

NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL

VOICE

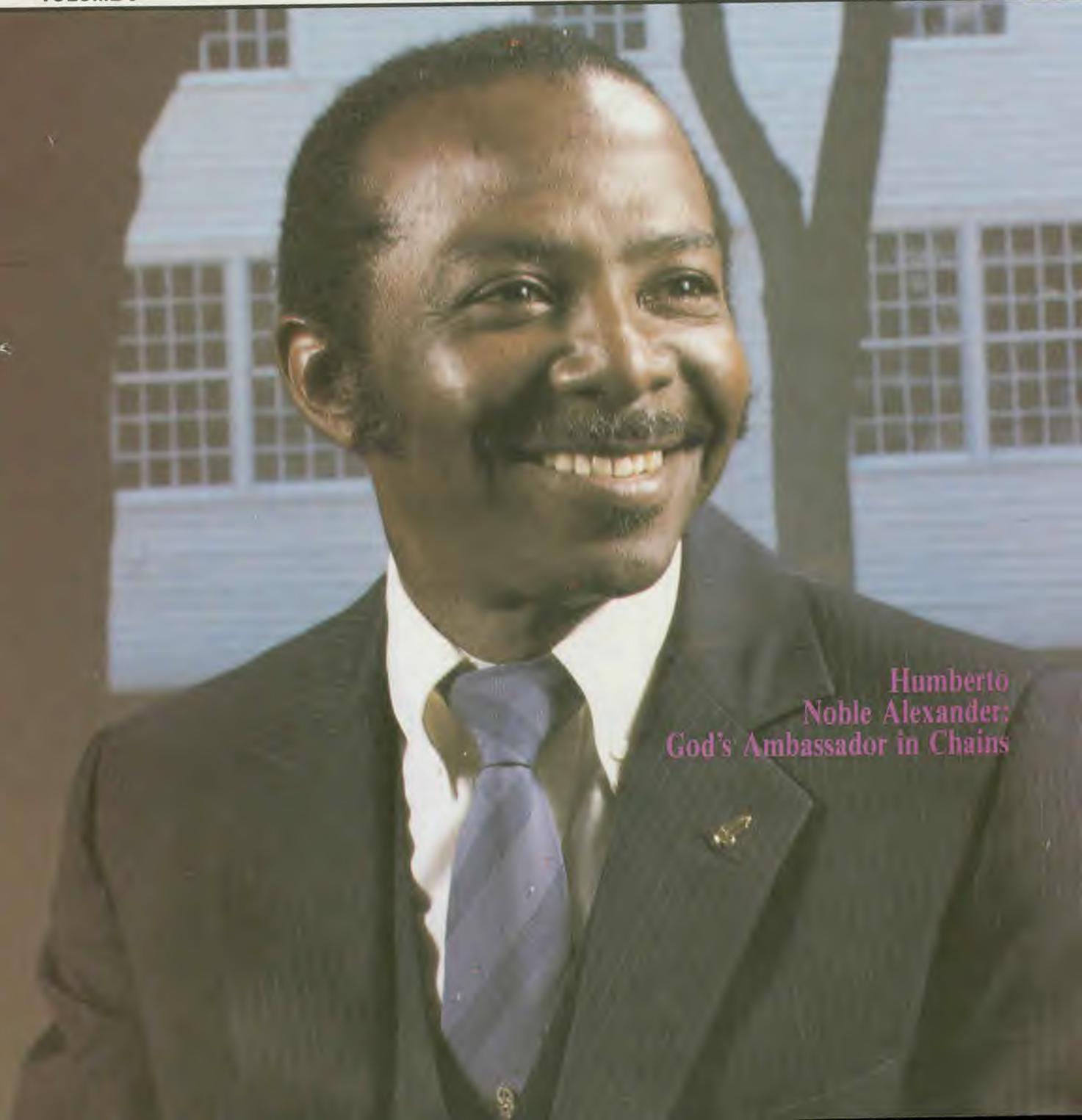


OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL CONFERENCES OF
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

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**Humberto
Noble Alexander:
God's Ambassador in Chains**



Political Prisoners left to right: Miguel Angel Loredo, a Franciscan priest and Elder H. Noble Alexander.

STANDING FIRM IN A RAGING STORM: AN ACCOUNT OF 22 YEARS IN A CUBAN PRISON

by Stephanie D. Johnson

The storm of communism that hovered over Cuba, with the ascendancy of Castro in 1959, was unleashed in all its fury by 1961. In the beginning Castro came to power advocating the highest ideals—liberty, equality and prosperity for all Cubans. But that idealism was short lived, for within 2 years, Castro had declared Cuba a communist nation and the Soviet's main ally in the Caribbean.

Castro, then, set out to systematically destroy any vestige of a knowledge of God in Cuba. He expropriated all church properties, turned most churches into communist training centers or apartment buildings. He intimidated, imprisoned or killed those who held firmly to their beliefs.

It was against this backdrop of fear, repression and persecution that Pastor Vasquez, a SDA pastor and his faithful assistant, Humberto Noble Alexander, a theology graduate of Antillian College, Santa Clara, Cuba, planned a revival meeting in 1962. Pastor Vasquez confided to Noble, "I don't like the way things are heading."

"Neither do I," said Noble, "but we have to continue with the work. . . . Remember, our task is to work, to pray, and to wait. The Lord will do the rest. This revival will be throughout the island."—"In a Place Without Soul," p. 53.

So they went on with their planned revival meeting. Noble's duty was to speak to the youth. His sermon was on the origin of sin and Lucifer's struggle for supremacy. The sermon was interpreted by the

state security police as a veiled reference to Castro's regime. Noble was a marked man. Before he could reach home, he was taken into custody by the State Security policemen for "five minutes."

What was called a five minute meeting lasted for 22 years, 3 months, and 11 days. He was taken to G2 interrogation center. He was stripped naked and taken to a refrigerated room. Noble was questioned over and over again about his role in the conspiracy to assassinate Castro. For 72 hours he was not allowed to eat or sleep.

But Noble refused to admit he was guilty. He was taken to "the room," a dark, damp horror chamber. His companion's were snakes that slithered from side to side in the cell; lice and mosquitoes that blanketed the ceiling and wall. When Noble tried to catch snatches of sleep he would be awakened by gopher rats that gnawed at his toes or an army of cockroaches that left an abominable odor as they crawled across his body.

After 15 days, he was taken from "the room." He was exhausted from the constant interrogation; famished because of his daily meager ration of cornmeal; but he was unbowed and unbroken.

The interrogator was determined to force Noble to confess. "Take him to the car," said the interrogator, a rope was tied around his waist, and he was thrown into a frozen lake. He remained submerged until he nearly drowned. "If you are innocent," taunted the officers, "swim out and we will believe you." This happened 3 or 4 times, finally he was taken back to G2.

"We're not going to kill you," roared the officer, "that's what you want. . . . But you're going to prefer dying because those dead are better off than you will be. . . . I'm going to serve you with 20 years."

A week later, Noble was transferred to La Cabana, the death house. It has been reported that more Cuban prisoners have been executed by a firing squad in this prison than any other. Here Noble was imprisoned among the living dead, Batista's former military men and "enemies of the revolution," who awaited the fatal day when a guard would summon them to a firing squad.

Night after night, Noble could hear the deathly sounds of the firing squad, as they mowed down hundreds of men, some died shouting, "Long Live Christ the King," or "Down with Communism."

While imprisoned at La Cabana, Noble

met Antonio Maria Rivero Diaz, a naval officer who years ago Noble gave a "Steps to Christ." Rivero became a SDA as a result of that book.

Together they succeeded in establishing the first SDA church in a Cuban dungeon. Noble and Rivero spent countless hours copying hymns and portions of the Bible on discarded cigarette paper. A makeshift pulpit was constructed out of a cardboard and a sheet. Every morning and evening they held an ecumenical service.

Like the early reformers, their spiritual forefathers, the prisoners in tattered rags, often starved and sick gathered to worship the Lord. The echoes of praises sung by these disinherited, despised men, struck a dark and brutal chord in the hearts of prison officials.

Guards were ordered to savagely beat the worshippers. When this did not deter them, "Guards would fire into the middle of the circle to disrupt the service. Most of the men would not move, but continued to sing and pray while the shrapnel was embedded in their flesh."—Tom Whites "Missiles Over Cuba," p.149.

Noble's finger was disfigured by a stray bullet and his back was lacerated "with rifle-bullet fragments and chips of concrete."—Ibid. During Noble's incarceration, he faced a constant struggle to worship God. While imprisoned in Combinado del Este, he was twice caught with a Bible. For this "crime," he was placed in the "box." In size and height the "box" resembles a coffin. Usually, 6 or 7 men are crowded into the "box," with only a slot to receive air. It is so small and narrow that it is impossible to stand up or stretch. One must remain in a squatting position. When the men are eventually freed they are paralyzed. They must be taught to walk again.

For being caught with "propaganda," a second time, he was placed in the "shower" for 42 days. At first the constant drip from the shower seems an easy punishment. After 2 or 3 days it's as if a hammer is knocking on the top of your head. After 4 days it is like a sledgehammer pounding out your brains. It is impossible to rest, you must remain on the balls of your feet, to avoid being punctured by nails.

A year after Noble's imprisonment, a kangaroo court was convened to formally charge him with crimes against the state. Although his fate had been sealed at G2, he was dragged through this mockery of justice.

He was convicted by a hostile military tribunal of conspiring to assassinate Castro; aiding and abetting the flight of counter-revolutionaries; and the distribution of opium. The latter charge, the Marxist definition of preaching the gospel, was the most serious charge. If not immediately suppressed it would destroy the communist revolution.

Exiled to Siberia

Several days later, he was transferred to the Isle of Pines, a Stalinist modeled labor camp, known as the "Siberia of Cuba." It is an island south of Havana, where more than 10,000 prisoners were forced to work in marble quarries and agricultural camps under the most brutal conditions.

The men were constantly beaten, stabbed by bayonets and fired upon in order to make them meet their daily work quota. Deprived of an adequate amount of water and food, the prisoners would often faint from hunger and thirst. Their diet consisted of hot water and sugar for breakfast, macaroni and worms (which the cooks said were "protein") for lunch; and cornmeal and maggot for supper. Noble would often deny himself the scant, putrid food, in order to give it to the sick or elderly prisoners.

Noble cheerfully submitted himself to these brutal conditions until it came into conflict with his allegiance to God. For refusing to work on the Sabbath he was submerged in a sewer. He dared not make the slightest move for fear the prison's waste and filth would seep into his mouth. One of his friends, Samuel Vidahuereta, was not fortunate to survive the ordeal, he contracted an infection and died a week later.

He chose savage beatings and even death rather than compromise his principles. After one especially severe beating, which placed him on the brink of death, the prison officials said, "Let him alone, he is a fanatic." As a result of his courageous stand, SDA prisoners didn't have to work on the Sabbath.

During Noble's 4-year ministry at the Isle of Pines, the church experienced a phenomenal growth. The 200 members became such a threat to authorities, that they were transferred to 9 prisons. This dispersion led to 9 churches.

While in "Siberia" Noble sustained one blow after another. His wife, Yraida, deserted him. As for his son, Hubert, the last time Noble saw Hubert he was 12, he

is now 26, an engineer and a product of the Cuban revolution.

Firmly Planted

The next transfer on his odyssey of Cuban dungeons, was Remedios Las Villas where he stayed for 59 days until he was taken to La Cabana. He remained here for 3 years. It was a turbulent time for Noble and his fellow inmates. The prisoners who looked like skeletons, staged a hunger strike for 20 days to protest the lack of an adequate amount of food. The protest was successful, it increased the amount of food, if not the quality.

Noble became one of the plantados (translated, one who is firmly planted), who refused to wear the uniform of the common prisoners. For 17 years Noble wore only his underwear and was forced to sleep on the concrete floor. During these nightmare years, he received no letters or visits.

After La Cabana, his destination was Boniato, described as the "worst" prison in Cuba. The prisoners were beaten daily with clubs, pipes and chains because they refused to accept the military discipline.

Doctors used the prisoners as guinea pigs in an attempt to discover how much the human body could endure. Some prisoners contacted diseases that had been eradicated in Cuba since the beginning of the 20th century. Other prisoners were starved to death. Those who survived, were kept in walled up cells, naked, with no communication from the outside world.

After 2 stormy years at Boniato, Noble returned to La Cabana, he remained here for 6 years, 1972-1978. Here at La Cabana, political prisoners staged a hunger strike for 42 days to protest the lack of food and medical care.

In 1978, he was transferred to Combinado del Este and remained until he was released on June 29, 1984. He was scheduled to be released in 1982, but was not. According to fellow prisoners, he had passed "into eternity."

God was not unmindful of his unjust imprisonment. In a most dramatic way, with the world watching, Noble would be freed. Armando Valladares, one of Noble's dearest friends who had been recently released, wrote Jesse Jackson and asked him to help win Noble's freedom. He also enclosed a list of prisoners who had completed their terms but were still being held.

Jackson responded to this plea. In the midst of the hotly contested democratic presidential campaign, Jackson went to Cuba. When he arrived at the airport on June 27, 1984, he was met by Castro. Newsweek (July 9, 1984) reported that Castro and Jackson "met for more than 8 hours before Castro officially agreed to release 22 American prisoners. But he withheld the release of 22 Cuban prisoners." Jackson's mission seemed a failure. God was wrestling with Castro, as he had the Prince of Persia (Daniel 10:12,13)

God prevailed. The following morning Castro told Jackson he would release 26 Cuban prisoners. Noble was among those 48 prisoners released. When he arrived in the U.S., he was reunited with his mother, Beryl and sister, Pauline after an absence of 22 years. His freedom was an answer to his mother's and sister's prayers.

Presently, Elder Noble Alexander resides in Hartford, Ct., where he is the pastor of the Hartford Hispanic SDA Church.



Political Prisoners left to right: Dr. Ana Lazara Rodriguez, Elder H. Noble Alexander, Mana Cristina Oliva and in back Sergio Bravo.



Political Prisoners left to right: Teresa Mayan, Elder H. Noble Alexander and Raul Carmenate.

The Editor's Desk

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Our cover story on Pastor Humberto Noble Alexander, a SDA minister imprisoned in a Cuban prison for 22 years because of his religious beliefs, is a very moving story. We thought you would find it inspiring but we also hope it will jolt you to the reality that there is a time of trouble that is just ahead of us, that is dreadful that pen nor tongue can ever tell. This story gives us a foretaste of suffering and hardship we will face during that terrible time. We hope you will reexamine your life after reading this story. Will you be able to stand? What will you do when you are deserted by spouse, lose your home, car, and every earthly possession?

We hope that this story will help you lean on the Almighty arm of God despite the trials and tribulations, you must face. Let me share with you the text of scripture that kept Noble during the raging storm. It is found in Ephesians 6:10-21: "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armour of God that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

"Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

"And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, for all saints; and for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am ambassador in bonds; therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak. That ye also may know my affairs, and how I do."

In this month of November let us remember to give thanks in everything for it is the will of God.

SEARS-ROEBUCK FOUNDATION PRESENTS GRANT TO OC

For the ninth consecutive year, the Sears-Roebuck Foundation presented an unrestricted grant to Oakwood College. The Foundation represented by Mr. Conrad Cook, Area Foundation Vice President and General Manager of The Sears Department Store at Madison Square Mall in Huntsville presented a gift of \$2,500.00 to Dr. Benjamin Reaves, President of the College.

This marked the first time that the current administration has received the Foundation Award. Both Mr. Cook and Dr. Reaves commented that they hope the new relationship would be lasting and productive. All of the previous Sears unrestricted grants were received for the College by former president Dr. Calvin B. Rock, now a Vice President of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, who held the post from

April 1971 to October 1985. Mr. Cook who had developed a personal friendship with Dr. Rock during the previous eight years expressed mixed emotions as he presented the grant check stating that although he would miss Dr. Rock he was looking forward to a strong and productive relationship with Dr. Reaves.

Each year the Sears unrestricted grant program provides private, regionally accredited two-and-four year Colleges and Universities with funds that may be applied to areas of need as determined by their administrators. The foundation annually awards approximately \$1.75 million nationally with no grant less than \$300.00 or more than \$15,000.00. The size of the grants is determined by the number of eligible institutions in a given jurisdiction, their enrollments, and the recommendations of the area vice presidents. According to Oakwood College officials the grant will be placed in the annual fund.

SUNSET CALENDAR

	Nov. 29	Dec. 5	12	19
Boston, Mass.	4:14	4:12	4:12	4:14
New York City	4:25	4:24	4:24	4:26
Buffalo, N.Y.	4:42	4:41	4:41	4:42
Atlanta, Ga.	5:30	5:29	5:30	5:32
Miami, Fla.	5:29	5:30	5:31	5:34
Charlotte, N.C.	5:12	5:11	5:12	5:14
Birmingham, Ala.	4:39	4:39	4:40	4:42
Jackson, Miss.	4:56	4:55	4:56	4:59
Memphis, Tenn.	4:49	4:48	4:49	4:51
Louisville, Ky.	5:24	5:23	5:23	5:25
Detroit, Mich.	5:03	5:01	5:01	5:03
Chicago, Ill.	4:22	4:20	4:20	4:22
South Bend, Indiana	5:16	5:15	5:15	5:17
Minneapolis, Minn.	4:34	4:32	4:32	4:33
St. Louis, Mo.	4:40	4:39	4:40	4:42
Kansas City, Mo.	4:57	4:56	4:56	4:58
Denver, Co.	4:37	4:35	4:36	4:38
Little Rock, Ark.	4:58	4:58	4:59	5:01
Dallas, Texas	5:21	5:21	5:22	5:24
New Orleans, La.	5:00	5:00	5:01	5:04
Albuquerque, N.M.	4:55	4:55	4:55	4:58
Oklahoma City, Okla.	5:18	5:18	5:18	5:24

Add one minute for each 13 miles west; subtract one minute for each 13 miles east.

ALLEGHENY EAST



Mrs. Carol Cantu, Allegheny East Conference Superintendent of Education.

FIRST WOMEN'S DAY HELD IN NEWTONVILLE

The theme "Because We Care" was chosen for the first Women's Day Program held recently at the Newtonville SDA Church. Carol Cantu, Allegheny East Conference Superintendent of Education was the guest speaker.

Cantu's message was three-fold in application. As an educator, she focused on the youth, challenging them to strive to reach their highest potential. As a parent, she emphasized the great difference between man-centered and God-centered education, stressing the importance of placing children in Christian schools. As a woman, she encouraged the women of Newtonville to become involved in every facet of Christian service.

The speaker captivated the audience by unfolding the biblical account of Israel and the training of their children at an early age according to God's instruction.

Music was provided by the Youth Ensemble under the direction of Doris DeGuzman with Sharon Saunders at the piano. Of the \$2,163 taken in that day's offering, \$1,500 was donated to the building fund drive.

Joyce Jackson was program coordinator. Elder Robert Lively is the pastor.

Selena Chandler
Communication Secretary

RETIRED DEACONESS HONORED

When the Southwest Philadelphia Church held its recent Deaconess Day,

retired Deaconess Ella Reid was surprised by the presentation of a plaque which expressed appreciation for her many years of dedicated and outstanding service. Until her retirement this year, Ms. Reid actively participated on the Deaconess Board for 12 years. Prior to the establishment of the Southwest Church, she had been a member of the Philadelphia Ebenezer Board of Deaconesses for approximately 10 years.

Ms. Reid expressed her love for the work and her thanks to all who contributed to the celebration. Her regret is that her health will no longer allow her to work efficiently.

The plaque was presented by Mrs. Mazie Linton, Head Deaconess. The pastor of the church is Elder John Wright.

After the morning service, a fellowship dinner was held for visiting deacons and deaconesses.

Janice D. Jenkins
Assistant Communications Secretary

SOUTHWEST BRINGS HOME THE GOLD

The youth of the Southwest Philadelphia Church, Philadelphia, PA. displayed their athletic ability in the recent A. Y. Olympics held for contestants throughout the Allegheny East Conference. Their goal was to win an uncontested victory for their church.

On September 6, Elder D. L. Davis, Youth Director for the Allegheny East Conference presented the A. Y. Olympics Trophy to Alvin Jones, A. Y. Leader. Of the 76 churches participating, Southwest

came in first place winning 47 gold medals, nine silver medals and one bronze medal.

Those participating included: George O'Bryant; John Hawkins; C. Monroe; S. Jones; C. Jones; C. Chmel; K. Spellman; C. Barnes; S. Staten; A. Davidson; T. Vercher; D. Jenkins, Jr., and Sr.; A. Jones; D. Jenkins; R. Russell; E. Hunter; and H. Jordan.

The pastor of the church is Elder John Wright.

Janice D. Jenkins
Assistant Communications Secretary

PFA STUDENTS MARCH FOR ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

On a recent Sabbath, students at the Pine Forge Academy marched to the front of the church in response to an appeal by Elder Henry Fordham, Jr., Personal Ministries Director, for \$500 to assist certain children who are in attendance at the Pine Forge Elementary School.

Owen Alford, a senior, describes what happened. "as I sat in the audience, it seemed as though his appeal would fall upon deaf ears, but I was joyously mistaken. The first student got up, walked to the front and gave. He was followed by a second and soon the church's reverent silence was broken by the moving feet of young people trying to give what they could to help kids go to a Christian school.

"Many said it was competition or a game that people play just to say 'I gave.' I think differently. What I saw was a group of students who know what it's like not to



Southwest Philadelphia A.Y. members pose with Olympic trophy. Kneeling in center are George O'Bryant and John Hawkins. AY Leader Alvin Jones is far left on back row.

have money to attend school motivated by the Holy Spirit enabling them to give."

Samuel Darby, Vice Principal
Pine Forge Academy

FAMILY LIFE ENHANCED AT SOUTHWEST

Many families of the Southwest Philadelphia Church, Philadelphia, PA. stated that they were blessed by the ministry of Pastor Brian Carter of the University Heights Church in New Brunswick, New Jersey on a special Family Life Day.

Carter's sermon, "How to Develop the Character of God" provided a blueprint for improved life at home and in church. By following the outlined plan, love toward God, our Creator, is sure to increase. This love relationship, says Carter, naturally spills over in such a way as to improve interpersonal relationships within homes. Happy family members make happy, peace loving, God fearing church members.

The A. Y. period was turned into an informal seminar, at which time the participants were taken through various exercises in order to assess their knowledge of effective communication skills. The importance of employing correct skills (speaking and listening) was stressed. Participants took part in demonstrations as a means of reinforcing learned techniques. Through a series of specific exercises, each person could better learn who he was and determine personal strengths and weaknesses.

Following a question and answer period, members of the audience stated that they had obtained a better understanding of themselves. They were impressed that the tools they had received enabled them to become better communicators.

Janice D. Jenkins
Assistant Communications Secretary

These wonderful young people were treated to a picnic. Everyone who attended enjoyed delicious food, good singing and good times. We are proud of the progress our youth have made.

C. Daniels Johnson
Communications Secretary

COMMUNITY GUEST DAY AT KIRKWOOD

August 30 brought new enthusiasm to the Kirkwood Church, Kirkwood, Missouri, because it was Community Guest Day. Approximately ten guests were present to fellowship with their friends. The special guest speaker for the day was Ms. Joan Robinson. The morning message was taken from Romans 8:28, "All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to His purpose."

After the spiritual food was served, the temporal food was next. An enjoyable fellowship dinner was served at the Kirkwood Recreation Center. Both visitors and members found all the fare nutritious and delicious.

The day was not over. An evening concert of music and poetry followed. There were two visiting choirs, as well as participants from the local Seventh-day Adventist churches.

Lee Carrell
Communications Secretary

THANK GOD FOR OUR DEACONS

The Bethesda SDA Temple of Omaha, Nebraska, has seven ordained deacons and three in training. Not only do they perform their duties on Sabbath, but church maintenance is also their concern.

The deacons have been involved in purchasing church furniture for the rostrum, from the deacons' fund and from sacrificial giving over the years. Their present project is renovating the gym and replacing the cabinet which houses the church's sound equipment. Mr. Densil Lee, Sr., is serving as head deacon of this dedicated and hard working group.

W. Richard Bath
Communications Secretary

LITERATURE EVANGELIST RALLY AT KIRKWOOD

Members of the Kirkwood church, Kirkwood, Missouri, were privileged to witness a special Literature Evangelist Rally, and the bestowing of various awards to four of the area's LEs on Sept. 13. Pastor Danny Milton, Publishing Dir-

ector of the Central States Conference, was on hand to present the awards. Recipients were; Mary Brown, Evelyn Tolliver, LaKetia Carrell and Mary Wilson. Pastor Milton mentioned some of the achievements of all the Central States Literature Evangelists, in terms of souls baptized, literature given away and sold, Bible studies given, prayers given in homes, and the total amount of all literature sales. With 10 Literature Evangelists, the Kirkwood church has the highest number of LEs per capita in the Central States Conference.

Lee Carrell
Communications Secretary

NEWS FROM NORTHSIDE

Some one hundred forty visitors from New York City, including a community choir from Brooklyn, New York, visited the Northside Church in St. Louis, Missouri, on August 30, 1986. The choir performed during the Divine worship hour and then presented a mini concert in the afternoon. After the afternoon program, the guests were treated to a Northside "after Sabbath social", consisting of games, refreshments, and good Christian fun.

On Sunday, the Northside church held it's Sabbath School picnic. After a few games of volleyball and baseball, it was off to tour places of interest in St. Louis.

It was with a heavy heart that we said goodbye to our special guests. We are waiting for an invitation to visit their church in New York.

Greg Adams
Communication Secretary

NEW PASTOR AT PARK AVENUE

The new pastor of the Park Avenue church in St. Louis, Missouri, Elder E. Pembleton, is a multi-talented young man. He is busy promoting health in the community, visiting members homes, and offering prayer. He stresses the importance of including fruits and vegetables in the diet, drinking plenty of water, exercise and rest. Pastor Pembleton is a devout young man and whenever he is called to fill a need, he tries his best to fill it. Oftentimes, he brings his young children with him on his home visits. They sing, and recite the books of the Bible.

The Park Avenue church gave them a wonderful St. Louis welcome, with a presentation of boutonniere for the pastor and a lovely corsage for his wife, Mrs. Charlene Pembleton.

C. Daniels Johnson
Communications Secretary

CENTRAL STATES

PARK AVENUE'S ADVENTIST YOUTH, LOVE IN ACTION

Pat Andrews, AYS leader, is a young lady dedicated to helping people. She and her youth group can be seen on Sabbath afternoon, hiking along the avenues dispensing tracts, talking with area residents and inviting them to church. She and her eager young followers also visit the sick and shut-ins.

THE LAST TOUR

Elder E. F. Carter makes his last tour through the conference as Sabbath School and Community Services Director. Elder Carter was appointed, recently, as the Executive Secretary of the conference. Elder Nathaniel Miller was asked to take over the Church Ministries Department and Elder G. H. Taylor, Jr. will direct the Community Services Department. Pictured are some of the last Community Services Federation and Sabbath School Workshops, conducted by Elder Carter.



Just before Pastor Rodney Dragoon left the Colorado Springs/Pueblo district, Elder Carter held two, well-attended and rewarding Stewardship Seminars in his district. The one pictured above is the Palace of Peace Church in Colorado Springs, Colorado and the one below is the Clarmont Church in Pueblo.



The Eastern Federation under the direction of Sister Lucille Mitchell held at the Kinloch church, seated left to right are Brother Emerson Jackson, Clarence Wilson, Elder Carter, Sister Mitchell and Sister E. Bosman, Secretary.



The Central Community Services Federation convened at one of our newest churches and church building, Real Truth Church. Elder Gabe Taylor, who is the new Community Services Director, is also the pastor of this congregation. The Central Community Services Federation officers and pastors are seated on the two front rows.



Sister Stewart displays some of the children dresses made by the Kinloch Dorcas Society.



Elder Carter was on hand when the former federation president, Isabell Brown received a token of appreciation from the current president Doris Bullock.



The last Federation meeting of the Nebraska-Iowa district—Elder Slocumb, is now the pastor of the Omaha-Sharon church and Joyce Evans, Federation president, in the center has since left for Andrews University to pursue her Masters degree.

NORTHEASTERN

TWO JOIN ATLANTIC UNION STAFF

Elder James C. Hicks, pastor of the New Rochelle church, New Rochelle, New York, has been called to the Atlantic Union Conference as the new Director of Church Ministries. He joins



Elder James C. Hicks.

the Union staff with a wealth of experience in denominational work, having served in the Southwest Region and Southeastern Conferences.

Elder Hicks is a native of Tyler, Texas. He and his wife Lois, have three children.



Elder William McNeil, Jr.

Elder William McNeil, Jr., Church Growth Director for the Northeastern Conference, has received a call to serve as Ministerial and Church Growth Director in the Atlantic Union Conference. He and his secretary, Edwina Humphrey, developed a program for 'Spectacular Evangelism' in the Northeastern Conference entitled FRIENDSHIP '87. A goal was set to reach one million golden friends by October 1987.

Elder McNeil is a native of Charleston, South Carolina. He is married to the former Annie Collins of Blackville, S.C., and they have three boys, Creig, Eric and Dwayne.

CELESTIAL VOICES ANNIVERSARY DAY

Sabbath afternoon, September 20th, Coordinator and Choir Director Jeffrey Wells, along with his associates presented to our congregation many talented singers, groups and choirs. Master of Ceremonies Teddy Symes had little building up to do as he wholeheartedly introduced the many artists. The music glorified God and intensified ones very being. South Brooklyn's own Celestial Voices Choir magnificently outdid themselves in song. There was standing room only; even to the stairs leading out of the Sanctuary.

THE COMPLEAT MARRIAGE SEMINAR HELD AT FLATBUSH CHURCH

Nancy and Harry Van Pelt, the originators of the Compleat Marriage Seminar, held a weekend seminar at the Flatbush Church, Brooklyn, NY, on June 26-29.

Here's what some of the participants had to say about the seminar: "I have been searching for clues to a successful marriage, now I have found them. I am going to use them."

"If I had met the Van Pelts 14 years ago, I would not have divorced my wife."

"The smiles on every face, the comfortable atmosphere; the fun my husband and I shared this weekend has convinced me that we are on our way to a successful marriage."

"We are beginning to love, appreciate, accept, communicate, and understand each other better. I feel loved, important and alive again."

ELDER J.A. THOMPSON ASSUMES NEW PASTORAL DUTIES

August 16 marked the official arrival and induction of Pastor Jonathon A. Thompson as the new spiritual leader of City Tabernacle, New York, NY. He attended Atlantic Union College, South Lancaster, MA, where he obtained a B.A. degree. A scholar, not satisfied with minimal accomplishments, he completed a master's degree at Andrews University, and during his most recent pastorate at the Faith Church, Hartford, CT, he acquired a doctorate degree from the Hartford Seminary.

Elder Thompson has also pastored the Springfield Gardens Church, Springfield Gardens, NY and was an associate pastor of the Ephesus Church, New York, NY, and several other congregations in the Northeastern Conference.

Elder Thompson is married to the former Paula West. They have three children: Jonathan Phillips, Seth Adams Joseph and Paula Louise.

LaMarr Renee
Communication Secretary

FREEPORT RESIDEDNTS RALLY AGAINST DRUGS

An anti-drug march and rally was held in Freeport, NY, Saturday, August 16, 1986, drawing more than 350 persons to Freeport Plaza. The rally, supported by

several churches in the area, echoed the theme, "Say No To Drugs".

The event was sponsored by the Freeport Advisory Task Force on Drugs, and Freeport Operation Pride. Among the speakers for the rally were Mayor Dorothy Storm and Assemblywoman Barbara Patton.

The march and rally were prompted by the recent beating death of a two-year old Freeport child, by an alleged crack addict.

Ida Gerson
John Horsham

WESTERN NEW YORK PATHFINDER FEDERATION—1986

The Western New York Pathfinder Federation took place at Victory Temple church in Buffalo, NY on September 6, 1986. The Victory Temple pathfinder club, under the direction of Louise Wiggins, hosted the program. They borrowed their federation's theme from the Northeastern Conference Youth Congress entitled, "Rekindling the Flame."

All WNY clubs were represented; Syracuse, Rochester, and Buffalo (Emmanuel Temple). It was a day of feasting, fellowship, and fun. The children and their leaders conducted all of the services for the day. There was exceptional music rendered during the Divine Worship hour by the Rochester Adventurer club, directed by Clara Gill. The congregation then heard a challenging message entitled, "The Other Side of the Jericho Road", by Elder Trevor Baker, Youth Director for the Northeastern Conference. All took part in rededicating their lives to aiding the pathfinders, youth and the entire church program for a finished work.

The afternoon program brought a number of displays and exhibits from the Western New York area clubs. An investiture program took place also, and numerous honors were awarded. Elder Baker emphasized that all recipients had fully earned their honors. From the youngest adventurer, to the oldest pathfinder, all showed evidence of their diligent labor.

The vesper thought was brought by Pastor Smith of Mount Carmel church in Syracuse, NY. He charged the pathfinders to continue the good work which they had begun, and that should they remain faithful, they would receive the highest reward in the life to come.

The embers of the rekindled flame will continue to burn brightly across Western New York's pathfinder clubs.

B. Winfred
Communications Secretary

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CELEBRATES ITS FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

There was a five-day celebration to mark its fiftieth anniversary

At home in Brooklyn New York, on Avenue Schenectady

On May 14, to May 18, 1986,

By the Seventh-day Adventist family
That is called Christian Fellowship.

To share in this wonderful and happy occasion

Many ex-members and friends came from various parts of the nation

Including these six warriors of the battle field

As the sword of the Spirit they came to wield.

G.R. Earl Northeastern's former President,
L.G. Newton who now sits on the bench;
Augustus Ogiste of the Allegheny East,
J.P. Willis who at the Lighthouse has
presidence,

Harold Baptiste of the North Eastern
Conference

And J.P. Monk, President of the Central
States

Who had sway of the Divine Hour which
all did appreciate.

Led by James L. LaMar our current
spiritual leader

We give thanks for His having brought us
thus far

The congregation out numbered twelve
hundred

As with the spiritual bread we were
divinely fed.

We thank all those who came to share in
this Golden Jubilee.

As we reflect on 1936 to 1986 in humility
We say TO GOD BE THE GLORY.

We were and are and shall be His
With nothing to sever, thus was our
theme—

“WITH CHRIST THEN, NOW, AND
FOREVER.”

Lorna V. Scott
Communications Secretary

DOCTOR SMITH—PROFILE OF AN EVANGELIST

Stephanie Denise Johnson

Editor's Note: Several months ago, the Northeastern Conference appointed two conference evangelists: Pastors Lawrence S. Dorsey, for metropolitan New York and Doctor J. Smith for New England and upstate New York. We will present a profile of each man, this month we will focus on Evangelist Doctor Smith.



Evangelist Doctor Smith.

Undoubtedly, Pastor Doctor Smith was surprised about his recent appointment as one of two conference evangelist for Northeastern Conference, but when one reviews the way in which God has led his life, it is evident that God was preparing him for this call.

As a child growing up in Rosehill, NC, religion played a vital part in his life. Ever since he could remember he sang in the church choir or a quartet. His musical talents led him to leave home at 16 and headed for New York City in search of an elusive dream to become a rock and roll singer. Instead he found love and married Queen Esther Corley, from their union was born three children: Ronald, Patricia, and Cheryl.

Life was good, the Smith's were content, until their spiritual equilibrium was upset. One Sunday, a friend stopped by for a visit. Immediately, when he walked in they noticed something very strange about him. There was no slurred speech, no red eyes, no topsy turvy movement and not a whiff of cheap liquor on his breath. He was sober.

“What happened to you?” Doc eagerly inquired.

“I made a great discovery in the religious world.”

“Tell me about it,” he anxiously said.

“My friend, I have given my heart to the Lord, I am now a Seventh-day Adventist.”

“Ah, what?”

“A Seventh-day Adventist.” His friend then began to explain his beliefs to his puzzled friend.

Doc was speechless. After his friend's visit, he was totally convinced that that Church had something to offer him.

So when his friend invited the Smith's to attend his church, they readily accepted. Doc began to really study the Bible for the first time. “I discovered things in the Word of God, that I never dreamed existed. With the help of a young man, Henry Holt, Doc and his family were lead to see the truth in its entirety.

He was seized with doubt, “Did I do the right thing?” “Was it really wise to leave my wife, my children, my home, my job, everything to chase a rainbow?” He fell on his knees and pleaded with God to work out everything for him. In the midst of his plea, the Holy Spirit impressed him to take the book, “Highway to Heaven,” off the shelf. As he opened the book, his eyes fell on this passage, “God has promised that I will add tact and skill, I will make the way if you follow through.”

“All doubt disappeared,” he remembered. “I felt as if I were on top of the world. I knew that Jesus was leading me. At the beginning, college was no breeze. I couldn't take notes. The Holy Spirit impressed me to take a tape recorder. I would tape each lecture. But I still had to work twice as hard as the next student. While the other guys were out playing ball I would be studying.”

God blessed his efforts and within 3 years in 1976, he graduated and received three calls. He chose to work in Northeastern.

Pastor Smith was assigned to the Mt. Sinai Church with 70 members and the Solid Rock Mission with 7 members, both in Queens, New York. His assignment was a real challenge.

Mt. Sinai was a church without a home. First they worshipped in a tent, next a hall, and finally, in the conference office. Throughout their experience the members continued to pray for a church.

One day as Pastor Smith was washing his car, a man walked up to him and asked if he was an SDA because he noticed the Oakwood emblem on his car.

“Yes, I am,” replied Pastor Smith.

“I used to be,” said the man. “In fact I am a former SDA minister but now I have my own church in Queens.”

As they continued their conversation, Pastor Smith confided in Pastor John Agard that he was praying for a church where his members could worship.

Pastor Agard listened with great interest. “Doc,” he finally said, “I have been impressed by God to give you my church and everything in it, the two pianos, 100 chairs and all the money that the Church has in the bank.”

Agard took care of the legal proceedings and with the surrender of his property, he returned to the SDA Church. He now serves as a local elder at the Corona SDA Church, Queens, New York.

Under the stewardship of Pastor Smith within four years the church grew from 70 to 270 members. His other challenge was to build the Solid Rock Mission to a church. Within one and a half years, the mission grew from 7 to 52 members and in 1979 it became a church.

His next call was to the Mt. Vernon Church, Mt. Vernon, New York where he served for two years. It was during his pastorate that the Church was renovated.

After Mt. Vernon Church, he was called to pastor in Ellenville and Newburgh, NY. In Newburgh he met a small, scattered congregation, with 1 deacon, 2 elders, no deacon board or choir, worshipping in the church's educational building.

Immediately he went to work. In the summer he held an evangelistic crusade, baptizing a record 96 converts including a choir and pianist. Previously the highest baptism was 3.

In November 1985, Pastor Smith was called to serve as one of two evangelists for the Northeastern Conference, his primary responsibilities are New England and upstate New York.

Like Paul he suffered with a thorn in his flesh, that paralyzes him momentarily and robbed him of the ability to think or speak. He had consulted a neurologist and was thoroughly examined at Uchee Pines, Seale, Al., but they could offer no cure.

Pastor Smith is not a man who easily gives up. "I am determined not to be robbed of the privilege that God has given me to preach. God has the whole situation under control. He will see me through."

One Sabbath, when an appeal was made, Doc, followed by his wife, Queen Esther, they took their stand. Doc's life was completely changed. "When I became a Seventh-day Adventist, I could barely read. I never completed the 8th grade. But when I became a SDA, I brought the Conflict of Ages Series and attempted to read them.

"I would go on the housetop," he said, "and there I would kneel down and ask God to teach me how to read . . . I would go to work with the books and every free moment I got I would try to read. I always kept a dictionary in the truck so I could look up words I didn't understand. Gradually, I began to read and com-

prehend. After a period of time, I made the most wonderful discovery, I could read."

With his new found reading skills, the desire to become a minister became a compelling force in his life. So he began to speak at AYS, prayer meeting and conducted a laymen's crusade.

It was during this crusade, that he enlisted the help of Zilda Forde, a Bible Instructor to teach him grammar. Now, with all his skills in place, he waited for a directive from God. At 37, his dream to become a minister seemed impossible. One night in anguish, seized by an overwhelming desire to preach, he fell on his knees and cried, "Lord, am I ever going to have the opportunity to train as a minister so that I can represent you?"

God heard his prayer and the way was opened. He passed his GED test with a B and set out on his great journey to Oakwood. He knew that God was leading. But his hour of triumph was snuffed out by a dark cloud. During the evening worship at the dorm, the academic dean of the college advised that, "if you are past 35 years old, when you enter college take a double major because there is no guarantee that you will get picked. You have to be 'super-duper'".

He immediately left the room. A sense of anxiety and utter helplessness rose up inside of him. A dark voice, echoed those terrible words, "I told you so, you're too old to enter the ministry." Then he heard the skeptical words of his former supervisor, "I hear you're going to college to be a minister. That's okay, but I'd advise you to take a leave of absence. You just don't throw away 13 years of work. I don't mean to discourage you, but suppose things don't work out, you need something to fall back on."

"No," said Doc. "I want to burn all bridges behind me. I am determined to make it."

'BLACK ON BLACK CRIME'

'Black on Black Crime' was the subject of a symposium held at the Berea S.D.A. Church in Dorchester on May 17, 1986. Prominent leaders of the community were invited to participate. Among them were Mr. Ronald Homer, President of the Boston Bank of Commerce; Rev. E.W. Jackson, General Manager of WLVG Radio Station; Mr. Ken Guscott, noted businessman; Minister Don Mohammed of the Grove Hall Muslim Temple and former Senator Bill Owens. Moderator of the program was Dr. Byron Robinson.

There was much agreement on the causes of the high incidence of crime in the black community. As Don Mohammed pointed out, the increase in crime and the return of criminals to prison demonstrate the failure of the judicial system to solve the problem. The lust for living glamorous lives as seen in the movies and on television was listed as another cause. An even greater factor is the breakdown of the black family structure.

"It is a problem of sin," said Rev. Jackson, "and only the Almighty God and we ourselves can find a solution." He insisted that Blacks have relied too long on the political, economic, and social institutions of the nation to solve their problems. Instead, Black institutions such as the family, the church and the school should collaborate to insure that sound moral values are transmitted to our children.

According to Mr. Homer, in the search for a solution, there is the need for blacks to analyze their actions. "Do we just let it happen by doing nothing?" "Are we willing to organize and march against crime as we march for other things?" are some of the questions he asked.

Other actions suggested by Mr. Guscott were for residents to take care of their homes, look out for each other and utilize the strengths in the neighborhood such as the Drop-A-Dime anti-drug network. Residents should call such organizations whenever they see a crime being committed.

Congratulating the Muslims on their success in moving crime out of their immediate area, Bill Owens suggested that other churches and residents do likewise. "If we cannot destroy crime completely," he said, "we must force the criminals out of our community."

Gemma Williams
Communication Secretary

BOYS CHOIR OF HARLEM RECEIVES PRESIDENT'S AWARD

The Boys Choir of Harlem was presented with the 'President's Volunteer Action Award' by President Ronald Reagan at a luncheon at the White House on June 2, 1986. The award was presented "in recognition of its outstanding achievement in the arts and humanities and specifically because of its work with volunteers over time: parents, community representatives, civic groups, public service organizations and others."

The Ephesus Church, New York City, congratulates Mr. Walter Turnbull,



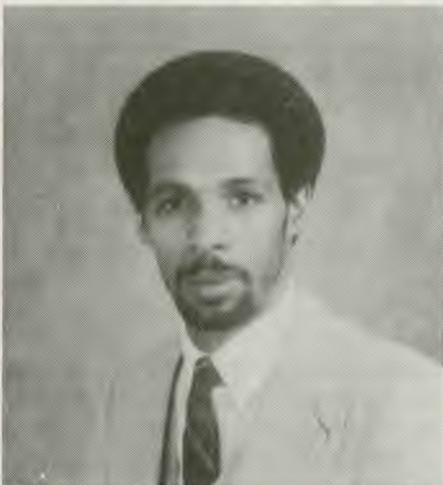
Harlem Boys' choir directed by Dr. Walter Turnbull.

founder/director, and the Boys Choir of Harlem on receiving this prestigious honor! Special recognition is also given to WILLIAM BIRD, JR. a choir member for nine years and DIALLOBE DORSEY a member for three years. These young men of Ephesus are to be commended for their excellence in performance.

In addition to this honor, the choir was also selected to sing at the Statue of Liberty Celebrations. Ephesus is proud to note that the choir was first organized as the Ephesus Boys Choir in 1968 by Walter Turnbull and Ruth Nixon. For additional information about the Boys Choir of Harlem, call 212-690-3333.

Caroline Jones
Correspondent

SOUTH CENTRAL



Charles D. Battles, Principal of ALCY Junior Academy, Memphis, TN.

130 STUDENTS ENROLL AT ALCY JUNIOR ACADEMY FOR FALL SEMESTER

For over sixty years, the members of the Seventh-day Adventist churches in the city of Memphis, Tennessee, have been providing Christian Education for their young people. From a humble beginning of one teacher and less than fifty students to approximately 130 students and 13 staff members the Alcy SDA Junior Academy opened its doors on Monday, August 18 to begin another year of instructing the heart, head and hand.

The returning teaching staff for the 1986/87 school year are as follows: Myrtharyn Powell Pre-K/K; Jo-Ann Wade 1 & 2; Queen Robinson 5 & 6. Michael Tompkins has returned to AJA this year after one year leave of absence. He brings back to Alcy expertise in music education. His primary teaching assignment will be grades 7 & 8. Lynne Middleton is a new addition to the staff. Coming to us from Louisville, Kentucky, she possesses a wealth of knowledge in the area of reading. She will teach grades 3 & 4. Charles Battles is also joining the team at Alcy serving as principal. He comes to Memphis from the Sharon Temple SDA Junior Academy in Wilmington, Delaware, where he served as principal. Prior to serving in Wilmington, he served on the faculty of the Pine Forge Academy in Pennsylvania.

The auxiliary staff members include: Hazel Farwell, Secretary; Noble Powell, Treasurer; Jill Edmond and Brenda Renfroe, Teacher's Aide; Del Love, Textbook Coordinator; Nancy Scott, Building Engineer and Lenora Neal, Early/Late Child Care Supervisor.

Five churches serve as constituents. They are: Breath of Life-Dana Edmond, Pastor; Longview Heights-Joseph Jones, Pastor; New Covenant-Roland Hill, Pastor; Overton Park/Eads-Famous Murray, Pastor. The challenge for the 1986/87 school year remains the same, "All thy children shall be taught of the Lord..." All of the churches subsidize each student from their church that desires a Christian Education. Other sponsors are also needed for there are still children who would like to attend but are unable. If you would like to sponsor a child, contact the principal.

Charles D. Battles
Principal

THE DUAL AFFAIR

Sabbath evening, Sept. 6, 1986, was the date of the "Dual Affair" presented in behalf of Alcy SDA Junior Academy, Memphis, Tennessee at the Longview Heights SDA Church at 8:00 p.m. Dana Edmond, pastor of Memphis' Breath of Life Church served as MC.

The beginning portion of the program was in the form of a farewell to the former principal, Robert Woodward. He served Alcy for 11 years. In May of this year, he laid aside his numerous responsibilities at Alcy to join the teaching staff at the Tennessee Department of Corrections. During the farewell segment of the program, Mr. Woodward was commended with various words of appreciation and praise for his accomplishments as Alcy's principal. The school underwent much construction during his administration. He was also presented gifts from each of the constituent churches. The school board, the four churches, the Home and School Associ-

ation, the teaching staff of Alcy as well as personal friends of Mr. Woodward were all represented at this affair.

The second part of the program was spent welcoming Alcy's new principal, Charles D. Battles, former principal of the Sharon Temple SDA Junior Academy in Wilmington, Delaware. Mr. Battles opening statement caught the attention of all in attendance. "Higher than the highest human thought can reach is God's ideal for his children . . ." It is the ultimate objective and aim of Alcy to keep climbing to higher heights. He was warmly welcomed as the constituents gave him a standing ovation and presented him with a gift. The school is already experiencing growth under his administration and presently the enrollment is 129 students.

Music for this affair was provided by the Alcy Choir. The students sang beautifully "O Lord, Our Lord" and "We Can Share." Richard Fordjour, a third grader at Alcy captivated the audience while displaying his talent on the drums.

Mrs. Thelma Perkins, one of Alcy's parents was the chairperson for this affair.

Jo-Ann Wade
Teacher, Grades 1 & 2



Pastor and Mrs. Ronald Berry Scholarship Fund Established.

RON AND LOLITA BERRY SCHOLARSHIP FUND PLANNED

Ronald and Lolita Berry, interns from the South Central Conference were returning to Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan to join with the graduation exercises for the summer's commencement when they were taken from us in a fatal accident on the highway in Kentucky. The workers of the conference have agreed to set up a Special Scholarship Fund in their behalf for the benefit of South Central Conference students who attend Oakwood from year

to year. An offering will be taken in each church once a year to help to build this fund. It is suggested that each member of the conference contribute at least one dollar each year for this program. Mrs. Margaret Smith, Lolita's mother is still recovering from the accident in her home in Columbus, Georgia. Pray for her complete healing.



Pastor Lorenzo Shepherd - Gadsden, Alabama Mortgage Burning Ceremonies.

MORTGAGE BURNING CELEBRATION

Sunday, July 27, was a day of grand celebration at the Ebenezer church in Gadsden, Alabama, as the church burned their mortgage.

Elder C.E. Dudley, President of the South Central Conference, delivered a stirring message for the mortgage burning ceremonies and received a key to the city from a representative of the Mayor of Gadsden.

Elder Richard Bell of Los Angeles, California, a former pastor of the Ebenezer church and purchaser of the building, was present, and received a beautiful plaque.

Mr. Leroy Tyson, church deacon, was presented a plaque for 25 years of service of the church, along with Mrs. Bertha Jones, church deaconess, who was presented a plaque for 38 years of church service. Mrs. Jones was also the only charter member.

The mother of Elder Lorenzo B. Shepherd, current pastor of the church, Mrs. Geraldine Shepherd, was presented with a plaque for outstanding service to the church. Pastor Shepherd received a plaque for his work in helping to liquidate the church mortgage. He also received a beautiful robe from the congregation.

Former pastors, Elder Sherman Cox, Chaplain and Missions Director for Oakwood College; Elder Ralph Peay, Associate Ministerial Director of Southern

Union; were present for the occasion and made remarks. Elder James Bell, from Emmanuel church in Mobile, Alabama, along with Mr. Andrew Day, Democratic Party Committeeman of District 29 in Alabama, also gave remarks.

Ms. Rosalyn Donley, Ms. Hadassah Pope, and Mrs. Clora Young provided music for the occasion.

CLEVELAND, TN CHURCH FACELIFT

The East Tennessee church in Cleveland, TN, is endeavoring to reach as many of the Communication Department goals as possible. The one recently accomplished is the acquiring of an identification sign placed in front of the church. The people of the community have made a number of favorable comments about the sign and a local newspaper printed an article about it. During the past year, the church has been submitting at least one article per month to the newspaper for publication.

The church is now listed in the Yellow Pages telephone directory. The church has also made some minor improvements in the parking lot and the entrance, which has brought positive reactions from the community.

Joseph F. Milner, Jr.
Correspondent

MEMPHIS TINY TOT CHOIRS IN CONCERT

"It is time to Praise the Lord" was the title of a fall Festival of Praise held at the Longview Heights church in Memphis, Tennessee. It was presented by the children's choirs under the direction of Dolores Jones and Gloria Branch. The children ranged in age from two to thirteen.

"Heaven is a Wonderful Place", "Don't You Know It's Time to Praise the Lord", and "Beloved", were some of the songs performed by the combined choirs. The children sang with such sincerity and dedication that tears were evident in the eyes of many in the listening audience. Tears stained the face of choir member Marquette Smith as she sang, "Calvary".

Outreach done in the community was responsible for the presence of musicians and an instructor from Memphis State University. An analyst for Holiday Inn videotaped the festival, and was so impressed that he and his wife are taking Bible studies from Pastor Joseph Jones.

JULIUS/ROSS AWARDED INTERNSHIPS

Michael Ross of Montgomery, Alabama has re-entered the internship program of the General Conference and is presently attending Andrews University. Likewise, Edmond Julius, student of South Africa has been recommended for an internship to Andrews University. There are many challenges to be met by the people of South Africa these days. We must show concern for their plight and do all that we can to help.

MAYOR JIM C. BIRCH CUTS RIBBON FOR FRANKFORT BUILDING

Sabbath, Oct. 18, 1986 is a day that will long be remembered by the pastor and members of the Capitol City S.D.A. Church in Frankfort, Kentucky, for after many long months and hard labor they celebrated the construction of their new church facility and church home. On hand for the celebration was Mayor J. C. Birch of that city, C. E. Dudley, the conference president, O. E. Rudley, pastor of the Lima Drive church and his members from Lexington, the Magazine Street S. D. A. youth choir from Louisville, Kentucky, members of the North Star Church in Covington, Kentucky as well as representatives of the Cottage Chapel church in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Elder and Mrs. Aaron Thompkins, the pastor and members of the Frankfort church have literally constructed this facility with their own hands. The building is adobe block structure and is located just a few yards from the campus of the Kentucky State University. "I guess that we must give Mr. and Mrs. James Johnson, the neighbors who live next door to the church, an expression of gratitude for their help and encouragement during this project" so stated Elder Thompkins. Many of their tools had literally been borrowed for the construction. They also kept a watchful eye over the laborers as they worked.

Approximately four years ago, Pastor Dana Edmond, now of Memphis, Tennessee, held an evangelistic crusade under a tent in this capitol city, a goodly number of members were baptised which led to the organization of another new congregation in the State of Kentucky. Elder Aaron Thompkins had the challenge of building a house of worship for the Lord. This dream was realized during this celebration. Some of the charter members of the

church are Mr. and Mrs. Eric Lynes, Mrs. Carolyn Hudson, Mrs. Marcia Minnis, Mrs. Eunice Hammons, Mrs. Pat Kitchen, Mrs. Josephine Minnis and Mrs. Georgetta Jones.



Frankfort, Ky., Church cuts ribbon. Left to right: Mayor J. C. Birch, A. Thompkins and C. Dudley.

ADAM, INC. MOVING ON UP THE MOUNTAIN

The Sept., 1984 issue of the Regional Voice (p.11) introduced a new minority-owned property management company: American Diversified Asset Management Corporation (ADAM, INC.). The firm, organized in 1984 by Rhon Reid, Washington Butler, Jr. and Edward Williams has made great progress over the past two and a half years. In their organizational year the ADAM, Inc. executives reported that there were no obstacles to their success, only challenges and opportunities to grow. The firm has doubled its number of units under contract for management each of the past two years.

Presently, ADAM, INC. has 944 units under contract and is aggressively marketing to secure new management contracts. The corporation has fiduciary responsibility for funds in excess of \$10,000,000 annually. It manages all of the existing operating properties of the South Central Conference of Seventh-

day Adventists, as well as several other non-SDA property owners.

This young firm of black businessmen was selected this year as the "Service Industry Firm of the Year" by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Minority Business Development Agency.

In receiving the "Dr. R. H. Boyd Achievement Award," as the culmination of this signal distinction, Rhon Reid, President and Chief Executive Officer said: "We are honored and humbled by this recognition for a lot of hard work. It is occasions like this that make all of the work worthwhile. We thank the Department of Commerce, the property owners and site personnel for their support and cooperation; and, most especially, we thank our families for their encouragement and support. The future looks bright and we are still off and running."

1986 INGATHERING CAMPAIGN MOVES IN SOUTH CENTRAL

Although the Victory Celebration Day for the conference was set for Oct. 25 twenty congregations and five districts had completed their campaigns before Oct. 4. Among the victory districts were: the Anniston/Gadsden, Alabama churches under the leadership of Pastor Washington Johnson, Jr. who recently returned to the field from the seminary; Pastor Walton Rose, district pastor for the Pell City-Sylacagua-Talladega churches; Elder Isaac Lester of the Magazine Street S.D.A. Church in Louisville, Kentucky; The Hillcrest Church of Nashville, Tennessee under the leadership of Pastor George R. Seay, Sr., the goal was "planked down" in one day; and the Greenville-Selma-Thomasville, Alabama district under the leadership of Elder Garfield Powell.



Left to Right: Rhon Reid, Washington Butler, and Edward Williams.

FELLOWSHIP, FOOD AND GAMES

On Oct. 18, the Hillcrest Seventh-day Adventist Church family sponsored a Pantry Party Shower for the new first family in the church activity room. Each member was invited to bring a pantry item of canned and staple foods including frozen and fresh foods.

Games were conducted by Mrs. Judith McCoy and Miss Diedra Freeman. Refreshments donated by the congregation of church members were delectably devoured. When "door prize" names were called—the name of Elder Seay was read. He was invited to open a door where behind stood, elders, deacons and other male officers of the church with a refrigerator-freezer, also presented by members of the congregation. This was indeed a surprise to the Seay family and they were very grateful.

The party was spearheaded by Elder and Mrs. Joseph McCoy, along with Mrs. Martha Hardin, Mrs. Sarita Coopwood and Mrs. Dorris Hill.

This was a fellowship party enjoyed by all. Items are still being donated each Sabbath. The Hillcrest Church is very happy to have Elder Seay as their pastor!

SELMA CHURCH SUPPORTS OAKWOOD PROJECT

When Dr. C. E. Dudley, president of the South Central Conference, visited with the pastor and members of Temple Gate S.D.A. Church in Selma, Alabama, Elder Garfield Powell presented a check to him for \$457 which represented additional funds to be used for the special project that the conference has been working on for the past year. Last year the members of this field accepted a challenge to help with the refurbishing of the boys dormitory

with new furniture. The project is moving along nicely. Some fourteen thousand dollars have been donated from the members thus far.



The final check for the Powell district was given on Sabbath, October 4, from the Macie Herbert Memorial Chapel in Greenville, Alabama. Pictured from left to right in this presentation ceremony were: Mrs. Mary Bradley, treasurer, Eyre Cook, the first elder and Elder Garfield Powell, minister.

OUR YOUTH IN ACTION

On Sept. 6, 1986, the Hillview Church of Alton, Alabama celebrated their annual Youth Day. The youth conducted the Sabbath School program, the Divine Worship services and the A.Y.S. program. Special music was rendered by Ms. Paula Murray.

The guest speaker for the Divine Hour was Elder T. Marshall Kelly, an outstanding soloist from Oakwood Academy, Huntsville, Alabama.

In his message to the young people, he challenged them to take care of their bodies. When the appeal was made, visitors and members stood to dedicate themselves anew to Christ. One visitor

expressed her desire to become a member of God's remnant Church.

Following the Divine worship service, a pot luck fellowship was held at the church.

A special thanks to Lori Jackson, Jonathan Ross, Natelk Ross and their staff for making this program a success.

ADVENTIST EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION ESTABLISHED

The Seventh-day Adventist congregations of the South Central Conference in the Nashville, Tennessee area are joining hands in a co-operative venture to support the cause of Christian Education for the children from that area. A new organization has been formed that is named "The Adventist Education Development Foundation" which has as its objectives to raise money for scholarships for students and also funds to be used for the construction of a new church school facility in the area.

The leaders of this group are: Nathaniel Higgs, chairman, G. R. Seay, Jr., pastor of the Hillcrest congregation and vice chairman, Mrs. Dorris M. Hill, founder and coordinator, G. I. Pearson, secretary who also is the pastor of the New Life congregation, William Brown, principal of the F. H. Jenkins union school, James E. Merideth, treasurer and comptroller for the Nashville Christian Medical Center, Xavier Butler, assistant treasurer and pastor for the Riverside Chapel and C. E. Dudley, chairman emeritus.

At a recent fund raising program that was held in honor of Dr. and Mrs. W. E. Coopwood of Nashville, Tennessee hundreds of thousands of dollars were raised for the F. H. Jenkins school project. The conference donated \$100,000.00 for the project. Pictured at the podium in the Opryland Hotel during the occasion are Professor N. G. Higgs, Superintendent of education for the conference and Mrs. Dorris M. Hill, director for the banquet.



Pictured at the podium in the Opryland Hotel during the occasion are Professor N. G. Higgs, Superintendent of education for the conference and Mrs. Dorris M. Hill, director for the banquet.



Pictured left to right in the Selma presentation are: Noel Lee, Youth Elder, Willie Venter, Treasurer and Church Elder, Elder Garfield Powell, Pastor of the Selma/Greenville/Thomasville district, and John Jones, the first Elder of the church.

SOUTHEASTERN

SOUTHEASTERN HOLDS LAYMEN'S RALLY

It is the privilege of every Christian not only to look for, but to hasten the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.-COL p.69 This gem of inspiration served as a foundation pillar on which the first Layman's Rally in Southeastern Conference was built.

Fueled by a zeal to see lay individuals join the ministerial staff in hastening the Lords's return, I. L. Harrell, Personal Ministries/Sabbath School Director, spearheaded the event, the first of its kind. Laymen from Key West, Florida to Fitzgerald, Georgia, and from Quincy, Florida to Palm Bay, Florida crowded the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall of the Orlando, Mt. Sinai church Sept. 26-27, 1986 to participate in this teaching, studying and fellowship occasion.

Elder Samuel Thomas, former Personal Ministries/Sabbath School Director for the Columbia Union Conference was the keynote speaker on Friday evening. Mrs. Daisy Brown guided the affairs of the Sabbath School supported by Dr. James Hawkins who taught the lesson and Bro. Joseph Footman interviewed individuals involved in Personal Ministries activities.

Patrick Vincent, pastor of the Ephesus SDA Church, Birmingham, Alabama and founder of the Soul-Winning Action Team (SWAT), was the featured guest. His message for the divine worship hour focused on Acts 3. In the afternoon each family was presented with a SWAT Manual. His lectures interspersed with musical renditions captured the laymen and drew out commitments. Patrick Vincent revived the "sheep having sheep" idea in such an easy, natural but spiritual manner that this first venture will have enormous effect during Harvest 90. In his closing remarks, President J. A. Edgcombe challenged the laymen to take unprecedented steps, and to be daring in reaching the masses in the pleasure conscious world with the Word of Truth.

Elder I. L. Harrell has given the laymen throughout Southeastern Conference vision, purpose, tools, and objectives in hastening the coming of our Lord. The service of our laymen will greatly aid in the realization of that hope.

R. R. Brown



R. R. Brown, Secretary-Southeastern; Elder Samuel Thomas, former Personal Ministries/Sabbath School director for Columbia Union; Elder I. L. Harrell, director-Personal Ministries/Sabbath School-Southeastern; Elder Patrick Vincent, pastor of Ephesus SDA-Birmingham, AL; and Elder J. A. Edgcombe, President-Southeastern.

A FIRST FOR SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE

Southeastern Conference recently celebrated a red-letter weekend for all of its graduating seniors. O. H. Paul, Superintendent of Education, the Board of Education Committee, and the conference Executive Committee, sponsored the first annual graduation weekend in Orlando, Florida. It was an attempt to give all 1986 graduating seniors the benefit of a Christian graduation exercise. Seventy-two churches and companies were encouraged to send all their sponsored graduates to Orlando for this unusual activity.

Friday evening's Consecration service, with Clifton Davis, recently appointed assistant pastor of the Loma Linda University campus church, was preceded by a sumptuous dinner provided by the Mt. Sinai church. Davis also spoke at the Sabbath morning 11:00 o'clock hour. Dr. N. Marshall, Southern Union Conference, Education Department; Dr. Gaines Partridge, Loma Linda University; Gary Wimbush, Oakwood College, were special guests.

The graduates were uniformly dressed, ladies in white dresses and men in black suits, Friday evening, and all in cap and gown on Sabbath morning.

Charmaine Blake of Sanford, FL, was recognized for her "A" average, with a scholarship to Oakwood College; Vernon Morrison of Miami-Northside, likewise received a scholarship to Oakwood College for being the most deserving, student Rosemarie Cassimere of Miami, FL, also received a scholarship for raising the most funds for the occasion. Recognizing the young people's achievements and successes was the real reason for the weekend.

Gary Wimbush, who came on behalf of Oakwood College, treated the students to a Sunday morning brunch, and Dr. Gaines Partridge of Loma Linda University, spoke with the students about college life, the how of getting there and staying. A visit to Wet 'n Wild, a water entertainment spot in Orlando, signalled the end of the planned weekend activities.

Each of the graduates returned home having said thanks, with new associations made and a future calling for "Nothing but the Best".

Dr. and Mrs. Willie Grace, Patricia Brown, Janet Floyd, local church education directors and chaperons, who had worked tirelessly and sacrificially, anticipate a bigger and better session next year.

R. R. Brown
Communications Director



Seville Brown, Coordinator for Southern Christian Leadership Conference, St. Petersburg, Florida; Theo Bell, former wide-receiver with the NFL Pittsburgh Steelers and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers; Darryl Brown, National Coordinator, Southern Christian Leadership Conference/Youth Against Alcoholism and Drug Abuse.

SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE'S FALL WORKERS' MEETING

Theo Bell of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, formerly wide-receiver with the NFL Pittsburgh Steelers; Darryl Brown, Sr., National Coordinator of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference Youth Against Alcoholism and Drug Abuse; and Seville Brown of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference Youth Against Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, attended Southeastern Conference's Fall Workers' Meeting held at the Holiday Inn, Tampa International Airport, Tampa, Florida on Sept. 23, 1986. They challenged the workers to provide care and understanding for parishoners, since the inner city faces several acute problems relating to drug addiction, child abuse, and alcoholism addiction.

Theo Bell, personally escaped the clutches of these vices. His testimony, clear, moving and mind-gripping, declared in no uncertain terms what the power of God can accomplish if the will is bent in the right direction.

This activity plus the report of 800 plus baptisms for the three quarters of 1986 were the highlights of the Workers' Meeting.

YOUTH OFFICERS CELEBRATE ANNUAL GATHERING

Youth Ministries director, Elder Keith Dennis; Ronald Leonard, president of South Florida Youth Federation and his officers celebrated their annual gathering Sept. 12 and 13, at the Northside SDA



Elder Keith A. Dennis, Director for Youth Ministries, Southeastern; Barry Black, Chaplain for Naval Training Center, San Diego, California.

Church and the Miami Beach Convention Center, Miami, Florida.

Youth from Ft. Pierce to Key West, Florida under the capable guidance of their pastors and Federation officers created an atmosphere of worship and a program that demonstrated excellence.

Chaplain Berry Black of the Naval Training Center, San Diego, California requested the attendees make a lasting commitment to Christ during morning and vesper services. He brought Christ near to the hearers, and the Holy Spirit's presence was evident. Antwoyn Mells, a recent Oakwood College graduate spoke at the Northside church on Friday evening.

The music coordinator, Panchita Hendrix introduced several chorale groups and soloists which were superb. The children's musical participation in the evening was outstanding.

This annual event provided the young people with an opportunity to prepare for and share in the work of the church. The theme "Youth of the 80's, Champions for Christ" became a reality.

The South Florida Federation grows more cosmopolitan every year and it was rewarding to see the cross-section of participants in action.

President J. A. Edgecombe, Executive Secretary R. R. Brown, host for the Federation, Elder Edward Dorsey and a number of pastors were present to give moral and spiritual support to the august gathering of young people.

WOMENS' DAY AT MACEDONIA

The Macedonia SDA Church, Ft. Pierce, Florida held their first Womens' Day. "A Rainbow of Women on the March for Christ" was the theme. Dr. Sylvia Barnes, Professor of English at Oakwood College,

Huntsville, AL. gave the message for the Divine Hour. The R.C.M. Trio and the Messengers of Light Choir, both of Mt. Olive SDA Church, Apopka, Florida, provided special music.

In keeping with the day's theme, the A.Y.S. program paid tribute to the women of Macedonia for leadership roles played since the inception of the church.

After A.Y.S., the evening's activity entitled, "Holiday around the World," displayed foods representative of the seasons of the year, accompanied by a social.

A first for Macedonia proved to be a successful venture for the women that day. They raised over \$2,000 for the purchase of church furniture.



50th Wedding Anniversary of William L. and Marguerite Golson of Jacksonville, Florida.

50 YEARS OF MATRIMONY

William and Marguerite Golson celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 27, 1986, at Ephesus SDA Church, Jacksonville, Florida. Elders Mark Golson, son of honorees, performed the renewal of vows ceremony.

This affair was hosted by the eight Golson children and their families all of whom are holding positions of trust in the church or private industry.

The Golsons have fourteen grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

The preservation of the Golsons for 50 years of family life is an achievement for which God must be glorified.



Left to right: Elder and Mrs. Theus Young; Elder and Mrs. Eugene Armstead; Elder and Mrs. Julio Astacio; Elder and Mrs. Dennis Ross; Dennis Ross, Jr.; Harrison Paul, and other workers in crusade.

CITY-WIDE, MULTI-ETHNIC, "HOPE OF THE RACE CRUSADE"

One hundred souls were led to Christ as a result of the "Hope of the Race Crusade" held in Tampa, Florida. In addition to the 100, six other persons who were associated with the tent effort were also recently baptized.

Pastor Dennis Ross, Jr. recently appointed Associate Director of Church Growth for the Southern Union, conducted the six-week long tent meeting.

His support team consisted of his wife, Mrs. Jacquelyn Croumel Ross, Pastor Theus Young of Tampa churches; Mt. Calvary and Progress Village; and Pastor Julio Astacio of the Spanish churches, St. Petersburg Spanish and Emmanuel Spanish-Tampa.

The tent meeting was held on Buffalo Avenue and 26th Street in Tampa, Florida. Flanking the tent were a graveyard, housing projects, and a funeral home. To the east was an area where persons and/or establishments that were associated with alcohol and/or drugs were located.

Of the many special features associated with the crusade were Spanish translations provided by Pastor Julio Astacio and health sessions which were held three nights a week. Highlighted during the session were hypertension, social diseases, child abuse and home safety.

Special music was provided by Angelica Pizarro, the Crusade Choir, under the direction of Mrs. Jacquelyn Ross, the Memphis Community Choir of Memphis, Tennessee, Deadra Johnson, Gregory Johnson, Ronald Cooper, and a Haitian Trio.

Many new and old believers were inspired, uplifted, acquainted or reacquainted with Jesus and the Christian way of life as a result of this spirit-filled evangelistic meeting.

OAKWOOD COLLEGE



Dr. Benjamin F. Reaves, newly inaugurated president of Oakwood College.

NEW BEGINNINGS

by Camella Monk

Sunday, Sept. 21, 1986 marked the official day of "New Beginnings" at Oakwood College. Student Representatives, Oakwood College Board members, faculty, staff, special and distinguished guests, painted a very impressive picture in colorfully trimmed robes, as they gathered at the Eva B. Dykes Library for the long processional. They marched at a deliberately brisk pace, to the Oakwood College Church for the inauguration of Oakwood's ninth president, Dr. Benjamin Franklin Reaves.

In the greetings given by special guests, standards and values were emphasized repeatedly as the sources of success for Oakwood College. In his salu-

ation, Dr. Samuel Myers of the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education, noted that Oakwood has "Steadfastly resisted the trends" of our times. He added that those values will be the "salvation of our society."

Dr. Henry Felder, Deputy Assistant for Research, United States Department of Housing Urban Development (HUD), presented a framed letter to Dr. Reaves from United States President Ronald Reagan, which expressed the need for good, character-building schools. Delores Pickett, executive assistant to the governor of Alabama, offered sincere best wishes from governor George Wallace.



Elder Neal C. Wilson, president of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Elder Neal C. Wilson, President of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, presented the inaugural address. "Brothers and Sisters . . . let no minds be wasted," he said, paraphrasing the theme of the United Negro College Fund, "A Mind is a Terrible Thing to Waste." He offered the encouragement, "We have today, tomorrow and God's promises."

In comments to the writer after his address, Wilson said Oakwood receives repeated attention in General Conference meetings. Elder Wilson gave the assurance that Oakwood College was important to them, saying that it has a "distinctive ministry." He mentioned three parts of



Dr. Rosa Banks, vice president in charge of Development.

that ministry; Oakwood "preserves culture," it is important in "addressing issues", and "adding dimension" to our work. Elder Wilson directed his final words to the students, "Hang in there, we need you."

In tearful voice, Dr. Reaves accepted the mantle of responsibility as the president of Oakwood College. He gave thanks for his now-deceased mother and father, and for their God-given sensitivity that went beyond his "recalcitrance . . . stubbornness . . . and irresponsibility." Reaves pledges to bring that kind of perceptive sensitivity to Oakwood's students, "perceptive enough to see God's plan for each of their lives."

A health fair, scheduled for November 4, and 5 in the Blake Center Mall, will be the site of the next Blood Donor Drive at Oakwood College.

The fair will promote "Better Health for Better Living." First aid, drug abuse, sickle cell screening, blood pressure screening, self defense, dental health, and CPR demonstrations will also be featured.

ATTORNEY PATRICIA RUSSELL-McCLOUD VISITS OAKWOOD COLLEGE

The Arts and Lectures Committee of Oakwood College presented orator Patricia Russell-McCloud as a part of their "Great Moments" series for the student chapel program October 1, 1986.

Russell-McCloud rhymed in time, to express the importance of priorities and making good use of one's time: "... It's just a little minute, but a future is in it."

She continued to emphasize the present

conditions and the problems faced by the average Black person in years gone by—how we've had to struggle and fight for basic rights and liberties. "This time," she said, "it's a battle for the human mind."

Her prescription for success today: "Excellence without Excuse."

Russell-McCloud, an attorney, presented her address the way a lawyer would. First, there must be facts. "What time is it?" she asked rhetorically. "Be mindful of the late hour," she admonished. She warned that fair competition has been eliminated. It is time for minorities and women to prove they are qualified and excellent, without excuse.

Russell-McCloud reminded an audience, alternately sitting in rapt attention or cheering her on, "Nothing comes to sleepers but a dream!" A student today must submit the evidence and bear the burden of proof. Life demands preparation. "After all," she advised, "no deposit, no return!"

GRAD NURSES MEET HIGH CRITERIA

Of the 20 nursing graduates for the 1985-86 school year, 19 have reported taking the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses. Sixteen have passed, 84 per cent of the class. The maximum score possible was 3,200, and those successfully completing the exam, did so with scores ranging from 1,610 to 2,674. Daisy Waite achieved the highest score among the group of Oakwood graduates.

According to Ms. Charlie Morgan, chairperson of the Oakwood Nursing Department, the area of study has grown tremendously over the last three years. The curriculum has been changed in the last couple of years, and the admission criteria raised to meet a higher caliber of students.

During the winter and spring quarters of 1985, the basic philosophy and concepts of the Nursing department were developed extensively. The program was submitted to the Alabama Board of Nursing in May, 1985, and approved.

In November, 1985, the Nursing department was evaluated by the Board of Nursing and received full four-year approval-accreditation but still awaits the final OK. The department is presently preparing for the National League of Nursing accreditation in 1989.

The staff would like to implement the four-year program by the fall of 1988. They are steadily improving the curriculum in order to remain current and plan to

increase the performance rate on the Licensure Exam.

Because the curriculum has been revised, prerequisite years are now required. The students must do two years of clinical nursing and courses to earn the Bachelor of Science degree. Students are more serious now that the requirements are tougher and more is expected of them.

A learning-assistance program introduced in the fall of 1985 was designed to help students learn more effectively in less time, and increase retention. This was one of many things done to improve the Nursing department and build student motivation. The faculty members also attend workshops on curriculum development, and test construction skills.

"Curriculum is an on-going process," said Morgan. Curriculum development meetings will be held twice a month for the next two years for the sole purpose of designing new courses.

"Nursing requires a lot of hard work," emphasized Ms. Morgan. "There is no place for laziness or undisciplined characters, because there is a lot to learn. The field is constantly changing and growing."

MAYOR OF HUNTSVILLE VISITS JOURNALISM CLASS

Mr. Joe Davis, Mayor of Huntsville, gave a press conference for a group of Oakwood journalism students, Tuesday, Sept. 30, in the Blake Center conference room. He came specifically to help the members of the Introduction to Journalism class fulfill an assignment: coverage of a public official at a press conference.

Davis spoke on his political career and on some of the controversial issues that have shaped his 18-year term as the city's mayor. He listed "I-5/65" and the Von Braun Civic Center as two major struggles and victories credited to his administration.

Huntsville's city limits have actually grown away from Oakwood College, however, the mayor expressed his regard of Oakwood, saying, "Whenever they call me, I come." He added later that of the three college and university campuses in the area, Oakwood is his favorite.

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OBITUARIES

Eva Beatrice Dykes was the sole surviving daughter of James and Martha Dykes. Her father and three uncles were graduated from Howard University, Washington, D.C. Her mother attended Howard University but, due to illness, withdrew before completing her degree. Her sisters Anita and Flossie graduated from what was then known as the Academy of Howard University. Their maternal uncle, Dr. James Howard, was a special influence on their lives and was directly responsible for the family's contact with the Adventist Movement.

Born in Washington, D.C., August 13, 1893, Eva attended public schools in Washington, D.C. and graduated from Howard University with a B.A. degree, summa cum laude. She then attended Radcliffe College and received another Bachelor of Arts degree, magna cum laude, and a Master of Arts degree. In 1921 she graduated from Radcliffe on June 22 with a Ph.D. degree. She specialized in English, Latin, German and Greek.

Eva taught at Walden University, Nashville, Tennessee; Dunbar High School and Howard University in Washington, D.C. In 1944 she resigned her position at Howard University to join the faculty at Oakwood College.

She died on October 29, 1986, at the age of 93. Eva loved Oakwood and described this community as "The Place Where Loveliness Keeps Hours."

Eva Beatrice Dykes leaves a nephew, John Milton Simms; a niece, Anita Monte; a cousin, Agnes Dykes Barksdale; a grandnephew, John Milton, Jr.; three grandnieces, Theresa, Stephanie, and Diedre, and one great-grandnephew, Tyrone, Jr.; two great-grandnieces, Tanya and Angela.

There are numerous personal friends she considered her extended family—Inez Booth and family, Mervyn and Barbara Warren and family, Myrtle Murphy, Helen Sugland, Paul and Virgie Winley and many, many others.

Were she to address us in person today she would use the words of Alfred Lord Tennyson to direct our thoughts at this time:

*Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me! And may
there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea. But such a
tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam, When
that which drew from
out the boundless deep
Turns again home. Twilight and*

*evening bell,
And after that the dark! And may
there be no sadness of farewell,
When I embark; For tho' from out
our bourne
of Time and Place
The flood may bear me far, I hope to
see my Pilot face to face
When I have crossed the bar.*

Such was the belief of Eva Beatrice Dykes. May it be shared by all. When we have crossed the bar after an eventful and fruitful life, may we, too, be so faithful that we may be met by the Pilot Jesus with the greeting: Well done! Thou hast been faithful over a few things. I will make thee ruler over many!

Mrs. E. Patterson of Covington, Kentucky passed away during the month of October. She had been a charter member of the church since its establishment by Elder R. Peay during the early 1950's.

Mrs. Dorothy J. Harvey, member of the Riverside Chapel in Nashville, Tennessee went to her rest on October 18 after a long illness.

Malissia Hutton Berry was born on Aug. 30, 1924, to the late Beatrice Forbes, in Greensburg, Louisiana.

She married Willie E. Berry on March 4, 1943 in Bowling Green, Missouri. Out of the wedlock one child was born, Amy Priscilla.

She and her husband joined the Adventist Faith in an evangelistic effort held by Elder W. W. Fordham Sept. 13, 1947 in Baton Rouge, LA. As a result of this effort, they were physically involved in the building of the first Seventh-day Adventist Church in Baton Rouge, LA., under the leadership of Elder C. E. Bradford.

Malissia had a great love for nature! As a result, she was the founder and first president at the now, Berry's Florist, Inc.

She departed this life on October 11, 1986 at 8:56 a.m. at the Methodist Hospital in Brooklyn, New York.

She leaves to mourn, her husband, Willie Elmer Berry; her daughter, Amy Priscilla and son-in-law, John H. Fentress, Jr.; three aunts, Lubertha Jackson, Sadie McCoy and Martha Bernard, all of Louisiana; 3 sisters-in-law, Florence Owens of Memphis, Tenn., Shirley Raymond and Alma Jones, both of California; a host of cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Those we hold most dear never leave us. They live on in the kindnesses they showed, the comfort they shared and the love they brought into our lives.

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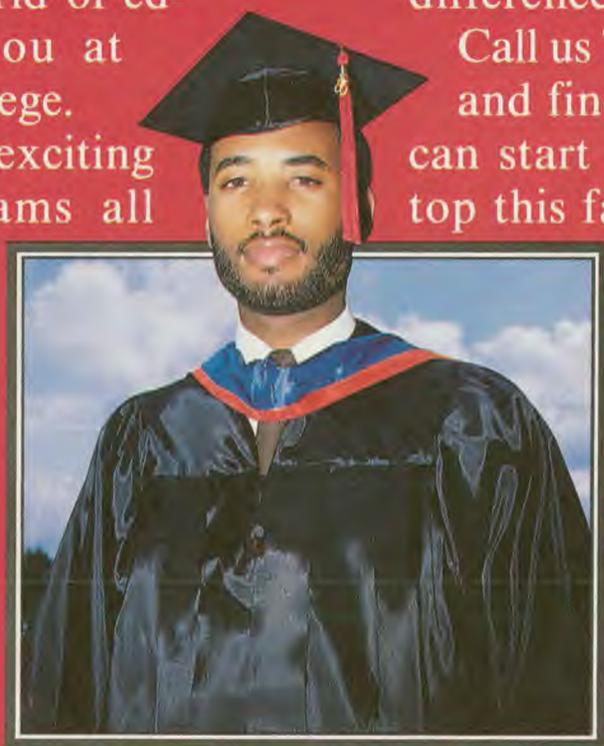
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