre-registration has been exceptionally positive.

Calendar of Events

February

- 15 Church, R. Dixit, 9/11:15
CUC Community Church, 10
- 16 SA Ski Trip
- 17 President's Day holiday, CUC cl
- 18 Faculty/staff sub supper 5:30
- 19 Chapel, 11:15
- 20 CLEP
Student Finance Committee,
- 21 Vespers, 7:30
NEYE tour through 2/23
- 22 Church A. Torres, 9/11:15
CUC Community Church, 10
- 23 SA Christian Dinner Theater
- 24 Departmentals, 11:15
Mission Emphasis Week through
- 25 Faculty meeting, 3:15
- 26 Chapel, 11:15
- 28 Business Club spring commu
service day, noon-3
Vespers, 7:30
Phase II, 9

March

- 1 Women's History Month
CUC Sabbath
Church, A. Torres, 9/11:15
CUC Community Church, 10
- 2 SA Jazz & Java, 8
- 3 Elections assembly, 11:15
- 3-5 SA elections
- 3-7 Midterm exams
- 5 CUC Board, 8:30 a.m.
Chapel, 11:15
Management Committee, 2
- 6-16 CUC Mission Trip
Band Colorado tour
- 7 Vespers, 7:30
- 7-16 Acro-Airs tour
- 8 Church, A. Torres, 9/11:15
- 8-16 Spring Break
- 9 NBRC/CRTT
- 11 Academic Council, 3:30
- 14 Vespers, 7:30
- 15 Church, A. Torres, 9/11:15

News Notes

• CUC's annual **Spring Week of Prayer** was held during the last week of January and featured morning and evening presentations by students, faculty and staff. Conducted jointly by Julie Hutman, the student association's spiritual vice-president, and the chaplain's office, the worship units revolved around the theme of "Service and Sacrifice" based on the gospel according to Mark. A special Friday night concert brought closure to this week of spiritual renewal.

• February is **Black History Month**, and there are several events on CUC's campus to help commemorate this time of cultural appreciation. Under the direction of Rhondra E. Robinson, assistant professor of communication and English at CUC, programs including guest lecturers, music performances, video screenings and discussion panels provide students, faculty and staff with ample opportunities to learn more about the African tradition.



**"Views
from the
Gateway"**

The Cal Ripken Syndrome

**DENVER SWABY, ASSISTANT
PROFESSOR OF BUSINESS**

Most baseball fans will likely recall 1995 as The Year of the Cal Ripken Break! The year that Lou Gehrig's streak playing in 2,130 consecutive games—a record once considered unassailable—was broken by Cal Ripken. Two thousand, one hundred thirty-one—and counting!

Not being a true fan of baseball, I was struck most by what Cal's teammate, Lady Anderson, said: "For 14 years, Cal Ripken has played for the Orioles with skill, determination and dedication." Such a wonderful compliment made me think that the real story should be **The Cal Ripken Syndrome**, not the streak.

No, I am not suggesting another entry in the Physician's Desk Reference, but a distinctive or characteristic pattern of behavior. What if my years of service at CUC could be described as completed with "skill, determination and dedication?" One of the secrets to such an accomplishment is to not focus on all the years, but on each day.

I am sure that back on May 30, 1982, when the streak began, Cal Ripken's goal was not to break Lou Gehrig's record. He simply desired to do his best as a third baseman against the Toronto Blue Jays—that day. That one day, when the Dow Jones Average stood at 819 and Ronald Reagan was in his first term as president, eventually multiplied to more than 2000 days.

Is this an endorsement for workaholics? Certainly not. Unlike the workaholic, the emphasis is not on an unrelenting need to work, but a desire to do one's best each time work is done. Neither is this an embrace of those who boast "I have never taken a vacation!" In fact, show me a manager who does not insist that each employee take a vacation and I will have seen a manager who is not doing a good job of managing. "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven." (Eccl. 3:1 NIV).

What I am suggesting is a commitment to excellence on a daily basis in each activity undertaken. My resolve for 1997 is exemplifying each day in my classes the true meaning of **The Cal Ripken Syndrome**.

Respiratory care purchases new equipment

It would be unwise, to say the least, to underestimate the importance of breathing. Everyone knows how essential that process is to one's life. For 22 years, the respiratory care program at CUC has continued to be an essential breathing organ for the school by providing quality education for students and by reaching out into the local community.

During those 22 years, the respiratory care program has produced a number of fine graduates who have gone on to become respiratory care practitioners, nurses, doctors, lawyers and pastors. "The great thing about the respiratory care program is that you can graduate in two years and start making a decent living right out of college," said Vicki Rosette, director of clinical education for the respiratory care program. According to *Advance* magazine, respiratory care practitioners, who are only beginners in the field, can expect to earn from \$26,000 to \$30,000 during the first 10 years, and for the next 15 years, salaries climb about \$1,000 per year.

CUC's respiratory care program is accredited to accept 25 new students each year. In order to work in the respiratory care field, students undergo a two-year program to earn their Associate of Applied Science degree. After graduation, the students are prepared to take certification exams offered by the National Board for Respiratory Care. Those who pass the exam earn the status of Certified Respiratory Therapy Technician (CRTT) or Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) if they choose to take an exam on a more advanced level.

To assure that the students are prepared for the NBRC exams and "real life" in general, the program requires students to take four semesters of clinicals at nine various affiliates—including some of the best medical centers in the nation such as the University of Maryland's Shock Trauma Center and the National Institutes of Health.

Respiratory Care students not only gain knowledge while in school, but they also apply those skills by participating in various community outreach programs organized in collaboration with the American Lung Association. They are involved in anti-smoking drives, educational programs for the community and summer camps for young children with asthma. During the annual Respiratory Care Week that took place in October of 1996, the students participated in "Open Airways," a program sponsored by the American Lung Association. As part of that event, CUC students taught a series of lessons at nearby Sligo Elementary School for students with asthma.

This past year, the respiratory care program at CUC received a grant from the state of Maryland that enabled them to purchase new equipment for the classroom. Primarily, they acquired a computer and a machine called an Adult/Infant Training Test Lung—a sophisticated piece of equipment that measures how much air goes through a person's lungs under different variables. According to Rosette, this machine is used to test and validate life-support ventilators. Additional purchases made possible by the grant included special software that interprets data and links the TTL to the new computer.



Patricia Barrozo, a senior respiratory care major, learns how to use new respiratory care equipment made possible by a grant from the State of Maryland. She is being instructed by Alvin Tucker, chair and instructor of respiratory care.

The power of love

*If the sick, the
divorced and the
discouraged could feel
the love that Joan and
I have felt, the word
would go out that the
power of Jesus has
returned, and we
would not have
enough pews to hold
all the people.*

I have just gone through the most difficult crisis of my life. In an effort to help our literature evangelists with a new video product, the Columbia Union officers overstepped their authority by advancing money to our literature evangelism company, Family Enrichment Resources. As president, I take primary responsibility. Our motives were right and our hearts were pure; but, looking back, what we did was unwise and will not be repeated. While it has been a painful experience, I am proud that my church has acted with courage and integrity in dealing with the issues.

Some members have the idea that there is an "old boys' network" that will protect church administrators who make mistakes. I can show you the scars that this is not so. While we are a spiritual organization with a prophetic message, we handle millions of dollars each year in supporting the ministry of the church.

The old days are gone when a few church leaders made the major decisions for the church. A highly educated, involved membership demands business decisions based on both lay and clergy representation using up-to-date skills and practices. For that reason, I am working with the union and conference administrators and lay people to recommend to the union committee even stronger standards that safeguard our financial management. The tithes and offerings are sacred before the Lord, and I can reassure every member that at every level of the church, we will guard them carefully and use them wisely to advance the divine mission of the church.

I am also proud of my church for acting as a caring church. During this tense time, our Columbia Union office family was in almost constant prayer. Spontaneous prayer bands were formed, and earnest pleas for God's guidance ascended. Joan and I were surrounded with love by the staff—with someone dropping by our desks every few minutes to ask how we were getting along. We received messages of support from all around the world. After 41 years of ministering to my church, my church ministered to me. It was a wonderful feeling, and it is a model that I encourage in every church in the Columbia Union where people are hurting. If the sick, the divorced and the discouraged could feel the love that Joan and I have felt, the word would go out that the power of Jesus has returned, and we would not have enough pews to hold all the people. My church gave me a little more time of leadership to tell how good it feels to be loved in my time of special need. I hope those who are reading this message will catch these strong feelings of how healing Christian love is when you are wounded and hurting.

God also worked a miracle within me. For a pastor/administrator who has had no other strong interest outside the church for more than 40 years, my offer to retire was accompanied with a calm and peace that startled me. My leadership is built around the triangle of progressive promotion of our prophetic mission; concern and compassion for the individual member and careful, conservative financial management. All of these were challenged in this crisis, but for some reason, God took away the stress and fear of losing my authority to continue these goals. I had a peace that I will measure against all my Christian emotions in the future, hoping to make it a permanent part of my life.

That God was at work was confirmed by a strange telephone call Joan received during the evening the union committee met. A friend she had worked with many years ago on the West Coast—and who calls about every six months—said, "Joan, are you all right?" Joan thought she was speaking of the ordeal we had been going through.

She explained that it had been a very rough day. "Oh," said her friend, "I didn't know anything about that. I was just impressed that you needed help, and I've been praying for you all day, not knowing what I was praying for." It was a wonderful way for God to tell us He is still in control, and even those who did not know what was happening were being used to accomplish His will. He is a great God. Joan and I are glad to be in His merciful and saving hands and joyful to work in His ministry.

Healing MINISTRY



Adventist HealthCare

provides a positive, "significant encounter"
with Adventism

A unique feature of Adventist HealthCare is a mission-driven desire to provide all employees and patients with a positive encounter with Adventism. Employees are our first concern. Senior administration personnel are almost exclusively Adventist, and day-to-day administrative interaction should constitute "a significant encounter."

Through the hiring and orientation process, both the demeanor of Adventists and at least two key doctrines of difference (the Sabbath and health reform) are detailed. During weeks of spiritual emphasis and on other occasions, the blessings of those spiritual values that we hold close with other faith communities are emphasized, namely the gospel and salvation by faith in Jesus Christ.

We also recognize the fact that so many Christians of other faiths seek out Adventist hospitals in which to work so they can live their Christian faith openly and prayerfully in the work-a-day context of the hospital.

Second, we must address our patients and their families.

It is always the goal of the hospital to address the physical needs for which the patient is admitted and for which copayers reimburse.

In the pro-

cess, we seek to provide wholistic health care in an overtly Adventist-Christian setting. We want them to feel that environment from the moment they enter our doors.

We must admit, however, that there is difficulty in plan-

ning a "significant encounter with Adventism" for patients. Patients are in hospitals for only a short period of time, and they tend to arrive when they are seriously ill and often are discharged when they have only just begun their recovery. In this environment, patients can rarely have a "significant encounter" with Adventism; but they can—and usually do—have a "significant encounter" with Christian love through the strong witness of Christian nurses and staff and physicians.

Adventist Home HealthCare is gaining in popularity, and chaplains are now being employed in this outreach to assist the visiting nurses and other caregivers. This model holds great potential for a "significant encounter" with Adventism.

The leadership of our Adventist HealthCare institutions within the Columbia Union recognizes the great opportunity for life-changing spiritual encounters and are deeply committed to providing the appropriate atmosphere and an openness for employees to share the fact of Jesus who is the ultimate "Great Physician" in the healing process.

"Patients can—and usually do—have a 'significant encounter' with Christian love through the strong witness of Christian nurses and staff and physicians."



Ron M. Wisbey is chairman of Adventist HealthCare and Kettering Medical Center.

Is Adventism still alive within Seventh-day Adventist hospitals? Does the community notice a difference between our hospitals and those that aren't faith-based? How are Seventh-day Adventist values reflected in our hospitals? These are commonly asked questions within the Adventist church about the role of Adventist health-care institutions.

Three leaders of Adventist HealthCare recently shared their thoughts and views about the unique brand of health care provided within Adventist hospitals. Cory Chambers is chief operations officer of Shady Grove Adventist Hospital; Kiltie Leach serves as chief operations officer at Washington Adventist Hospital; and Penny Shell is regional director of chaplaincy services for Adventist HealthCare. Each is influential in setting the agenda for the type of clinical care and spiritual services offered among all of the entities of the Adventist HealthCare system that serves the Mid-Atlantic region. Following is the first of a two-part feature in which these individuals answer questions about Adventist HealthCare.

Holistic • Faith-based • Interactive

How did you begin working at an Adventist hospital?

Penny Shell: I became interested in chaplaincy after experiencing the illness and death of my parents from cancer. This experience—and listening to a chaplain speak while I was attending the seminary—formed a sense of call in my heart, and I moved into chaplain's training. Soon after I finished my Clinical Pastoral Education Internship, in 1984 I received two job offers, one from a county hospital and one from an Adventist hospital. I believe I could have done God's work at either place, but I chose the Adventist hospital because there I can strengthen the outreach of



Penny Shell

my church to the suffering all around. In the Adventist health-care system, I can work with others to bring the best of what we are as Adventists to patients, employees and medical staff. At the same time, I can show the love and respect Adventists have for others.

Kiltie Leach: I worked at Washington Adventist Hospital, which then was known at the Washington Sanitarium, as a messenger while I attended Takoma Academy in the late 1960s. After attending the academy, I moved back to Florida, but I had already made a decision that I wanted to someday come back to work at the hospital. Literally the day after my wife Martha and I were married, we drove back to the Washington area, but there wasn't a job available at the hospital at that time. After working at another area hospital for several months, I landed a part-time job and worked my way up through a number of positions. Ever since I was in academy, I've felt a special affinity with Washington Adventist Hospital.

Cory Chambers: My mother was a nurse, and I found myself around hospitals all my life. Then, when I came to college, I began work at Washington Adventist Hospital. From that point on, the influence of the type of people who work in the hospital and care for patients had a tremendous impact on my career choice. The emphasis on combining physical, mental and spiritual treatment has been a great influence in keeping me focused on our health-care system.

Offers healing —Christian style



What makes Adventist hospitals different from other hospitals?

Penny Shell: Without a doubt, we're in an area with many fine hospitals, but our patients tell us again and again there is something special in the care on our Adventist campuses. That special care often comes from caring nurses and other employees who want to work in a place where there's a sense of mission and a holistic approach to health care. Many of them



Kiltie Leach

are very spiritual people, even though only a small percentage are members of the Adventist church.

Kiltie Leach: At all levels of our staff, there seems to be a special emphasis placed on meeting the emotional and spiritual needs of patients and their family members, as well as attending to their specific medical needs. I think *service* is what Christianity is all about, and what better place is there to serve others than where they are sick and ailing? I think the community has come to expect and appreciate the fact that our hospitals provide a unique service.

Cory Chambers: I think it goes back to our approach of combining physical, mental and spiritual healing. Also, we have always tried to remain a very integral part of our community, and the community at large, which includes our physicians, civic groups and community leaders, has responded by eagerly supporting our special mission. This reciprocal relationship with the community is fundamental to the service we provide.

How is the Christian environment manifested in our hospitals?

Penny Shell: Patients and visitors assume a Christian environment from what is seen and experienced. On every campus and every handout, they see the name "Adventist." On at least one of our campuses, the first thing a patient sees on the wall by admitting is a prayer for their healing. They see Christian literature, and they hear of worship opportunities. They receive visits from pastoral caregivers. For someone suffering, the actions of those who care for them—whether the prayer of a chaplain or a second-mile action of an environmental services worker or the smile of a volunteer—these are the strongest messages of Christian caring.

Kiltie Leach: First and foremost, we respect the dignity and spiritual worth of each individual who enters our hospital, whether that person is a patient, family member, visitor, physician or employee. That is best exemplified in our interactions with patients and physicians, but there also are more visible examples of the faith-based service we provide. Our chapel is located just off of the main lobby, we have an extensive chaplaincy program, we serve only vegetarian food in our cafeteria, and our gift shop is closed from Friday evening to Saturday evening. Also, I think any visitor would notice that the hospital seems more restful and less hectic during the Sabbath hours.

Cory Chambers: The executive meetings and departmental management meetings begin with prayer, we have a strong chaplain program that includes paid staff and volunteers, we have Adventist and Christian literature available throughout the hospital, and we just renovated and expanded our chapel to ensure that patients, staff and visitors have a nice, restful spiritual environment. Perhaps the best way to exemplify a Christian environment is by the way we treat everyone we come in contact with.



Cory Chambers

Adventist HealthCare

Adventist HealthCare acquires new nursing center

Adventist HealthCare recently acquired the Bradford Oaks Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, which is located in Prince George's County, Maryland. The 120-bed nursing center in Clinton, Md., was built in 1986 and employs approximately 150 people. Adventist HealthCare also has announced plans to expand the facility.

"The Bradford Oaks Nursing Center has a good reputation for providing quality, compassionate care, which is why we were attracted to the opportunity to acquire this facility," said Bryan Breckenridge, president and CEO of Adventist HealthCare. "The acquisition of this facility also marks our continued commitment to providing quality health-care services in the southern Maryland region. This past year, we opened a home health-care office in Waldorf, Md., which will complement the services we provide at Bradford Oaks."

"Adventist HealthCare has a wealth of experience in providing health-care services to seniors, and my staff and I look forward to working together with them as we expand this facility and continue to serve the

needs of seniors here in southern Maryland," added Belen Policarpio, administrator of Bradford Oaks.

The Bradford Oaks Nursing and Rehabilitation Center provides skilled nursing and rehabilitation services.

Hospitals ring in new year with first deliveries

In 1997, the first babies born in Montgomery County, Maryland, were delivered at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital. Hannah Bergin Lee, who was born at 12:48 a.m. to proud parents Bryan and Janet Lee of Derwood, Md., and Patrick McCann, the second baby born in the county, was born at 1:57 a.m. to Mary and Brian McCann of Germantown, Md. A few hours later, at 6:21 a.m., Washington Adventist Hospital delivered their first baby of 1997, Mary Hellerman, to Catherine and Saul Hellerman.



Mary, the first baby born in the new year at Washington Adventist Hospital, is held by mom Catherine. Mary arrived at 6:21 a.m. Photo by Glenn Dalby.

Adventist Senior Living Services

Transitional care unit holds open house

The 20-bed transitional care unit at Frederick Memorial Hospital, which

Adventist Senior Living Services is managing, enjoyed a successful open house on January 8, with more than 200 people attending. The unit was surveyed on January 13 and 14, then officially opened on January 15.

Hackettstown Community Hospital

Hackettstown Community Hospital coordinates two-part seminar

Held earlier this year on the hospital's campus, the Attention Deficit Disorder seminar was very successful. Phone inquiries outnumbered seats available.

The free seminar, coordinated by the Wellness & Lifestyle Center, featured discussions about ADD

directed primarily to parents. The first session, presented by psychologist Vincent Conti addressed ADD signs/symptoms, what parents need to know and do with an ADD child, ADD problems in school and how parents can work with schools. The second session consisted of a four-part panel discussion.

ADVENTIST HEALTH CARE IN THE COLUMBIA UNION

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

Adventist Preferred Nursing and Home Assistance
10800 Lockwood Dr.
Silver Spring, MD 20901
(301) 681-9602

Adventist Senior Living Services
9430 Key West Ave.
Rockville, MD 20850
(301) 309-0660

The Atrium (Assisted Living Center)
9701 Medical Center Dr.
Rockville, MD 20850
(301) 424-2224

Fairland Adventist Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

2101 Fairland Road
Silver Spring, MD 20904
(301) 384-6161

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

Kettering Breast Evaluation Centers
580 Lincoln Park Blvd.
Kettering, OH 45429
(513) 299-0099

Kettering Medical Center Home Care
1259 East Dorothy Lane
Kettering, OH 45419
(513) 296-7820

Kettering Memorial Hospital
3535 Southern Blvd.
Kettering, OH 45429
(513) 298-4331

Kettering Workers' Care
2023 Springboro West
Dayton, OH 45439
(513) 293-7770

Reading Rehabilitation Hospital
1623 Morgantown Road
Reading, PA 19607
(610) 796-6000

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

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

Springbrook Adventist Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
12325 New Hampshire Avenue

Silver Spring, MD 20904
(301) 622-4600

Sycamore Glen Retirement Community
317 Sycamore Glen Dr.
Miamisburg, OH 45342
(513) 866-2984

Sycamore Hospital
2150 Leiter Road
Miamisburg, OH 45342
(513) 866-0551

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

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

Chesapeake Challenge

YOUR CONFERENCE NEWSLETTER • FEBRUARY 1997



President's FOCUS

Having only one daughter, I have been lucky enough to experience the little "firsts" and "lasts" that a typical father experiences in the wonderful relationships of a growing "little girl." One of these experi-

ences is a wedding. My pocketbook says I am fortunate to have only one daughter.

A few weeks ago, I found myself sitting in a bridal shop. I watched with interest the reaction of other fathers who very proudly watched their "little girls" try on one wedding gown after another. The store teemed with excited prospective brides twirling in front of mirrors escorted by doting mothers. Saleswomen tucked and pinned here and there to ensure a "perfect fit."

"Hey Dad, do you like it?" my daughter asked me for the sixth time that morning. "Cookie, you look beautiful!" I honestly replied for the sixth time that morning. Then I automatically reached for the price tag. "Honey, I thought this was on sale!" I remarked to my smiling, apologetic wife.

It finally began to sink in how important it is to find the right wedding gown to fit my daughter for the

continued on page 22



Hadley Farms

On December 8, 1996, several members of the Chesapeake Conference Association Board toured the Hadley Farms Baking Company in Smithsburg, Maryland. Frank DeHaan, president and owner of Hadley Farms, and Jason Sturm, general manager, escorted board members through the facility, explaining as they went the various steps in turning the vast quantities of ingredients into finished baked goods. There are three product lines up and running, with a fourth being installed early this year.

The bakery was first known as Dutchie Pretzels because of its main product line. But over the years, the pretzels have been replaced by a number of other products. The first line produces croissants at a rate of 325 per minute. The second line pro-

continued on page 22

In full head gear at Hadley Farms are Harold Taylor, left, Paul Saint-Villiers, Jason Sturm, Rick Russell, Richard Minty, Al Wennerberg, Bill Meyerholtz, Rolland McKibbin and Neville Harcombe.

'Peaking ahead...

PEDDS/Town Hall dates and locations:

March 1
Frederick

March 8
West Wilmington

March 15
Hagerstown

March 22
Spencerville

"President's Focus" continued from page 21

most important event of her life. The size, the color, the design, the price, all have to be just right.

The great wedding of all weddings will be the universal celebration when Jesus comes. God has a people who will have the right "wedding garment."¹ When He appears, to ensure entry, your wedding gown will fit you perfectly. The size, the color, the design, the price—there will be no price for you. But, on the other hand, it will be more valuable than all the gold and silver in the world because Jesus paid for it by His death on the cross.²

This wedding gown is the perfect, white, sinless righteousness of Jesus.³ It is tailor-made to fit each of us individually. A perfect fit. It covers all our ugly scars, warts and blemishes called "sin." Without this wedding gown, we will not be allowed to participate in the wedding.

Jesus reminded us that "the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son."⁴ When the king came to welcome the guests, he noticed that one did not have a "wedding garment." He told his servants to "cast him out into darkness."

It is important that you and I believe right now, today, that the only gown that God will accept when Jesus comes is the robe of Christ's righteousness. Do you find it difficult to believe or understand?

"The difficulty lies solely in the weakness and narrowness of the human mind. God has given us in the Scriptures sufficient evidence of their divine character, and we are not to doubt His word because we cannot understand all the mysteries of His providence."⁵

1. *Testimonies to the Church*, Volume 4, page 30.

2. *Christ's Object Lessons*, page 309.

3. *Testimonies to the Church*, Volume 5, page 509.

4. *Matthew* 22:2, 12.

5. *Steps to Christ*, pages 106, 107.



This Hadley Farms employee works on part of the croissant production line.

Hadley Farms workers get the cinnamon rolls ready for the ovens.

"Hadley Farms" continued from page 21

duces cinnamon rolls at a rate of 150 per minute. The third line, which has just recently gone into production, makes 160 encrusted buns/biscuits per minute. The fourth line, when operational, will deliver 220 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches every minute. It is staggering to contemplate how many product lines and the quantity of items that are produced every day. The finished products are then shipped all over the mid-atlantic region. DeHaan's son, Larry, owns and operates the transportation end of the business.

The company has been in operation since 1974, and it has always been the philosophy of the management to provide opportunity for HVA students to find employment. It is hard work, but for the student who is willing to work, it can give him or her an opportunity to meet a significant portion of their educational expenses. Jason Sturm is a living testimony to that fact. Jason worked at Hadley Farms all four years of his HVA experience. This enabled him to work off his entire bill.

The association board was considering the feasibility of a proposal that could potentially bring additional support to Highland View Academy. In these days of high expenses and diminished work opportunities, it is encouraging to find laymen who are thinking creatively about the future and the need to provide a more stable financial base for our educational enterprise.



District Updates

After a lengthy search process, the Spencerville church has a new pastor. Jerry Lutz has taken over the responsibilities as senior pastor for the 1,100-member congregation. Jerry's wife, Janet, is working for the Adventist health system. The Lutzes come to Chesapeake from the Central California Conference, where Jerry was senior pastor of their largest congregation at Bakersfield. Elder Lutz brings a wealth of pastoral experience and gifts to his job of leading Chesapeake's largest church.

In recent months, Chesapeake has seen a flurry of activity in pastoral leadership and district changes. The executive committee, working through its personnel committee, has taken the initiative to do some redistributing and pastoral reassignment. Here is a brief report on the outcome of their actions.

continued on page 23

Elder Michael Pearson was called from the Potomac Conference to be the director of the Baltimore City Outreach Center and to pastor the Baltimore City church (Pigtown). Elder Pearson has served the church for a number of years in South Africa before coming to the United States in 1995. Mike's wife, Karen, is the secretary in the adult ministries and youth departments of Chesapeake. Mike is already helping to bring to reality the long-standing dream of making the center a hub of inner-city community ministry. In order to give the center a realistic chance of developing its potential, it was decided to separate the Pigtown company from the Brooklyn church.

Paul Gates, pastor of the Glen Burnie/Linthicum district, went on retirement January 1, yet continues to pastor the Glen Burnie church on a full-time basis. The Linthicum church and the Brooklyn church have been re-united into a district under the leadership of Maurice Bascom. Elder Bascom, recently retired from the General Conference, decided he would rather work full time than pursue hobbies and offered his services to our conference. Maurice and his wife, Dorothy, have been members of the Triadelphia church for a number of years. They spent a number of years of service in the Far East before coming to the GC. They bring an aggressive and energetic style of leadership to this district.

On the northern side of Baltimore, things have been changing as well. The Parkville-Essex church is about to move into its new facility and become known as the Baltimore-White Marsh church. The executive committee feels there is great potential for evangelism and church growth in the White Marsh area, so the church will become a single-church district. Dick Thomas will continue as pastor.

The Dundalk church (with Parkville-Essex before) has been joined with the Towson church under the

leadership of Roosevelt Marsden. Elder Marsden and his wife, Sharon, have been giving strong leadership in Towson on a part-time basis. The Marsdens hail from Jamaica, where Roosevelt was perennially one of the leading soul-winners. The conference has been anxious to be able to put Elder Marsden on full-time, and this new district alignment will enable it.

When Elder John Kurlinski moved to Idaho in December, that left the Chestertown/Rock Hall district with a vacancy, but not for long. Danny Flower, who had been pastoring in the southern most district on the shore (Pocomoke/Cornerstone), accepted the invitation to take over the district. Danny and his wife, Lori, have been catalysts for growth in their former district and were not excited about leaving unless the Lord would provide a good pastor to continue the progress that had been made. The Lord did provide such a pastor.

For the past dozen years, Sedley Johnson has been serving as a part-time lay pastor, first at Towson and then for the past several years as an associate in the Parkville-Essex/Dundalk district. Sedley and his wife, Eula, recently announced that if the opportunity developed, they would be interested in going into full-time gospel ministry. Sedley and Eula have left lucrative jobs in the Baltimore area and have taken over the leadership of the Pocomoke/Cornerstone district. Sedley, even as a part-time pastor, has been one of Chesapeake's leading soul-winners. He and Eula will continue the good work started on the lower shore by the Flowers.

While we rejoice in the progress that has been made, there are still three districts that remain without pastors at the time of this writing: the Berkeley Springs church, the Blythedale/Rising Sun district and the Highland View Academy church. The personnel committee is working diligently to fill these vacancies.

Chesapeake Conference Office Staff

President: Neville Harcombe
 Secretary: Millie Maplesden
 Executive Secretary: Rob Vandeman
 Secretary: Barbara-Lee Boyd
 Treasurer: Rick Russell
 Assoc Treasurers Richard Minty
 Randy Terry
 Secretary: Yolanda Scheib
 Adult Ministries: Frank Bondurant
 Secretary: Karen Pearson
*Adult Sabbath School, Ingathering,
 Personal Ministries, Community Services
 (Centers, Disaster Preparation, Federation)*
 Children's Ministries: Carole Smith
 Secretary: Kay Butler
 Communication: Rob Vandeman
 Secretary: Barbara-Lee Boyd
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 Associate: Carole Smith
 Secretary: Kay Butler
 Evangelism: Frank Bondurant
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 Secretary: Kay Butler
 Health/Temperance: Frank Bondurant
 Secretary: Karen Pearson
 Ministerial: Rob Vandeman
 Secretary: Barbara-Lee Boyd
 Receptionist/Conference Clerk:
 Julie Satelmayer
 Religious Liberty: Gary Jensen
 Sponsor: Neville Harcombe
 Secretary: Millie Maplesden
 Stewardship/ASI: Paul Saint-Villiers
 Secretary: Ann McCleaf
 Trust Services: Paul Saint-Villiers
 Field Representative: Arvid Wennerberg
 Secretary: Ann McCleaf
 Youth: Steve Wade
 Secretaries: Karen Pearson
 Ann McCleaf
*Adventurers, Pathfinders, Youth,
 20-30 Ages, Camp*

Auxiliary Services listed on page 24

Continuing the mission...Honduras '97

What do lemons, sugar and water have in common? Not much, until you join them together to make one of my favorite drinks: lemonade. On March 20-30, 1997, a special blend of high school and college-age youth will unite to form **Honduras Mission Team '97**. They are coming from public schools, private schools, home schools, Spencerville Junior Academy and Highland View Academy. Thirty youth and 12 staff make up the team of 42 excited participants (32 went last year). Team members are able to go because of the gifts of Christian friends and as they give of their own monies. Our group is sponsored and directed by Chesapeake Youth Ministries.

This is the sixth year in a row that a team from Chesapeake has gone to Santa Barbara and the neighboring area in Honduras. A warm friendship and strong working relationship have developed between the area believers and the youth of Chesapeake. There are also many who have yet to accept the Adventist message who treasure our young people. This is evident, not only as we walk through the villages, but as the scores of children pour into Vacation Bible School and the families come to hear the evening evangelistic services.

THE MISSION

This year, the team will seek to finish building the church in Santa Barbara. Last year, we were able, together with the local people, to complete much of the main structure of the church (basement, preparing to pour the main floor, block walls, etc.). This year, we hope to build the roof and work on the interior of the church, to complete the job we began. We have responded to a letter from the Honduras government requesting dentists to work in the area. Dr. Byron Byrd will lead our dental team, ministering daily to people in area villages. We will have a group doing repair work and painting at Santa Barbara Hospital. As extra funds come in, we will con-

tinue construction at the orphanage operated by local Adventists.

THE GOAL

Our purpose is, with the Lord's help, to reach the people for Jesus through children's Vacation Bible Schools, prison ministry, public evangelism, building construction and friendly, one-to-one contact. Our purpose for our youth is for them to see Jesus through active ministry, forever changing their lives for Him.

THE NEED

Through your gifts, we will be able to complete additional projects, which are now in the form of prayers and hopes. Will you help us with cash to finish our projects? Extra money is needed to help with the orphanage and to purchase needed children's items. We also need children's vitamins and simple medical supplies (tape, gauze, Band-Aids, bandages). Of all the supplies, money is needed most. More important is your commitment to pray daily for your mission team. Please direct all contributions to:

Honduras Mission '97
c/o Chesapeake Conference of S.D.A.
6600 Martin Road
Columbia, MD 21044

STEVE
WADE
*Chesapeake
Youth Director*



CONFERENCE AUXILIARY SERVICES

Baltimore Center Director: Mike Pearson
Baltimore Center Operations Manager: Jim Chamness
Handicap Services Coordinator: Robert Wilson
Handicap Services Sponsor: Neville Harcombe
Prison Ministries Coordinator (Western): Bill Spangler
Prison Ministries Sponsor: Frank Bondurant
Retirees Coordinator: Arthur Moyer
Retirees Sponsor: Paul Saint-Villiers
Shepherdess Sponsor: Neville Harcombe
Singles Ministries Coordinator: Howard Bankes
Singles Ministries Sponsor: Rob Vandeman
Women's Ministry Coordinator: Sondra McLean
Women's Ministry Sponsor: Rick Russell

Romanian Evangelism

Fulton Letourneau, a layman from the Patuxent church in southern Maryland, spent three weeks in Romania this past fall conducting an evangelistic series in the church at Costesti. The church had only seven members, yet on opening night, more than 100 people packed into the small building to hear Letourneau's message on Daniel 2.

Letourneau found the townspeople to be very receptive to the preaching of the Adventist message. But he also found that whenever the gospel is preached, the devil is stirred up to oppose the work. And this was certainly the case in these meetings. Local civil and religious authorities did everything possible to discourage the people from attending the meetings. When their efforts didn't deter the people from attending, they infiltrated the congregation and attempted to disrupt the meetings while they were in progress. Even the weather was uncooperative as it persistently rained, and there were frequent power outages.

But God's work will not be frustrated where the members have faith and are faithful in working. The meetings concluded with a small group being baptized, but with a sizeable group preparing for baptism. Altogether, there were nearly 60 requests for baptism. Those interests are being followed up by Pastor Marius Stancu.

Letourneau is no stranger to evangelistic work. During Net '95, he opened his home to neighbors and friends and witnessed several baptisms as a result. Chesapeake is proud of its dedicated laymen who at great personal expense have traveled to distant places to preach the gospel. Many of them are also conducting seminars and holding meetings in their own churches as well.

Romanian children



Snapshots of Senior Recognition

BY KATHY BEAGLES

Vice-principal



October 25-27 was Fall Parent Weekend at HVA, dedicated to families, particularly those of seniors. At Friday evening Senior Recognition, Charles Ford poses for a photo memory with his family.



Class President Brent Brumagin discusses the marching order with Claudia Lindow, who coordinates graduation as well.



Tiffany Hawley and Mario Munoz march out of the church after the service getting a foretaste of what graduation weekend will feel like.



Jane McEwen shares her pride with her senior son, Justin Young.



Conference Youth Director Steve Wade was the keynote speaker. He befriended the seniors and established a bond with them by enduring survival week along with the class of '97. His charge let them know he is a kindred spirit.



Jessica Phelps and Jonathan Folgar have something to smile about. Life is great—they are finally seniors!

Mark Your Calendars Now for Graduation Weekend - Class of '97. May 23-25, 1997

Consecration - May 23, 8:00 p.m.

Baccalaureate - May 24, 11:00 a.m.

Commencement - May 25, 10:00 a.m.

Class of 1997

- Jonathan Adams
- Eduardo Affonso
- Tadia Allen
- Priscila Bacchus
- Priscilla Barra
- Jesse Benton
- Erin Bergman
- Brent Brumagin
- Shaun Brinegar
- Andrea Bullock
- Aimee Burgess
- Deanna Darby
- Erin Dawson
- Justin Fearing
- Jonathan Folgar
- Charlie Ford
- Jason Grimes
- Carmen Guild
- Tiffany Hawley
- Stephen Herr
- David Lendle
- Sabrina Lewis
- Kenny Loignon
- Kienen Mason
- Mario Munoz
- Brandon Myers
- Aaron Nash
- Joey Norwood
- Jessica Phelps
- Katie Pipeling
- Andrew Porter
- Nestor Ramos
- James Stewart
- Marc Trout
- Kartini Van Gils
- Obol Wako
- Michael Weddle
- Joy Wennerberg
- Esther Whieldon
- Justin Young

Highland Views is published by Highland View Academy, 10100 Academy Dr., Hagerstown, MD 21740; (301) 739-8480; FAX (301) 733-4770.

Morgan Hellgren, Principal
Donna Bateman, Development Director

INTERNATIONAL LOVE

BY AIMEE BURGESS

studentwriter

Valentine's Day: the holiday of love. HVA may be a perfect example of how every country can love one another. International Night was one among many of the activities where every country represented in our school can shine.

Here at HVA, more than 15 countries are represented, and all had something special to share with the audience on International Night. The evening's events started out on the right foot with a parade of flags from each country around the auditorium. Some prepared dances, while others simply entertained the audience by sharing the culture and activities of their country.

Humor and entertainment played a big part in the success of the night. Nestor Ramos, the MC, asked trivia questions and threw candy out to the audience when someone answered correctly. Jason Suggs and Rick Bell acted like the professional gourmet cooks they aren't. A successful night ended with a farewell to some of the current exchange students, who will be greatly missed.

For four years, HVA has participated in the Foreign Exchange Program. More than 30 students have come, and some are presently still here. Many enjoy the experiences at HVA and have fond memories to take back to their home country.

Warmth and love for one another has played an important role in each person here, no matter what race or culture. The love that each person shares impacts the ways that people act and respond to the world around them.



The ESL students prepare for the big night



Rodrigo Affonso holds the outline for Brazil, his home country, while speaking about it.



Danilo Quispe places the flag while setting up for the evening. Danilo was a student who finished in December of 1996.



Principal Morgan Hellgren proudly parades the Swedish flag around the gym.



Daniel Biaggi places the outline of Argentina on the map—with help from Edguaro—while Lilian introduces their home country.



Anja Lischek practices her favorite German song on the accordion before going on stage.



Anja Lischek marches with the flag of her home country, Germany.



Dani Van Gils, a senior at HVA, is proud of her country.



Edguaro and Liliana, along with Nester Ramos, sing a song for their special feature.



Wako, a senior as well, is happy to present his country, Ethiopia.



Barra, Rodrigo Affonso, Sergio Azevedo and Emerson Mendes perform a humorous skit about boy meets girl.



Jason Suggs prepares his lines with help from Liliana Ullrich, one of the coordinators of the program.



Liliana Ullrich and Danilo Quispe walk the Argentinean flag around the audience.



Edguaro and Liliana Ullrich, the newest additions to our faculty from Argentina, share a song with the student body.



Renata Lisboa and Sergio Azevedo march together for their country, Brazil.

MORE ESL STUDENTS SECOND SEMESTER

BY MORGAN HELLGREN

principal

The largest group of ESL students arrived on the HVA campus on or about January 1997. To the new arrivals, the greatest challenge is to keep them from speaking their native tongue. For the academy, perhaps the greatest challenge is; trying to assimilate the newly arrived and talented youth into the school family.

Kathy Beagles, foreign language program coordinator, is excited about the uniqueness of the program at Highland View. She takes personal charge of each foreign student and knows them even before they arrive on campus. Unlike most programs, HVA caters only to Seventh-day Adventist students. That removes one problem in acclimating students to the Adventist culture and lifestyle.

Preparing a student for competency in the English language is the primary goal of the ESL program. However, a number of students are choosing to complete their secondary education at HVA. After receiving their diploma, some will continue their education at an Adventist college or university before returning to their home country.

Highland View Academy is ideally located to run this program with its proximity to Washington D.C. The American way of life is very much told in the many buildings and museums that are located in the nation's capital.

Calendar of events

February

- 10-15 Student Week of Prayer
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 15 S.A. Night
- 17-21 Spirit Week
- 22 Sophomore Class Benefit
- 27-Mar. 3 Homeleave

March

- 14-16 Parent Weekend
- 15 Senior Class Play

WE WOULD LIKE FOR YOU TO MEET...

BY KRISTEN PEDIGO

studentwriter



Evan Howe

Evan Howe, a freshman at Highland View Academy, was born on April 20, 1982, in Loma Linda, California. Since California and before Hagerstown, (where he is currently living) Evan and his family spent three months in Malaysia. As if that wasn't an interesting enough childhood, he has also been a member of the Peabody Conservatory and part of its Children's Chorus for seven years.

Evan already has had many pleasant experiences at HVA. He is freshman class senator, involved with both choir and chorale and is part of a guitar group. He likes HVA because he thinks it's a good spiritual environment with great people everywhere.

Extreme outdoor sports like rock climbing, white-water rafting and canoeing are Evan's favorite things to do in his spare time (if and when he gets any). His passion is playing the guitar. He plans to be a professional guitarist after he gets out of college, but for now he's concentrating on his current job: working on grounds.

As for goals for the future, Evan has only two minor ones. 1.) To become a great musician and 2.) To benefit the world in some way.



Greg Whitman

Greg Allan Whitman was born on November 16, 1978, in Pennsylvania. This is Greg's first year at Highland View Academy. He chose to come here for his junior year because he wanted to leave public school and explore other alternative options. Even though it's only his first year here, Greg has met a lot of new people and learned a lot of interesting things about school, life and God.

As athletic as he is, Greg really doesn't have a lot of time for sports. He does, however, find time to play basketball and hockey. Besides these two sports, Greg enjoys spending lots of time with his girlfriend and watching hockey on ESPN.

School occupies most of his time, for he has to study hard because his life-long dream is to become a millionaire by being a learned businessman. He plans on going to Boston University.



Erin Bergman

Erin Elizabeth Bergman is a bubbly, outgoing perfectionist who is a four-year senior this year at Highland View Academy. She was born in Loma Linda, California, on October 9, 1978. She lived a part of her life in Swaziland, South Africa, with her missionary family.

Erin is your typical girl. She likes shopping, being with friends, working out, playing basketball, snow-skiing and reading. She also likes working in the office. Erin is one of many students at HVA who enjoys their job on campus; she works in the registrar's office.

Throughout the past four years here, she has been very involved. Erin was freshman class secretary, sophomore class president and this year she is social vice president for the Student Association. She is also part of the Lady Tartans basketball team.

High school has definitely been a learning experience for her, not only in academics, but also in life and God. She has learned that serving Christ should always remain number one in your life and that Jesus will always be there for you no matter what. Even though Erin is ready to move on, she will always miss HVA.

After HVA, Erin plans on going to Columbia Union College to explore her options for a future career. Currently, dental hygiene and public relations interest her. She also plans to get married.



Amanda Gregg

Amanda Lynn Gregg, Mandy as she is affectionately referred to by her friends, is a two-year sophomore at HVA. She was born in Bedford, Pennsylvania, on December 28, 1980, at 3:14 a.m. Mandy is a very outgoing, friendly person who especially loves talking on the phone, swimming and exercising. The two sports she enjoys, she excels at. Soccer is one of them, and last year Mandy was one of the first girls ever to play on the soccer team at HVA. Archery is the other, and she is the 1995 mid-Atlantic champion for her superb targeting skills.

She has enjoyed her time spent at HVA because she loves her friends and all the faculty here.

For the future, Mandy will go to Pennsylvania State College to become a psychiatrist or a school counselor, get married and move to Montana.

Pennsylvania Pen

February 1997

I like my church because ...

... I feel accepted and cared about.—Amy Brownell, 14, Reading Kenhorst.

... it's a Christian church.—Cecelia Miller, 7, Reading Hampden Heights.

... it doesn't take long to get there. We have a good Sabbath school class, and we have good

teachers.—Brian Negley, 12, Carlisle.

... it's clean and pretty, and it's a caring church.—Jordan Schaeffer, 11, Philadelphia Boulevard.

... I have an awesome pastor.—Brittany Gifford, 11, Blue Mountain Academy.

... I learn more about Jesus and how He takes care of His sheep.—Bradley Burgess, 10, Berwick.

... it's interesting and fun.—Elizabeth Ruggles, 10, Reading Hampden Heights.

... I can communicate with God and enjoy the Sabbath.—Keren LeBron, 13, Bucks County.

... from old to young, we're all friends.—Hannah Lee, 13, Philadelphia Korean.

... they give good food every second weekend. I see my friends there, and I learn about God there and get religion.—Rosa Riveravega, 12, Shermans Dale.

... I look forward to all the warm hugs I receive every week.—Dolly Porawski, 14, Souderton.

... it is not only spiritual but also cultural. Having the same background as everybody else creates a comfortable atmosphere.—Ken Estevez, 13, Philadelphia Spanish III.

... my youth program is real good.—Isaac Kim, 12, Lansdale.

... I love God, and I like being at church with my grandmother.—Renee DaPonte, 8, Philadelphia Boulevard.

... it is a small church, so we know everybody and they are friendly, and we like Pastor Spangler.—Sara, 13, Joshua, 11, Anna, 9, and Reba, 5, Washington.

... I am able to study in-depth the end-time events.—Joshua Corbin, 12, Northumberland.

... the people are friendly and kind.—Bobby Gross, 12, Berwick.



... I enjoy all the fun and interesting people who love the Lord.—Richard Engle, 14, Shermans Dale.

... I have friends, and it helps me keep out of trouble on God's Holy Day.—Misty Small, 13, Carlisle.

What's happening

February 22

Regional Officer Training Seminar
Greater Pittsburgh Junior
Academy

February 28

Prayer P.A.T.C.H. Friday
(Prayer for Educators and Youth)

March 7-9

Pathfinder Leadership Retreat
Laurel Lake Camp

March 7-9

NADEI Lay Training Program
Blue Mountain Academy

March 12-25

Youth Department Mission Trip
Guatemala

March 13-23

Blue Mountain Academy Spring
Break

March 22

Vacation Bible School Workshop
Harrisburg

April 11-12

Power Source
Youth Prayer Conference
Blue Mountain Academy

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The priority of children's ministry



MIKE CAULEY
President
Pennsylvania Conference

I have often been amazed by the receptivity of children to the impressions of the Holy Spirit. Even kids who are incorrigible may surprise you during a church school week of prayer, VBS or Sabbath school.

Studies have shown that adults are much more likely to become

Christians if they had some contact with the Lord as children. In fact, the percentage of adults who give their hearts to Christ and had a Christian experience as children is

much higher than the percentage of adults who give their hearts to Christ and had no opportunity to know the Lord when growing up. Even if they forsake their spiritual upbringing, they are much more open to the impression of the Holy Spirit later in life. Every day is a fleeting opportunity to drop a seed for the gospel into one of our precious children.

I am very thankful for the dedicated men and women within our conference who invest their lives in ministering to our boys and girls. Children's ministry is soul-winning of the highest order and must be a priority if we are to be faithful to the gospel commission.

Juniors learn Bible lessons with walk-through sanctuary

Do you remember why the high priest wore bells on his garment in the Most Holy Place? Can you remember the smell of the burning incense and what it represents? What about the significance of the colors used or how the bread on the table of shewbread was changed?

The junior class of Philadelphia Boulevard created a walk-through sanctuary in their classroom this past July through September, working during class and several Wednesday evenings to make and put together the various parts and pieces of the sanctuary. They were very specific about what to place in the ark and were amazed at how many things were made of gold. Jesse Quenzer said, "With the time and effort it took to make this model, I can't imagine what it took to put the real one together."

The juniors enjoyed not only re-

creating the sanctuary experience, but also learning about why it is significant to us today. Jasmine Valles discovered that many innocent animals had to be killed. It helped her and other students better understand the ultimate sacrifice Christ made. Now the juniors have a greater appreciation for the meaning of the sanctuary service and the care that God took to give each thing in the sanctuary a purpose. They also invited members to walk through and experience their sanctuary.

The smoke of burning incense, the soft cry of a bleating lamb mixed with the dim yet therapeutic illumination of the wicks on the lampstand... Close your eyes and imagine a place filling the senses...

The juniors will remember the sanctuary well—they were there!

LINDA GRANATO
Communication Leader

Sabbath school at Lebanon is family affair

Towards the end of the Net '96 meetings, the Lebanon church faced a dilemma. We needed to integrate new members into Sabbath school, yet we lacked teachers for children and youth classes. We also wanted to strengthen families in our church by providing time and resources for them to interact on a spiritual level. Our solution? Family Sabbath School!

All the teachers in the children and youth divisions are now part of the Family Sabbath School team, and we plan one program together instead of several separately, saving time and energy. All the children and youth, along with their parents or another relative, meet in our fellowship hall for song service, interactive Bible-learning activities, the lesson story acted out for the younger ones by the juniors and youth, small group prayer time and other activities.

Appropriate activities for the beginners and kindergarten are provided for part of the session in a corner of the room.

We are definitely learning as we go, but so far have had positive feedback and results. Our attendance averages 30, with about half of those being children and young people. Future plans and goals include a family resource library, where books and tapes can be checked out for use in family worship; monthly family activities such as a bike rally, a hike or a progressive dinner; and a mission trip to Bolivia in March.

Small churches have unique challenges, but if you have creativity and a willingness to try new things, answers can be found!

LINDA MCCABE
Correspondent

Camporee puts Pathfinders in the swing of things

The open field at Laurel Lake Camp was transformed into a small tent city October 4-6 as 319 Pathfinders and staff convened for the Pennsylvania Pathfinder Camporee.

The weekend began with a vespers program by Youth Director Dave Ferguson around the campfire. On Sabbath morning, Blue Mountain Academy students presented an inspiring program for Sabbath school, followed by intriguing story talks by Dick Duerksen. An afternoon nature hike focused on the different kinds of trees in the area.



During Saturday night, the Pathfinders had many activities to do, but a favorite was the rope swing. It seemed that by lantern light it was more fun. For Sunday, there were several planned events, including a maze set up by Joe Bange.



Too soon it was time for the tents to come down, and the goodbyes to be said. Everyone went home waving and horns blowing farewell. It had been a good weekend to be with friends and get in tune with God.

HOMER STRONG

Pathfinder Executive Council Chairperson



Above, left: One of the Pathfinders attending the camporee at Laurel Lake Camp in Rossiter uses the rope swing. Above: Dick Duerksen, vice president for creative ministries of the Columbia Union, speaks to Pathfinders at the camp. Left: Those attending the camporee brought a variety of accommodations, including tents, campers and trailers.

Vacation Bible Schools put "Kids in the Kitchen"

Using the theme "Kids in the Kitchen," children were taught about healthful living during Vacation Bible Schools this past summer. Many Pennsylvania churches participated.

In **Hamburg**, puppets were used to teach health principles. They also had health centers and demonstrations and used a torso from the science classroom. As a result of VBS, one family is now sending their children to church school.

Chestnut Hill members utilized many different areas of the church for their VBS—including the stairway. Children sat on the steps as Pastor

Sarault told the Bible story from the bottom. Several health professionals and doctors gave health talks.

The **York** church placed a chest in the church lobby as a fund raiser for VBS. Not only were they able to cover their expenses, but enough was raised to provide a Bible to each of the 90 children attending. A professional chef helped to make the kitchen crafts a memorable event.

Paper-plate skeletons lined the walls of the **Harrisburg** gym during their VBS. Aerobic routines led out by Les Moyer made the nightly exercise time a favorite. A health fair

was held on Friday evening for both parents and children.

The **Reading Hampden Heights** teens and youth performed skits each night to reinforce health concepts. Tables were moved outdoors on the evening of bread making so that each child had plenty of room to mix and knead their dough.

Gearing up to hold VBS at your church? Because 1997 is the Year of Health and Healing, the North American Division recommends repeating the "Kids in the Kitchen" program. A workshop will be held Sunday, March 22, in Harrisburg.

Adventurers enjoy family picnic in Harrisburg

Pennsylvania Adventurer clubs met at Gifford Pinchot State Park in Harrisburg for a family picnic on Sunday, September 15. It was the first picnic of this kind for the Adventurers of Pennsylvania, but so much fun was had by all that it is hoped it will become an annual event.

Many of the Adventurers and their families had the opportunity to camp at the park for the weekend. Sabbath activities included Sabbath school, scavenger hunts, a nature sermon and an afternoon hike to the lake. At sundown, everyone gathered around a campfire for stories and songs.

Sunday morning began with a parade around the park in uniform. The children displayed torches and family banners they had made to simulate a mini-Olympics award. Conference President Mike Cauley

led out in worship, followed by games, relays and javelin.

The afternoon was filled with more fun and games involving parents and children. One particularly fun game was when the mothers were blindfolded and asked to try to find their children. Imagine all the children running in different direc-

tions, taunting their mother with cries of "Mom, Mom!"

The final event of the day was the pine car derby race. Each child, with the help of his or her family, had carved and painted his or her very own car from a block of pine wood. The track for the fun race was built by Dale Breece.

LOUELLA SANTOS
Correspondent



Children attending the Adventurer family picnic show off the cars they made for the fun race.

New faces



Robb and Chris Long are the new pastoral team for the Fairview Village and Pottstown churches. They come to us from the Iowa-Missouri Conference, where they ministered in full-time evangelism. Chris, originally from the Philadelphia area, enjoys holding cooking schools and health seminars.

Resources

Where can a leader or teacher get quick answers to questions about children's ministries?

- SDA PlusLine, (800) 732-7587 when you don't know who to call.
- SDA FaxPlus, (800) 474-4732 for information about the mission and ministries and the Adventist church.
- Adventist Book Center, (800) 832-BOOK, Barb Johns, Children's Resource Person.
- Adventist Children's Ministries Association (ACMA), (800) 328-0525, a network of children's ministries specialists and consultants.
- *Kid's Stuff*, (800) 765-6996, a magazine loaded with ideas for children's leaders and teachers.
- Pennsylvania Conference Children's Ministries Coordinator, (717) 238-2571, Cheryl Monnier.

Blue Mountain Academy COMMUNIQUE

SA Christmas party, 1996

How does one "moon walk" on the BMA campus? Come to the Christmas party and see. This year featured two inflatable creatures (a dragon and a "horsie") that were ideal for moon walking. Each animal was a large, air-filled bag with mesh sides. Four or five crazy individuals would enter and commence to bounce each other to the moon. Stacey-Ann Bennett said she "got landed on a lot" but had fun anyway.

Besides moon walking, the students could enjoy any one of several other events. Some were simple activities, like "Pin the Nose on Rudolph." The only danger there was the sharp pin. Jason Min liked the dart-throwing balloon board "because it was easy." At least you were not blindfolded for that game! For those who are not allowed to handle sharp objects, there was the ping-pong-ball toss.

The long arm of the law reached out to anyone whose "friends" were willing to pay the price of an arrest warrant. At least the jailer was easily bribed to extend or shorten any sentence. Mr. Buller and Mr. Huenergardt also spent time behind bars, courtesy of their loving students.

For those who wanted to "wham-it-up," there was karaoke. Get some friends together, pick a tune and sing along. There was plenty of bleatcher (sic) seating for the audience to enjoy Christmas hits. Tim Buller, Justin Cale and Denise Golden set the high standard with their rendition of "Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer." An unforgettable moment, albeit a melancholy one...

Santa was available for wish lists and pictures. He promised to e-mail requests to the North Pole while he continued his holiday tour.

After the events in the gym, Santa jumped in his



Tricia Rouse - 2000 and Raelinda Tooley - 2000

sleigh and left. The students went to the cafeteria for popcorn, cider and a movie.

Matt Hockman summed up the evening, "It was good if you got involved. The variety was fun."

CARY CORBIN
SA Sponsor

F.Y.I.

February 16	Boy's Open House / Girls' Reception
February 23-26	Annual Fund Phon-a-thon
March 1	Junior Presentation
March 12-25	Mission Trip
March 13-23	Spring Break
March 28-31	History Honors Trip
April 4-5	Alumni Weekend
April 13	Junior/Senior Reception
April 23-27	Homeleave
May 2-3	Spring Concerts
May 4	Aerial Aires Home Show
May 4-5	Academy Days
May 16-18	Spiritual Retreat
May 30-June 1	Graduation Weekend

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Christmas



The two who make it all happen! Nancy S. Edison, chairperson of the music department, has been a BMA staff member since 1959. She is director of the La Sonnette Ensemble and keyboard instructor, a concert organist and a recipient of the Zapara Award

for Excellence in Teaching. Tom Buller, in his third year at BMA, teaches voice and instrument and is director of Bel Canto, the Sylvan Singers and BMA's concert band. His specialty is trombone. Buller also received the Zapara Award.



Susen Weis is accompanist for the Sylvan Singers and Bel Canto.



The La Sonnette Ensemble, BMA's bell choir, performed several

numbers at the Friday evening vesper program. Pictured are Becky Williams, Stacey Hutchinson, Christina Cale, Sandy Notturmo, Danny Cates, Victoria Phanord and Jason Eyer. Jose Dorta, Staci Gray, Tyson Page and Chris Rogers are also members of the group.



The traditional Christmas keyboard vespers was presented

Sabbath afternoon by the piano and organ students. Pictured



are , Angela LeBrun, Albert Cheatham and Joel Beaven.



Student Conductor Trevor Scheuneman led the Sylvan Singers in "And The Glory" during the Messiah performance.



The program also included a skit entitled "Bird's-Eye View." Pictured are Patty Ramirez, Laura Cates, Jared Swingholm and Marty Maxwell.

concerts



The Sylvan Singers, BMA's concert choir, along with an orchestra that included parents, students and alumni, performed several *Messiah* choruses during the Christmas program Friday evening. Audience members were invited to join the choir for the "Hallelujah Chorus."



The BMA concert band presented "Christmas at Home" on Saturday night. The program included a saxophone solo by Norine Briner and a flute trio, Deanna Heisey, Amber Jackson and Jami Thoman. Student Director Joseph Destin conducted the band in "Tidings of Joy." Bel Canto also shared "Carol of the Bells."



Bob Mills, assistant boys' dean, performed the solos for the *Messiah* concert.



Bel Canto, BMA's touring choir, also sang several numbers Friday evening. Pictured are: (back row, left to right)

Karl Snell, Kosta Mitsouras, Cedric Joyner, Graham Baker, Trevor Scheuneman, Joseph Destin and David Swenson; (front row, left to right) Alyssa Foote, Taunia Hubler, Cassandra Matthews, Betty Treitl, Becky Gerrans, Cheri Eglinger, Jami Thoman and Idamis Melendez.



Did You Know?



Members of the Aerial Aires gymnastic team, along with their coach, Ed Eberhardt, spent October homeleave at Columbia Union College. Along with more than 500 other gymnasts, they participated in Acrofest, a workshop for Adventist students from academies and colleges around the North American Division.

Freshmen Bryce Enevoldson, Jason Eyer, Steven Miranda and Chad Benfer sit down to a meal they prepared in home economics class. Donna Rouse is their teacher.



Michelle Bernard demonstrates her geometry project while John Edison looks on.



Duane Ferguson asked his junior American history students to report to the class on their heritage. Aprille Febre models for Eun-Kyung Lee's report about Korea.

Karyl Kramer finished her master's in education with specialization in secondary English from Kutztown University in December! Karyl officially began her degree work in June of 1995. Currently, Karyl teaches French and English. She was awarded the Zapara Award for Excellence in Teaching two years ago.



Student photographers for this issue include Carol Corbin (2000), Karen Corbin (98), Jason Johns (97) and Tyson Page (97).

Alumni Weekend—Notice the dates—April 4 and 5. Plans are coming together for an outstanding alumni weekend. For example, the Friday evening speaker will be Brent Wood, president of the class of 77. Hope to see you here for the entire weekend!

When our school fulfills God's vision....

Blue Mountain Academy is earnestly striving to provide "true education." We know how it is defined:

True education... is the harmonious development of the physical, the mental and the spiritual powers. It prepares the student for the joy of service in this world and for the higher joy of wider service in the world to come," — Educational, page 13.

We must be satisfied with nothing less. Accepting a counterfeit can be fatal. The theories abound, but God has given Adventists a plan for educational success.

Satan knows what will be accomplished when our schools fulfill God's vision. He strives to make us believe it can't be done. But since God is for us, when we follow His plan, our youth will catch the attention of the world for Christ. Pray that God will lead Blue Mountain Academy in this exciting and awful time!



STAN ROUSE
Principal

"It was a wonderful experience..."

The senior class reached out a helping hand to the community while raising money for class activities by soliciting sponsors for their time worked. Their tasks included such activities as raking leaves, doing light housekeeping and playing games with senior citizens.



Jana Lichtenwalter and Danielle LeBrun worked together in the home of Mrs. Houlton, a spirited lady with a keen eye and entertaining stories. Says Danielle, "We did various tasks around the house, including making her bed, washing windows, dusting, vacuuming, light gardening and re-setting her cuckoo clock."

Mrs. Houlton was very appreciative and insisted on rewarding the girls with little crafts that she had made. Jana shared that, "It made me feel good knowing that I had helped someone who had a genuine need." Danielle responded, "It was a wonderful experience and a great memory."

**What's
happening
around
Potomac**

**Adult Sabbath School
Superintendents
Training**
Staunton, VA, Church
February 22

**Potomac Conference
Executive Committee
Retreat**
Virginia Beach
February 28 - March 1

**Executive Committee
Meeting**
Virginia Beach
March 2

Youth Lock-In
Takoma Academy
March 15

**Pre-Constituency
Town Hall Meetings**

Maryland Region
Burnt Mills SDA Church,
Silver Spring
March 4 - 7:00 p.m.

Northern Virginia Region
Vienna SDA Church
March 5 - 7:00 p.m.

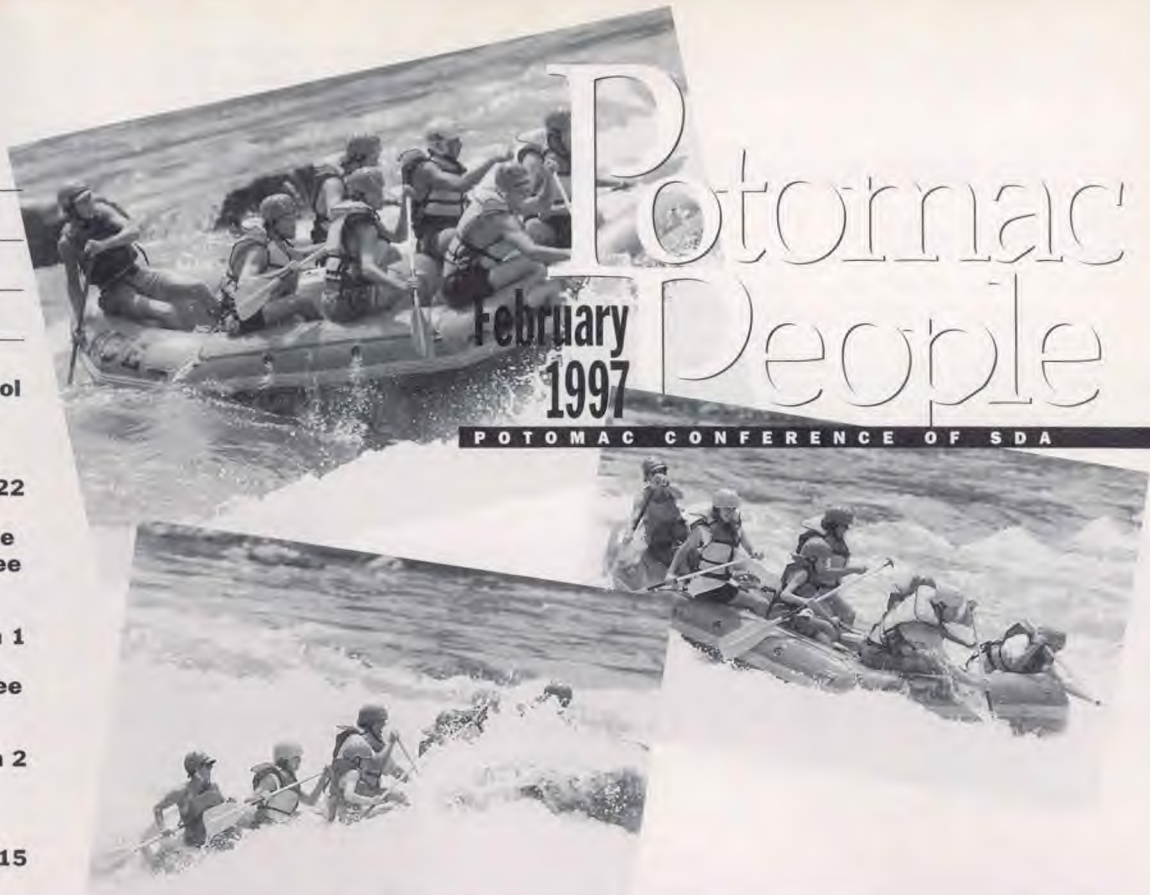
Tidewater Region
Norfolk SDA Church
March 8 - 6:00 p.m.

Southwestern Virginia Region
Wytheville SDA Church
March 15 - 6:00 p.m.

Valley Region
Potomac Conference
Resource Office
March 16 - 10:00 a.m.

Central Virginia Region
Patterson Avenue SDA
Church - Richmond
March 22 - 6:00 p.m.

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Year-End Report

Potomac's youth: Paddle ahead



Sali Jo Hand

1996 got off to an icy start in the Potomac Conference. Although many meetings had to be cancelled, God gave special grace for the weekend of January 27 when the first meeting of the newly formed Potomac Youth Council met at the Beltsville church. Approximately 20 youth leaders representing the five geographic areas of the Potomac Conference met for an afternoon meeting, which was over all too quickly. We shared joys and concerns in our various areas of ministry and talked about how we could give each other more support. Everyone agreed that better communication is needed between churches.

We agreed that our purpose as a council is to create ministries to reach all the youth of Potomac in ways that enable each one to clearly understand Christ's gift of salvation and experience the joy of being His fully devoted follower. Our goals include providing quality training for youth leaders and programs and events for teens and young adults.

The youth council initially agreed to meet two more times in 1996. During the fall meeting, we decided that we needed to have an entire weekend retreat to accomplish the kind of planning necessary to turn our vision for youth ministry into reality. We set aside November 15-17 for this youth council retreat. This was a highly successful event. Twenty-one youth leaders met at Ocean City, Maryland, from Friday evening until Sunday noon. Graeme Sharrock, a Chicago-based Christian counselor, and Stuart Tyner from the La Sierra Hancock Center for Youth Ministry joined us as facilitators. The council divided into committees to study ways to increase financial resources for youth ministry; to create teen and young adult programs and events; to study training for youth leaders and design a program of youth leader certification; and to gather and disseminate information relative to youth needs and events in our conference.

The council decided to meet four times in 1997. We have a great group of highly dedicated youth leaders in the Potomac Conference who are very serious about bringing our young people close to God.

continued on page 38

Pathfinder Harrison Baker from Manassas, Virginia, enjoys the "stilts" event during the October '96 Pathfinder Fair.



Guest Editorial

Taking down walls

I watched and listened in panic during the 1994 Northridge, California, earthquake as walls tumbled in and concrete stairs crumbled away in front of me. Mother Nature wasn't giving any structure a choice. The walls were being torn down. However, two years later, I cheered as the wall between the family room and living room was cut out at home in Virginia. Our family had chosen to make a large room out of two smaller ones. The wall hadn't come down soon enough.

Everyone has "walls" even if you can't see them. Walls can hide what a person is feeling or shut out emotions that are too scary or embarrassing to deal with. Just think how effective we could be at home or work if we could tear down our own walls. Compassion and understanding could be greater if

we could see how a friend or family member was really feeling when not being blocked by a wall. We could be better understood if we could share the trouble or joy behind the wall.

Church isn't the only place where walls can go up. But it would be amazing to see all the "structures" hiding pain, conflict and shame. A friendly church member will come up to you and shake your hand. You smile and comment on how great special music sounded when you really wanted to ask for a hug or unload a heavy burden in your heart. You are so afraid of revealing your weaknesses that you don't even notice the walls around the person who appeared so friendly. Maybe both of you are experiencing the same problem and you could have helped each other.

A family that I know is going through deep pain and profound sadness. I decided to let my own walls down and let them know they weren't alone. I wanted to help them, but I find that they are helping me, too.

It is too difficult to tear down a wall alone. It would be a lot easier to have loved ones close by so that when you are ready to tear down your own wall, you have help cleaning up the "rubble." It is rewarding to be able to listen to someone and give a pat on the back or a hug. It is also comforting to know that if you need to be heard, someone is just "a wall away." There may be more faith in a person who lives by Christian values, but there isn't immunity to the pain and trouble that everyone else goes through at some point.

If we could spend more time choosing to tear down our own walls, there would be less "structures" in front of others. With all the walls coming down, there would be a lot more room to hug.

GAIL BROECKEL

Youth (continued)

One of my favorite areas of ministry is conducting weeks of prayer at our schools and academies throughout the conference. After having to cancel several meetings and appointments due to snow storms, I was delighted to have a week of prayer in January at Tidewater Academy. I looked forward to leisurely strolling on the beach after a busy week of conducting worships and counseling with the large student body. My expectations were only partly met. We had a busy and wonderful week of prayer. Students responded enthusiastically to the worships on "How to Pray so that You Always Know God Hears and Answers." Many students took advantage of having their own resident pastor for the week and came in for counseling or just to get acquainted. At the end of the week, we had a candlelight communion worship with the entire school seated on the gym floor. Even the youngest were quiet as they listened to the story of the last days of Jesus' life on earth and His death for them. Older students acted out the story and as disciples" served communion to the audience of "New Believers" representing those who responded to the gospel message in the first century and through whose witness we today have heard the story and be-

lieved. The warm response of the students to the gospel message and their desire to come close to Him in prayer helped offset the unusually cold weather outside the walls of the school building. We had freezing rain, sleet and snow all week. I never did get that leisurely strolling on the beach. But I had something much better! I got to know a group of wonderful students and faculty. I became friends with them and had a part in helping them to get to be better friends with God. Many students made commitments to Christ and decisions for baptism as they experienced God and His passionate love for them while learning a new way to pray.

I had similarly heartwarming experiences getting to know students and faculty during weeks of prayer at the Valley View school in Winchester, Shenandoah Valley Academy at New Market, John Nevins Andrews Academy in Takoma Park, Hadley Acres in Gaithersburg and Desmond Doss Elementary in Lynchburg. I wonder if the angels enjoy watching the young people as much as I do when they make commitments to Christ and decisions for baptism at the conclusion of our weeks of prayer.

I spent the last week of February enjoying some reprieve from the East Coast cold while in Los Angeles for "Vision 2000,"



Sisters Jazmin and Kirstie Cancelado enjoy the petting zoo during a teen retreat.

Stuart Tyne preaches about grace as the most important element in successful youth ministry during a September retreat.

where Pathfinder leaders from across the division gathered to learn more about Pathfinder ministry. Glen Milam, Potomac Pathfinder area coordinator, attended the meetings and conducted six excellent workshops including "Mentoring via the PIA (Pathfinder Instructors Award)," "TLT (Teen Leadership Training)" and "Visual Designs and PIA."

Pathfinder ministries are alive, well and growing in Potomac Conference. Leaders are our most valuable resource. Your Pathfinder Area Coordinators Roger Rinehart, Glen Milam, Art Slagle and Xavier Covarrubius were joined this year by a new Spanish coordinator, Gloria Suescun. These dedicated Pathfinder leaders each had a major part in planning and organizing our spring camporee and Pathfinder Awards Day, Pathfinders during camp meeting, Pathfinder Leadership Convention at CBR and Fall Pathfinder Fair at Luray Caverns.



Teens gather for a group photo with leaders during a teen retreat.



The Alpine Ski relay was a favorite at the Pathfinder Fair

We've added several new clubs this year. Glen Milam and Xavier Covarrubius are implementing a new type of leadership training program this year. The former 10-hour basic training course is now being offered in weekend intensives in various areas of the Potomac Conference. This new course will be a 12-hour basic training course. The pilot program was held in Spanish December 13-15 at CUC. Watch your Pathfinder POWWOW for details on 1997 basic training courses in your area.

Potomac youth and young adult ministries sponsored several successful retreats during 1996.

March began with a "Discover Your Life Purpose" retreat at CBR. This retreat was designed to help not only youth leaders but people of all faiths and no particular faith discover the unique plan God has for them in finding their "Life Purpose." Retreat leader Graeme Sharrock divided participants into teams in order to give participants opportunities to explore life

purpose in everyday life activities as they worked together to accomplish various tasks. The retreat ended Sunday morning with a praise session during which participants thanked God for revealing His purpose for them in life.

Two of the "Discover Your Life Purpose" retreat participants had such a positive experience that they invited all of the youth of their church to the fall "What Am I Gonna Do With My Life" retreat at CBR. During this fun-filled and "purposeful" weekend, teens and leaders explored purpose in a variety of creative and active events. The teens enthusiastically formed teams at the beginning of the retreat. The teams helped them to get to know new friends more quickly. They all especially loved the outdoor activities. Volleyball and canoeing were among the favorites. The teens all asked us to have another retreat in 1997 and "be sure to have more kids next time!"

Youth and young adults enjoyed wonderful meetings in 1996 during Potomac camp meeting.

Young adults "hung out" at the "Oasis" for fellowship, jamming and hearing great gospel messages from a variety of speakers. Youth responded enthusiastically



Graeme Sharrock encourages Harrison Baker as he illustrates his life purpose creating an expressive poster during a teen retreat.

Campers Matthew Sharrock and Marcus Giddings jump in the water for a swim while whitewater rafting.



Jazmin Cancelado feeds a goat during a teen retreat.

siastically to the gospel ministry of Pastor Mitch Elrod. Earliteens listened eagerly to Pastor Michael Gayle's stories, and juniors learned that God has a special place for them NOW in His church as Alicia Patterson taught them about their spiritual gifts.

Shortly after camp meeting, a group of Potomac youth and young adults headed off to West Virginia to experience the thrills and spills of white-water rafting on the New River. Graeme Sharrock joined this group as pastor, leading the group in daily devotionals focusing on "Courage and Compassion" as qualities revealed in Jesus and

needed in the lives of Christians at all times. Participants practiced these graces as they



During the Family of God Festival '96, Larry Bonner as "Papa Grouch" talks to teens about using their gifts in ministry.

splashed, floated and rushed down the river and over the rapids. When a young girl was afraid to join the group in jumping into the water from a rock cliff (designated as safe by our guides), others compassionately coached her and encouraged her to jump from a low rock, cheering her progress to higher and higher levels until she could jump with the rest and join in the fun. It was wonderful to watch the esteem and courage of this young teen grow as the group demonstrated compassion for her. A white-water rafting trip is planned for August 8-10 of 1997. If you want a fun-filled adventure in a Christian atmosphere next summer, plan to join us with your teens!

July began with the "Family of God Festival" at New Heritage USA, where Alicia Patterson again shared her expertise in teaching spiritual gifts with teens. To many of the group present, this was a totally new concept.



Rafting campers enjoy peaceful interludes before the mighty rapids begin.

Through a variety of creative active learning experiences, Alicia led the group to new awareness of the talented unique person God has created each young person to be.

August came, and we were off to Romania to build a church and conduct VBS meetings for underprivileged people in the village of Dumbraveni in Transylvania. The entire experience strengthened the faith of our youth and leaders as we watched God work obvious miracles and send angels to get us through several "tight" spots between leaving home and returning two weeks later. The next Potomac youth mission trip is planned for late July, early August 1997. This time we'll go to Moldova to help meet needs and share the gospel in that part of the world. We're accepting applications now!

We hadn't been back from Romania very long at all when suddenly it was time for the Fall Youth Leaders Training Retreat,

a "3:20 Zone Convention" at Airfield Conference Center in Wakefield, Virginia. Participants left with excitement about their ministry to teens and many requests to have this type of training event again next year. The next retreat of this kind, including a variety of presenters, is scheduled for October 31-November 2. The main focus will be "Reaching Teens in Secular Settings for Christ and the Church." Mark your calendar and plan now to attend! If you care about kids and are serious about wanting to learn more about how to lead them to Christ and stay integrated in the church, you can't afford to miss this! Watch the *Visitor* for more details.

Our very next Youth Leader Training Retreat, this time with just one presenter and a more singular focus, was February 7-9 at CBR. Steve Case of "Piece of the Pie" Ministries was with us again for an action-packed inspirational and highly instruc-

tional week-end. Steve shared with youth leaders and parents the most important "secret ingredient" absolutely essential to make youth programs, service activities, Sabbath schools and worships that will attract teens to God and to the church.

Youth ministry is an exciting gold mine of opportunity. It's been wonderful for me to be a part of decisions made for Christ by hundreds of youth throughout the year in a variety of settings and situations. God is working in a strong way in the Potomac Conference preparing a mighty army of youth to do their part, using their gifts, sure of their life purpose, who understand and accept the gospel of salvation in Jesus Christ to spread a knowledge of Him throughout the earth. Like ripples in a pond, the work of this year will spread out in ever-widening circles until the whole earth knows God and the reality of His love and we will be forever together in His kingdom.

SALI JO HAND
Youth Director



Jezreel Guyman and Emerson Narona listen attentively to instructions during 3:20 Zone Youth Leader Training.



Krystal Jackson enjoys the teen retreat petting zoo.



Vienna Spanish Pathfinder club leader Israel Sanchez helps a Pathfinder in the "Atomic Waste" event at the October Pathfinder Fair.



Retreat teams of teens compete during the volleyball tournament.

When the last trumpet blows

I recently noticed a very intriguing bumper sticker. It read, "When the Last Trumpet Blows, I'm Outta Here!" I am slow to catch on to some things, but it finally dawned on me that the person driving the car ahead must be a Christian. First Thessalonians 4:16 tells us that Jesus' coming will be in concert with a shout, a voice of the archangel and the trumpet of God. The dead are raised, and then they together with the living are caught up to meet the Lord in the air. First Corinthians 15:52 reveals that when the last trumpet sounds, the dead are raised. Based on our first text, this is before the righteous are caught up with the Lord. Consequently, the last trumpet is very significant in that it ushers in a new age for the righteous. Therefore, the bumper sticker has a special message in view of our Lord's return whether we are alive to witness the event or resting in the grave. In either case, when the last trumpet blows, "We're Outta Here!"

Signs all around us re-

veal the soon coming of Jesus. We are praying and laboring under His direction that this Great Day will be hastened. As part of God's Remnant family, we know you too are longing for His return. We all want to go from here to that special place Jesus is preparing. As part of this special family of God, let's continue to pray daily that His Spirit will be poured out on His people in a mighty way.

As God's Remnant, we have a special last-day message that proclaims the "hour of His judgment is come." The book of Revelation calls this the "everlasting gospel" and consists of God's saving grace and obedience to His law. We all must have a part in heralding this great message. This is the mission of the church at large. However, every member of the body of Christ has a special commission to alert the world of Jesus' soon return.

This tremendous task of carrying the gospel throughout the world takes time, effort, energy, skill, God's special guidance and His blessing. It also takes finances, which come from the Lord and are only channeled through His people.

God has richly blessed His church during 1996, and we look forward with much anticipation to the year ahead. Our long-time friend and colleague, Pastor George Digel, retired recently. He is already missed, and much of the former accomplishments can be traced to his faithful endeavors. Pastor Clinton Adams has been called to fill the position and is already making great strides



Clinton Adams

in his assignments. He will be based in the Washington, D.C., area.

Now let's look at the accomplishments of 1996. During the year, 267 wills were prepared for constituents of the Potomac Conference. At the same time, several of God's faithful saints have gone to sleep in the Lord. Because they remembered His work in their estate plan, \$225,000 has gone toward evangelism, Christian education, the local church and other areas of ministry within the Potomac Conference. Many hours have been spent with individuals, praying through important estate decisions. These decisions not only impact families over generations, but also hasten the Lord's coming because of the charitable intentions of His people. We in the department of legal affairs are excited about our ministry because we too have been called to hasten the blowing of that "last trumpet."

T. R. KNOLL SR

Attorney at Law

CLINTON ADAMS

Field Representative

Clinton Adams selected as new trust services officer

Clinton M. Adams has been selected by the Potomac Conference to serve as the field trust officer in the department of legal affairs. His primary emphasis will be in the Washington, D.C., metro area. Responsible for assisting constituents with estate planning, Adams will specifically provide expertise for Potomac members as they plan their wills, revocable trusts, annuities or other estate planning that may be of benefit to the individual and the Lord's work.

Adams will be conducting estate planning seminars along with Thomas R. Knoll Sr., director and attorney for the department of legal affairs. He also will serve on the trust management committee and on the corporation board of the Potomac Conference.

Clinton Adams is an ordained minister who has served the church for 25 years in the fields of pastoral ministries and conference evangelism. He has a strong family history in the department of legal affairs. His father, Melvin Adams, was director of the religious liberty department for the General Conference until he retired in 1980. Clinton Adams' grandfather also served as director of the religious liberty department in the Pacific Union Conference for 20 years.

Elder Adams received his ministerial training at Columbia Union College. In addition, he has completed class work in grief recovery, critical incidence stress debriefing and disaster services. He has Virginia certification with the National Registry of Paramedics.



T. R. Knoll Sr

Metropolitan Hispanic congregation organized with 52 charter members

On Sabbath, December 28, 1996, the Metropolitan Hispanic congregation was organized with 52 charter members by Potomac Conference officers Roger Weiss, vice president for administration, and Marvin Griffin, vice president for finance.

In 1994, the Capital, Central and Silver Spring Hispanic churches had a dream to plant a new congregation in the D.C. area. The Mt. Vernon area, 10th and L streets NW with a very high density of Hispanics, was chosen as the projected area. A group of 27 members volunteered to begin visitation of the neighborhood. The Chinese Community Church opened its doors for the group to begin worshipping. A series of evangelistic meetings continued bringing into church fellowship a very able and gifted group of new believers.

All departments of the new congregation are functioning, and six children attend the John Nevins Andrews and Sligo schools. The new church is very much involved with Community Services, the Food Bank and the D.C. Adult Educational Program, giving members an opportunity to witness very effectively. Their goal for 1997 is to double the church membership.

We congratulate Pastor Fausto Salazar and each member for such dedication and vision for growth. In combination with the organization of the church, a baptism was celebrated. The accompanying pictures will tell the rest of the story.

ROGER WEISS

Vice President for Administration and Director of Evangelism

Nell and Marvin Griffin observing as Maria Urbaz signs the charter membership list.



Baptisms present many challenges, especially when the facilities are rented. A hot kettle of water tempered the ice cold tap water.



Elder Fausto Salazar baptizing Coralia Soto, one of the new converts.



Partial group of new believers baptized as a result of evangelistic meetings held by Kim Kjaer from Amazing Facts.

Stafford Company officially organized into church

On December 14, 1996, the Stafford company was officially organized into a church by President Herbert Broeckel and Vice President Roger Weiss of the Potomac Conference. More than sixty members signed the charter.

The Stafford Seventh-day Adventist Church was once a mere dream that began some 23 years ago in the mind of Jim Armstrong. Armstrong worked faithfully toward his dream, holding tent meetings, giving Bible studies and visiting. However, the seeds of truth sown did not begin to sprout until after his death.

Several years later, a small group of Adventists from the Fredericksburg church prayerfully met together for Bible study. Earnestly they prayed that the Lord's work might be finished so that He could come. They felt impressed that God was calling them to start a church in Stafford. After the Fredericksburg church moved further away, to Spotsylvania, they were even more convinced about forming a church. Still, they were determined to follow the Lord's will and wait for His direction.

At just the right time, God did open the doors for

a Stafford church. Pastor Clarence Schram, retired from the ministry, contacted Mitchell Cooper and related how he felt impressed to begin a church in Stafford. Both Schram and Cooper had known of Armstrong's desire to form a church in Stafford and felt that now was the time to begin. Cooper called one of the members of the Fredericksburg study group, Donnis Lail, who searched and found enough interest to form a group. There had to be at least 20 people to start a branch Sabbath school.

God also opened the door to the other two requirements—a place to meet and a sponsoring church. The Woodbridge church gladly consented to sponsor the group. In addition, the Stafford Summit Presbyterian Church was happy to rent their church to the Stafford Seventh-day Adventists for their branch Sabbath school meetings. The Presbyterians said their building belonged to God and should be used every day, if possible. They only wanted enough to cover extra electric and heating expenses. Oddly enough, Armstrong had sold them the



The McFadden children, above, provide special music.



Carson Rhyne, pastor of the Summit Presbyterian Church, expresses his happiness for the organization of the Stafford Seventh-day Adventist Church. In the pew is Herb Broeckel, Potomac Conference president.

land on which to build that church a few years before.

The Stafford group first officially met July 27, 1991, with 22 people in attendance. There was a song service and a season of prayer. After a few more meetings, planning and organizing, the group began holding regular church services of Sabbath school and preaching from 2:30 to 5:00 p.m. each Sabbath.

In December of 1991, the Stafford branch Sabbath school was officially organized into a company. During the next five years as a company, the members kept busy with outreach endeavors. Three dedicated literature evangelists from the Hartland Institute, Barry Champion, Bill Krick and Robert Granger, went door to door in the Stafford community finding people interested in Bible studies. In August of 1992, the Stafford company held evangelistic meetings led by Ken Wilber. As a result of the meetings,

nine people were baptized. They also held five stop-smoking programs and a nutrition seminar. Most recently, in October of 1996, Kim Kjaer held Amazing Facts Prophecy Meetings. Thirty people were baptized at the close, and several more are studying for baptism. One of the families baptized was the direct result of a door Bill Krick knocked on five years ago.

The church, although it started out with a majority of older folks, now has more young people than old. The Lord is leading the Stafford church almost faster than members can keep up. Pray that they will continue to keep their focus on Jesus.

TRIXY FRANKE
Communication Leader

Harold and Dorothy Toms honored

On November 16, 1996, a plaque was presented to Harold and Dorothy Toms for recognition of their years of dedication and service to the members of the Tazewell, Virginia, church. Macie Say-



Harold and Dorothy Toms

ers presented the plaque. A card was signed by all the members and given to them. Jewell Benson read aloud a poem from the card. The presentation took place between Sabbath school and the worship service.

Elder Toms served as pastor from 1971-75 and 1982-1983 and also as interim pastor. He has held a number of church offices, among them communication leader, religious liberty

secretary and elder. Mrs. Toms has been Community Services leader and head deaconess in addition to holding other offices. They have been and continue to be a valuable asset to Tazewell.

LARRY CRIGGER
Communication Leader

Slocum arrives to work for Roger Weiss

For the past several months, callers to Roger Weiss's office have been introduced to a new administrative secretary. Bonnie Slocum took up her duties for Weiss the first of November, replacing Ingrid Wray.

Slocum comes from California, where most recently she worked as administrative assistant at Monterey Bay Academy. Her husband, Donald, is the vice president for curriculum at Shenandoah Valley Academy. The couple has two children: a daughter, Jennifer, who is a dental hygienist in Loma Linda, California; and a son, Brian, who is a law student at Harvard.



Bonnie Slocum, new administrative secretary to Roger Weiss, and Martha Vinglas, director of human resources.

Executive committee minutes

November 20, 1996

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Herbert Broeckel, president of the Potomac Conference, asked Ralph Martin, president of the Columbia Union, to give a report on the recent union constituency meeting. Elder Martin reported that Dale Beaulieu has joined the Columbia Union staff as treasurer. The Columbia Union has added two additional vice presidents and has moved the union from a resource center to an administrative center. The two new vice presidents are Frank Ottati and Robert Patterson, general counsel.

Thomas Knoll introduced the new associate in the department of legal affairs, Clinton Adams.

Elder Broeckel reported that Alan DeSilva will be installed as the senior pastor of the Takoma Park church on Sabbath, November 23, 1996. The Waynesboro church had its 50th anniversary celebration on Sabbath, November 16, 1996.

Elder Broeckel reported that the Richmond Bilingual company was organized into a church on Sabbath, November 16, 1996. At the time of the next Potomac Conference constituency meeting in April, 1997, 13 new churches will be welcomed into the sisterhood of churches.

Roger Weiss, vice president for administration, reported on Net '96. One hundred souls have been added to the Sligo church as a result of Net '96, and many other churches have added new members. Of the 108 churches in the Potomac Conference, 33 churches were involved with Net '96. A final and complete report is yet to come.

Ruben Ramos, Hispanic coordinator, reported on the evangelistic efforts taking place in the Hispanic churches.

Roger Weiss stated that in addition to Net '96, a number of other evangelistic efforts are in progress throughout the conference.

COMMITTEE OBSERVERS: VOTED, to invite the following individuals to participate as observers at meetings of the Potomac Conference Executive Committee from January 1 to June 30, 1997: Jose Cortes, Robert Fournier, Abbey Reyes, Dot Selvage, Henry Wright.

LEGAL AFFAIRS ASSOCIATE: VOTED, to request Clinton Adams to serve as the associate in the Potomac Conference Legal Affairs Department.

THOMPSON, DANA: VOTED, to request Dana Thompson to serve as the pastor of the Martinsville church on a stipend basis according to the staffing formula, effective November 1, 1996.

LATCHMAN, GERARD: VOTED, to request Gerard Latchman to serve as the pastor of the French-American company on a stipend basis according to the staffing formula, effective December 1, 1996.

STAFFING FORMULA REVIEW FOR SMALLER CHURCHES: VOTED, that the administration review the staffing formula for smaller churches on an annual basis for their goals, objectives and growth potential.

KRUEGER, TERESA: VOTED, an enabling action for the personnel committee to employ Teresa Krueger as a pastoral intern at the Olney church. It was further, **VOTED**, that Dennis Krause remain as senior pastor of the Olney church without remuneration.

MACE, ROGER: VOTED, to request Roger Mace to serve as the pastor of the Elkton/Grottoes district on a stipend basis according to the staffing formula, effective December 1, 1996.

RETIREMENT APPLICATION OF STRICKLAND, JEAN: VOTED, to recommend to the Columbia Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and the Seventh-day Adventist Retirement Plan of the NAD the application for retirement of Jean Strickland. It was further, **VOTED**, to express our appreciation to Jean Strickland for her years of service at Shenandoah Valley Academy.

ORDINATION REQUEST WILLIAMS, PATRICK: VOTED, to recommend to the Columbia Union Executive Committee, the name of Patrick Williams for ordination in January, 1997.

CUBA EVANGELISM DAN CHAIJ: VOTED, that by February 4, a team of four individuals consisting of Dan Chaij, Dr. Robert Wood, Herbert Broeckel and Roger Weiss schedule a trip to Cuba to investigate possibilities and lay plans for future evangelism in that country.

SEATING OF COMMITTEE MEMBER, DESILVA, ALAN: VOTED, to seat Alan DeSilva, the new senior pastor of the Takoma Park church, as a member of the Potomac Conference Executive Committee.

ADVERTISING RATES

Minimum charge: \$15 for 50 words or less for ads originating in the Columbia Union and \$20 for all others. Additional words, 25 cents each in the union, 40 cents each outside the union. Ads must be placed at least four weeks before the issue date by mail or calling (301) 596-0800, (410) 997-3414 or (800) 438-9600 toll-free. The Columbia Union Visitor does not guarantee the integrity of any product or service advertised.

HADLEY ACRES SCHOOL (K-8), affiliated with the Damascus Road Community Church in Damascus, MD, is expanding. This innovative and growing 82-student school will move into a new building for the 1997-98 school year. We will need three new full-time educators in expanding the staff. **Principal:** We want a full-time principal with strong visionary leadership, marketing and team-building skills. **Seventh- and eighth-grade teacher:** The successful candidate will also be an excellent teacher and strong Christian role model. **Fifth- and sixth-grade teacher:** This person will also be an excellent teacher who will model the Christian lifestyle before the students. For further information, call the Palomac Office of Education at (540) 886-0771 or Amanda Morgan, chair, at (301) 253-1386. (31)

CAPE COD VACATION: An Adventist family will rent weekly, biweekly, etc., their lovely, fairly new, spacious and semi-contemporary vacation home on beautiful Cape Cod, MA. Three bedrooms, one and a half baths, jacuzzi tub, washer/dryer, cable TV, dishwasher, microwave and a great room with a cathedral beam ceiling and skylights; an outdoor shower, a large deck and a fenced-in back yard with a small swing set and a sandbox on one-half acre just 900 feet from a great beach. Call (301) 596-9311. (915)

FOR SALE IN FLORIDA: New three-bedroom, two-bath 28'x70' mobile home on five wooded acres. Large kitchen, center island, lots of cupboards, dining room, living room, office (fourth bedroom). Includes a 20'x50' new storage barn. \$74,900. Call (301) 695-1025. (315)

BED AND BREAKFAST, CABIN RENTALS IN GREENEVILLE, TN: Come and be spoiled with our fantastic mountain views, full breakfasts and jacuzzi. Modern, fully equipped cabins. New B&B. Asheville, Gatlinburg, historical sites, antiques, fishing and the Appalachian Trail nearby. From \$360 per week or daily rates. For a brochure or reservations, call (800) 842-4690. (1215)

APARTMENT FOR RENT: One- and two-bedroom apartments; walk to major shopping. Central air conditioning and heating. Within 15 minutes of the Atholton, Spencerville and Beltsville schools and four churches. Call (301) 854-3036 after 6 p.m. (1215)

CEDAR BROOK SCHOOL celebrates its 35th year. Alumni and friends of CBS are invited to attend the 35th-year celebration planned for April 4, 5 and 6. Registration will begin at 5 p.m. Friday. Sabbath activities will include history, sharing and a potluck. Sunday brunch will conclude by 12 noon. For further information, call the school at (508) 252-3930. (215)

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY SEEKS TEACHER for a long-term care program within the school of business to teach courses, arrange and supervise student interns and interact with health-care administrators. Prefer doctorate with experience considered (desire to complete doctorate required). Contact: George Bobcock, Academic VP, Southern Adventist University, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315; call (423) 238-2804; or send e-mail to: gbobcock@southern.edu. (215)

WANTED TO BUY: One to 10,000 used Seventh-day Adventist books and songbooks. For sale: used Seventh-day Adventist books and songbooks. If you have any questions, call (800) 732-2664 or (616) 781-6379 (home). (41)

CLINICAL PRACTICE INSTRUCTOR: Walla Walla College seeks applicants for a tenure-track position in the social work and sociology department's graduate program beginning in September of 1997. The combined M.S.W. and B.S.W. programs, fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, have an enrollment of 240 students with 15 faculty members. Applicants must hold an M.S.W. from a CSWE-accredited program and a minimum of two years' post-master's clinical practice experience. Applicants must be committed to excellence in teaching. Interested Adventists, contact: Dr. Wilma Hepker, Chair, Social Work and Sociology Department, Walla Walla College, 204 S. College Ave., College Place, WA 99324; (509) 527-2273. (215)

USED BOOKS: After-Christmas SALE! Uncle Arthur's 10-volume Bible Story set by Maxwell—\$100. Five-volume Conflict of the Ages large mylar set—\$65. Five-volume Highways to Heaven old red set—\$40. Ten-volume Family Bible Library set by Southern Publishing—\$40. Wanted: 20-volume Bedtime Story set (mylar): will pay \$100 for a good set. Wanted: 20-volume Bedtime Story set (old red set), 1940-1950; will pay \$300 for a good set. (540) 778-3548. (215)

FOR SALE: Deluxe one-bedroom condominium apartment one mile from the Capital Beltway and the Baltimore-Washington Parkway. Fifteen minutes from the General Conference headquarters and Columbia Union College. Newly redecorated. Large living room, separate dining room, eat-in kitchen, tile bath, air conditioning, swimming pool and tennis courts. Priced \$5,000 under market for quick sale. Seller will help with closing costs. Call (301) 598-2653. (215)

1984 TIIGA FLEETWOOD RV for sale: Ford chassis, 384 Ford engine, Class C, 54K miles. Sleeps six; microwave, cassette, air conditioning, 27 feet. Located in New Jersey. \$18,000 OBO. Call (908) 849-1035 and ask for Keith. (215)

SOY MIRACLE PRODUCTS: Renowned nutritionist Dr. Earl Mindell, author of *The Vitamin Bible*, has developed a proprietary line of breakthrough products using research described in his new book, *The Soy Miracle*. Live longer, reduce cancer risk and lower cholesterol. An exciting and rewarding home-based business opportunity is also available. For a free brochure and further information, call (800) 499-5088, Ext. 83964. (1215)

WALLA WALLA COLLEGE seeks aviation instructor beginning September 1997. Desirable qualifications: accredited B.S. or master's degree; good interpersonal and teaching skills; flight and teaching experience; attention to detail and safety; and ability to work as a team member. CFII required; ATP, MEL and A&P desirable. Adventists, mail your resume and breakdown of flight time to: Dr. Chet Blake, Walla Walla College, 204 S. College Ave., College Place, WA 99324; or send it by fax to (509) 527-2253. (215)

APARTMENT FOR RENT: Exclusive Silver Spring, MD, neighborhood; 2,400 sq. ft., two bedrooms, one bath, dishwasher, washer, dryer, wall-to-wall carpet, private driveway, security system with lights and tremendous closets. Security deposit and reference are required; \$650 per month includes utilities. Female Adventist only; no pets. Call (301) 989-9278. (315)

ATTENTION, OWNER/OPERATORS! Access Transportation Systems, formerly Montana Conference Transportation, is looking for owner/operators to join our team of transportation professionals. Naturally, our drivers never work on Sabbath, and when you drive under our authority, we can supply you with profitable loads and timely pay. If you want to join a quality team of Christian driving professionals, we want to hear from you. Write to: Access Transportation Systems, 1201 Franklin Blvd., Nampa, ID 83687; call (800) 525-1177; or send a fax to: (208) 463-1788. (215)

ALARMING FACT!!! Fruits, vegetables and grains grown on U.S. farmlands are starving us no matter how much of them we eat because our soils have been deficient of certain minerals for OVER 60 years. Learn the importance of minerals and the best source. Call (800) 207-0873 for a free tape. (51)

MORE THAN 300 best-known and popular hymns from the Hispanic Hymnal, recorded in a fully digital orchestration, are available. Life warranty. Made especially for churches without pianists. Call Johnny Rodriguez at (703) 360-9023 for a free sample. Played every Saturday in Australia, Alaska, Central and South America, Puerto Rico and the United States in more than 50 Hispanic churches. Don't ever sing again without musical instruments; now you can have it on cassettes. (1215)

ARE YOU MOVING?

Help us keep our records straight so you can continue to receive the *Columbia Union Visitor*. Just send us your new address, along with the mailing label that's attached to the back page of this issue, to: *Columbia Union Visitor*, 5427 Twin Knolls Rd., Columbia, MD 21045-3200.

Dr. Kay's Q&A

Your love cup



Question: I get discouraged easily. I've read about the "love cup" idea in your columns where you've mentioned that if a person is filled with love, negative emotions are crowded out. But problems just keep coming to empty me of love and fill me with anger and discouragement. Most of the time, my family and friends either aren't around to fill my love cup or they don't know how. Is there any way I can fill my own?

Answer: When you realize your love cup is low, with its contents being displaced by other emotions, try these steps:

First, admit you're low. There's nothing wrong with being low. Staying there's the problem. That's when you become depressed and begin to deal with others in an unloving way. Remember, you have the power to refill your own love cup.

Second, not every problem needs to be handled immediately. In fact, most problems are handled better after you gain control. No amount of ranting and raving can put the vase back together again. If you feel ready to explode with words and actions guaranteed to empty someone else and make you feel depressed and guilty, you need to move immediately to the third step.

Third, start refilling your own cup of love with some of these suggestions.

Take time to contact a family member or friend who makes you feel warm inside. If no one comes to mind immediately, make a list of all your acquaintances and then mark those who seem to be optimistic and have the gift of encouragement. If your list is short, you may need to concentrate on enlarging your circle of friends or you may need to apologize to someone and renew an old relationship.

Force yourself to reach out and do something loving for someone, anyone, and you'll feel better. Make a call or write a note to someone, give someone a gift or volunteer at the local hospital or non-profit service agency. Your problems won't seem so bad when you start working with others who have worse.

Read or listen to something uplifting. For some, it might be listening to classical music or a tape of a motivational speaker. Others may enjoy reading the Bible for an uplifting thought or an interesting book to divert your attention for a while and allow you time to refocus.

Get some exercise. A walk in the fresh air, especially in a lovely setting like a park or a nature trail, does wonders to restore an empty cup.

Put your home in order. A messy place or yard can be depressing. Do something about it!

Start planning something that you've always wanted to do. Write down your dream and develop a plan of action that will lead you to fulfillment.

[Read more from Dr. Kay Kuzma in the Family Times newspaper. For a free subscription, write to: Family Matters, P.O. Box 7000, Cleveland, TN 37320; or call (615) 339-1144.]

TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES FOR FRIENDS OF ANDREWS UNIVERSITY:

"Visions of the Holy Land" cruise with Dr. Niels-Erik and Demetra Andreasen October 19-31 aboard the five-star *Vistafjord*, part of the Cunard line. Learn about and enjoy historic cities in Greece, Egypt, Israel and Turkey. Join Dr. Merlene Ogden for two or four weeks in Ireland and/or Scotland. Tour the "Beauty Spots of Ireland" July 7-23, then add "The Highlands and Western Isles of Scotland" July 23-August 7. For complete itineraries and financial details, please write to: Alumni Office, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104; call (616) 471-3591; or send e-mail to: alumni@andrews.edu. Some details are available at www.andrews.edu/ALUMNI/. (315)

TAPES BY JIM H.: Get your sermons, seminars, workshops, retreats and revivals recorded on cassette tapes. Excellent service at great prices. No waiting, no mailing; on-the-spot copies in minutes after the event. For more information, call Jim Harman at (301) 630-9018. (1215)

ATTENTION, HOME SELLERS: If you need to sell your home and don't have enough equity to pay a realtor, we have GOOD news for you. We offer several mortgage debt-refit programs that will solve your unwanted mortgage payment problems at little or no cost to you. Call us ... we can help! (301) 599-7478. (1215)

FOOD SERVICE DIRECTOR: Full-time position, excellent benefits. Walla Walla General Hospital, a 72-bed acute care facility in beautiful rural southeastern Washington. Excellent location to raise a family, for education and to enjoy the classical arts and all kinds of outdoors activities, as well as churches. Send your resume/application to: Human Resources, Walla Walla General Hospital, P.O. Box 1398, Walla Walla, WA 99362; or call (509) 525-0480, Ext. 1125. Closing date: February 28. EOE. (1215)

MARYLAND SDA PODIATRISTS: Dr. Scott Nutter and Dr. Michael Graham—both highly trained, experienced, board-certified and qualified—are available in several locations to help your foot/ankle problems, including arthritis, heel pain, spurs, diabetes, callouses, ingrown nails, sprains, fractures, warts, bunions, etc. Surgery, if it's needed, at Adventist hospitals. Laurel, MD: (301) 317-6800; Greenbelt, MD: (301) 345-5200; or Columbia, MD: (410) 531-6350. (1215)

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ALASKA LEISURE CHARTERS has a personalized private yachting experience just for you! You can choose a seven- or eight-day trip seeing southeast Alaska up close. Gourmet vegetarian meals and experienced captains make this an unforgettable vacation. For information and a brochure, call (800) 237-5121. (215)

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ADVENTIST ATTORNEY AND TITLE COMPANY with over 20 years' experience specializing in serious personal injury cases and real estate settlements in Maryland and Washington, DC (purchase, sale or refinance). Free initial consultation and 25 percent discount on real estate settlement fees to Seventh-day Adventists. Home and hospital visits are available for personal injury cases. Call Carl Zentz, Esq., at (301) 292-4500 or send a fax to (301) 292-5725. (1215)

LOVE TO COOK? Want to own your own business? Be an in-home personal chef. There's an increasing demand for low-fat and non-meat meals. Cook for those too busy to cook for themselves. Great income potential and witnessing tool. Low start-up cost and support. Call Dawna evenings at (937) 866-2909 for more information. (1215)

MOVING? Access Transportation Systems, Inc. (formerly Montana Conference Transportation), is still "Your Friend in the Moving Business." Our well-known quality service includes full-service moves, door-to-door insurance and packing, and we are price-competitive with all commercial movers. Let our professional Christian drivers and state-of-the-art equipment help you make your next move. For a free estimate, call (800) 525-1177 toll-free. (1215)

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SINGLE? *Adventist Singles News* is FREE. Also, write your personal ad FREE and receive written responses FREE at (800) 771-5095. Record voicemail ads FREE at (800) 944-7671. Listen/respond to Adventist Connection for Singles at (900) 446-3400 for \$2 a minute. Must be 18 or older. (1215)

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LEGAL NOTICES

Potomac Conference Quadrennial Session

The first quadrennial session of the Potomac Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at 10 a.m. on Sunday, April 20, 1997, at Shenandoah Valley Academy in New Market, VA. The purposes of this meeting are to elect officers, departmental directors, boards and committees; to receive reports of the organization; to receive a report on the implementation of the K-12 education system; to vote on the K-12 constitution; and to transact such other business as may come before the conference at that time.

Each church is entitled to one delegate for its organization and one additional delegate for each 50 members or major fraction thereof. Other voters shall be the members of the Potomac Conference Executive Committee, the credentialed employees of the conference, members of the executive committees of the Columbia Union Conference and the North American Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and such other persons as may be granted delegate's credentials by the constituents in session.

HERBERT H. BROECKEL, *President*
ROGER E. WEISS, *Secretary*

Potomac Conference Corporation Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the first quadrennial session of the Potomac Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists will be held at Shenandoah Valley Academy in New Market, VA, on Sunday, April 20, 1997, between 2:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

This meeting is for the purposes of electing trustees and the transaction of other business that may come before the corporation at that time. The delegates of the first quadrennial session of the Potomac Conference of Seventh-day Adventists are the delegates of this convention.

HERBERT H. BROECKEL, *President*
THOMAS R. KNOLL, *Secretary*

District of Columbia Conference Corporation Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the first quadrennial session of the District of Columbia Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held at Shenandoah Valley Academy in New Market, VA, on Sunday, April 20, 1997, between 2:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

This meeting is for the purposes of electing trustees and the transaction of other business that may come before the corporation at that time. The delegates of the first quadrennial session of the Potomac Conference of Seventh-day Adventists are the delegates of this convention.

HERBERT H. BROECKEL, *President*
THOMAS R. KNOLL, *Secretary*

Virginia Conference Agency Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the first quadrennial session of the Virginia Conference Agency of Seventh-day Adventists, Inc., will be held at Shenandoah Valley Academy in New Market, VA, on Sunday, April 20, 1997, between 2:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

This meeting is for the purposes of electing trustees and the transaction of other business that may come before the agency at that time. The delegates of the first quadren-

ACN EVENTS

The Adventist Communication Network will broadcast the following programs live via satellite:

Wednesday, March 5
7:30-8:30 p.m.

First Wednesday
Galaxy 9, Channel 22

Sabbath, March 8
4:00-6:00 p.m.

Cross Training
Growing Churches
Galaxy 9, Channel 22
6:30-8:30 p.m.

Together Again
Galaxy 9, Channel 22

Sabbath, March 22
6:00-7:30 p.m.

Adventist Review Unwrapped II
Galaxy 9, Channel 2

The Adventist Communication Network is a service provided by the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists. For further information, call (301) 680-6400.

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nial session of the Potomac Conference of Seventh-day Adventists are the delegates of this convention.

HERBERT H. BROECKEL, *President*
THOMAS R. KNOLL, *Secretary*

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," —1 Thessalonians 4:16 NIV. The *Visitor* joins the church in extending sympathy to all who lost loved ones.

CHILSON, Stella, born March 30, 1902; died September 2, 1996. Survivors: daughters Geraldine Puffer and Ella Osborne, sons Joseph and Walter and many grand- and great-grandchildren.

CLEMENTS, J. Leonard, born June 11, 1911; died December 9, 1996, Berkeley Springs, WV. He was formerly an Adventist Book Center manager and employee of the Review and Herald.

JONES, Watt J., born October 28, 1928, Manassas, VA; died October 17, 1996, Liberty Center, OH. He was affiliated with the church in Defiance, OH. Survivors: wife Lucille, daughter Sandra Thomas, sons Jerry, Rick and James, sister Katherine Pedersen and eight grandchildren.

KECK, Paul D., born December 1, 1923, Logan, OH; died November 25, 1996, Bremen, OH. He was a member of the Lancaster, OH, church. Survivors: wife Mary Kay, mother Nora E., daughters Lynn Lacy, Yvette McManaway and Paula Bender, sisters Josephine Rutter, Ann Poling and Ruth Hansley, six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

KEITH, William J., born April 20, 1908, Chattanooga, TN; died September 10, 1996, Cleveland, TN. A member of the church in Collegedale, TN, he spent 35 years pastoring in the Columbia and Southern unions and was published in several church periodicals. Survivors: wife Nellah, son William J. Jr., daughters Margaret Kemerer and Catherine Turner, nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

KIDWELL, Inez, born June 5, 1918; died October 28, 1996, Worthington, OH. She was a member of the Worthington

church. Survivors: husband Lonas, son Lonas Jr., daughter-in-law Cindy Kidwell, sister Marie Kirkpatrick, five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

LANNING, Leo C., born July 9, 1925, New Straitsville, OH; died November 11, 1996. He was a member of the Lancaster, OH, church. Survivors: wife Janice, brother Herman and sisters Wilma Waddell and Freda Thompson.

LARSON, Bettie J., born March 27, 1918, Youngstown, OH; died January 5, 1997, Youngstown, OH. She was a member of the Boardman, OH, church. Survivors: husband Vergil E., daughters Mary Ellen Saare and Eva E. Jacobsen, son James E. Duncan, stepsons Dennis, Stephen, Greg and Richard and stepdaughter Louise Kelcham.

LIVESAY, John K., died September 19, 1996, at age 79. He was a member of the Petersburg, VA, church. Survivors: wife Mary P., daughter Mildred and sons John, Jack and Joseph.

PATTEN, Charles B., born February 9, 1911, Williams, OH; died November 28, 1996, Bryan, OH. He was a member of the Bryan church. Survivors: wife Norma, son Orville, foster son Bill Flynn, foster daughters Teri Creps, Jeannie Richards and Tanya Follett, brothers Richard, Kenny and Herb and sister Vivian.

PHILLINGANE, Milton E., died October 24, 1996, at age 55. He was a member of the congregation located in Petersburg, VA. Survivors: sisters Ruth, Doris Wiedahl and brothers Charles and Preston A. Grammer.

RITTENHOUSE, Mildred J., born September 28, 1922, Washington, DC; died March 3, 1996, Richmond, VA. She was a 40-year member and former head elder of the Arlington, VA, church. Survivors: husband Cary B., daughters Donna Jean Stout and Susan R. Shaw and five grandchildren.

RODRIGUEZ, Pearl C., born November 13, 1907, Isle of Pines (90 miles south of Cuba); died November 30, 1996. She joined the Capital Memorial church in Washington, DC, in 1924 and was a member of the Arlington, VA, church at the time of her death. Survivors: husband Benito, daughter Davita Hays and Lela Gramlich, granddaughters Linda Legrew and Dianna LeDrew and great-grandchildren William LeDrew and Renee LeDrew.

THOMAS, Velma I., born October 20, 1905, Larksville, PA; died December 6, 1996, Kingston, PA. She was a member of the Kingston church. Survivors: daughter Marian Callahan, sons Lawrence and Walter, 10 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren and nine great-great-grandchildren.

TODD, Mary T., born December 23, 1913; died September 13, 1996, Petersburg, VA. She was a member of the Petersburg church. Survivors: daughter Edith Sherrill, sons Richard and Alton, sister Bernice Jeffers and four grandchildren.

WALTER, Robert A., born November 9, 1908, Stroudsburg, PA; died October 28, 1996, Snyder'sville, PA. He was a member, deacon and Sabbath school teacher of the Stroudsburg church. Survivors: sister Ruth E. and brother Elmer L.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All announcements and advertisements must be at the Columbia Union Visitor office four weeks before the date of issue.

Applicants sought for librarian scholarship

The D. Glenn Hilts Scholarship, which is awarded in the sum of \$1,000, is offered yearly by the Association of Seventh-day Adventist Librarians. To qualify, applicants must be accepted into a library school accredited by the American Library Association and expect to complete a degree within the next two years. Applicants not attending a library school must be accepted into a library education program for a degree (usually graduate level). For more information, write to: Carol Morse, Chair, ASDAL Scholarship and Awards Committee, Walla Walla College Library, 204 S. College Ave., College Place, WA 99324.

Colorado church marks 35th anniversary

Come celebrate the Littleton, CO, church's 35th anniversary April 18-19 with former pastors and long-time friends. The weekend starts Friday evening with a communion service, goes through the Sabbath and ends with a social on Saturday night. For more information, call Lucile Claridge at (303) 795-5060 or Jean Rasco at (303) 798-8136.

Singles plan ranch retreat for Memorial Day weekend

Adventist singles from across the North American Division are invited to attend a special retreat sponsored by the Southwestern Union chapter of Adventist Singles Ministries May 23-26 at the Nameless Valley Ranch in Texas. Guest speaker for the holiday weekend retreat will be Dr. K. S. Wiggins. For more information, write to: Christy Herring, 401 County Rd. #1227, Texarkana, TX 75501; or call her at (903) 832-8069.

Letters to the Editor

Starting March 15, the *Visitor* will again print "Letters to the Editor" once each month. So write us! Send your mail to: Letters to the Editor, Columbia Union Visitor, 5427 Twin Knolls Road, Columbia, MD 21045; or send by E-mail to: 74617.420@compuserve.com or RandyHall@aol.com.

ABC Monthly Special for February



The Power of a Dream

From a broken home to gospel music acclaim—read how the power of a dream sustained Wintley Phipps. This successful recording artist, who has sung for Presidents Reagan, Bush and Clinton, takes you on his incredible journey from boyhood in Trinidad to the top of the U.S. political scene; with the message that we must dream to rise above circumstances and that God is the author and enabler of all our dreams. Regular price: \$15.99; sale price: \$12.99.

SUNSET CALENDAR

Eastern Standard Time

Feb. 21 Feb. 28 Mar. 7

Baltimore	5:50	5:58	6:05
Cincinnati	6:22	6:29	6:37
Cleveland	6:07	6:15	6:24
Columbus	6:14	6:22	6:30
Jersey City	5:38	5:46	5:54
Norfolk	5:51	5:58	6:05
Parkersburg	6:10	6:17	6:25
Philadelphia	5:44	5:52	5:59
Pittsburgh	6:02	6:10	6:18
Reading	5:46	5:54	6:02
Richmond	5:55	6:02	6:09
Roanoke	6:06	6:13	6:19
Toledo	6:16	6:24	6:32
Trenton	5:41	5:49	5:57
Washington, DC	5:52	6:00	6:07

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Polomac ABC
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