

SOUTHWESTERN UNION

RECORD

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**Choosing God's leadership has brought
a lifetime of blessings and joy.**

(See page 5)

Editorial

Choices

We make them every day, And they shape our destiny



Pliable, a character in the allegory, *Pilgrim's Progress*, is described as very accommodating, but like a reed shaken by the wind. In other words, he stands for nothing and falls for everything.

Today's sad commentary seems to be of people of that same mind-set, people who are not sure what they believe and who follow any trend that comes along. Somehow we seem afraid to be different

from those around us. We feel comfortable when we all look and act alike and follow each other mindlessly.

Where are the individuals who are not afraid to stand out from the crowd, to strive harder, to deny self more and to accomplish the impossible—role models, as it were? Most of our role models are in the sports arena—the one who makes the most home runs, the one who catches the most

balls, or the one who swims the fastest, skates the best or runs the fastest. It's sad to see how these role models have a dark side as well, having made bad choices. Recently two of these heroes have died, one at 53 and the other at 63, because the choices they made destroyed their bodies.

The political arena is no better. Confusion and distrust are everywhere. Many political leaders and law enforcement officers can no longer be trusted—too many of them have betrayed our

trust. They too have made bad choices and have succumbed to the confused state of hardly knowing right from wrong.

And what about the church? How wonderful it would be if we could say that every Christian is a role model, a hero standing for the right. But even in the church, even with the power we can have from above, we are often swayed by questionable philosophies.

We need to be aware lest we, ourselves, become victims. "We are living in an atmosphere of satanic witchery," wrote Ellen White. "The enemy will weave a spell of licentiousness around everyone who is not barricaded by the grace of Christ." But she goes on to challenge us. "God's elect must stand untainted amid the corruptions teeming around them in these last days...The Spirit of God should have perfect control, influencing every action," *My Life Today*, E. G. White page 72.

When our boys were small, they loved to hear the stories of Daniel and his three friends, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. We read and reread these stories many times. What was it that attracted our boys and held their interest? It was those fearless youth who stood for what they knew to be right, even in the face of the fiery furnace and lions' den. Being different, standing out from the

crowd, and not doing what everybody else was doing made them strong. Called before a king furious with rage because they did not bow down to the image, Daniel's three friends could say with confidence "O Nebuchadnezzar, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king. But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up." Daniel 3:16-18 (NKJV).

"As the will of man cooperates with the will of God, it becomes omnipotent. Whatever is to be accomplished in His strength, all His biddings are enablings."

Christ's Object Lessons
E. G. White, page 333



"As I watch the evening news, it reassures me that the sacrifices we make each month to send our children to an Adventist school are all worthwhile. When you stop to consider the violence, anger and complete loss of control in many other schools, it is obvious that is not where you want young minds to mature," comments parent, Gary Ferguson. "Our schools are not a perfect environment, but they do endeavor to uphold high standards." Pictured above are principal Jerry McHenry with several of his science class students at Tulsa Junior Academy.

doubting the church and God's word. Compromise is slowly destroying the integrity and meaning of the church. The consequences of this are too awful to contemplate, but we must face reality.

In his quarterly newsletter, *Transformation*, Paul M. Dietterich, from the Center for Parish Development in Chicago, asks the question: What time is it? He answers himself by summarizing the four eras in the history of the church.

The early churches, 30-311 A.D., were made up of "small flocks" that were "contrast societies" whose norms and standards contrasted sharply with the standards of those times but who followed the scriptures.

The Imperial Church, 311-1789 A.D., was the period when the Christian church became the official religion of Rome and was used as an agent of the state to Christianize the world, even at sword point if necessary.

During the Establishment Church, 1789-1960 A.D., membership in mainstream churches in North America was closely tied with political, social, economic, legal and military powers.

The Post-Establishment Church is from 1960 and onward. Dietterich says, "At the current time, North America and western Europe are slowly but steadily being dechristianized as 53,000 persons permanently leave the church from one Sunday to the next."

In place of becoming frightened by the loss of members, money and influence, this trend should become a God-given opportunity to "make fundamental changes—not minor little tuning and adapting adjustments within the old paradigm, but sweeping system-wide and strategic changes leading to a more biblically-based 'ecclesial' paradigm in order to become

"Always keep your life measured by the standards of Jesus. Bow your neck to His yoke alone, and to no other yoke whatever; and be careful to see that you never bind a yoke on others that is not placed by Jesus Christ."

Oswald Chambers

more faithful to their Divine calling and mission." If this doesn't take place, he foresees a continual decline which will end in a dead church.

Dietterich suggests three strategic steps:

- ◆ "Develop new ways of perceiving and thinking about what God is calling the church to be and do in the world;
- ◆ "Redefine what it means to be 'faithful' and 'effective,' using the New Testament norms and standards rather than cultural norms and standards;
- ◆ "Develop totally new ways of behaving as the called people of God."

Although the Seventh-day Adventist Church is not considered mainline, in many areas it is fast becoming just like all other mainline churches, with members compromising and having little regard for its values and teachings—a scary thought!

When God looks down from heaven above, is He pleased with the way we act and think and worship? Does He find us honoring Him in our lifestyle and behavior? Parents are particular about the way their children behave, so what about God, our heavenly Father—should our behavior not be such that He is happy to call us His children? 1 John 5:3 (NIV) says, "This is love for God: to obey His commands. And His commands are not burdensome, for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome

the world, even our faith."

There are many who, like Daniel and his three friends, have made the choice to follow God regardless of the consequences—modern role models who have determined to choose doing right without

hesitation. Their thinking is not blurred, but rather their faith and trust in God is unswerving.

Jean Thomas, Editor

Choices

How do we know what's right in this changing society?

How often we find ourselves faced with a decision of compelling influence which requires an immediate, unrehearsed answer regarding our cultural mores, values, customs or standards. This becomes more complicated when our beliefs are fuzzy or unclear. Even Christian relationships can become strained at times when one member looks askew at another, focusing the eyebrow of "church standards" upon attitudes or actions of another that are not similar to their own. Of course, the problem often stems from a perception nurtured in the customs, values, or standards we ascribe to personally.

It is not unusual to hear an individual exclaim that "the church is letting down the standards!" Quizzically one may inquire, "What standards?" Nor is it uncommon to find such a one hard-pressed to identify a specific standard that is being flagrantly lowered. The usual answer is, "I feel the church standards

are being lowered," when in actuality he or she feels uncomfortable with change!

In this world change is inevitable! Every day something new or different crops up. Often these changes cause stress in our lives, and we readily avoid and resist their influence because they make us feel out of control. Even Moses resisted change when God called him at the burning bush to deliver Israel (Exodus 3). On the other hand, for growth to take place change is inevitable. (Even our bodies change with age!) And the church, since it is made up of individuals who live in a world of changes, must change, or be changed, to meet today's needs.

The dilemma we face today focuses on how we differentiate between standards, our customs and values which are based on God's word, rather than those formulated by individuals, groups, communities and societies. There is a need for guidelines and standards—the correct way of doing things—yet there needs to be a latitude to allow for change. In our decision making, let us keep our thinking focused and clear on what God requires of us and not what man may or may not conjure up in his mind. God has given us values and guidelines which change not, however the times may change!

*Ralph P. Bailey
Cleburne, Texas*

Choices

What should be the determining factor?

The other day I overheard several individuals lamenting the "lowering" of some of the church's standards. I began to wonder, "Why do we have standards? Who determines what they should be? What is the relationship between standards and principles?" I think these are valid questions

which demand a reasonable answer—at least more than a “because that’s the way we do it” answer.

Every person and every people-group has standards. They are unavoidable. They identify what a person or group regards as important, what is preferred or valued. It is important to recognize that standards may or may not be moral in nature.

A **non-moral standard** could be how many raisins should be in one slice of “raisin” bread. This is literally a question of taste, not morals. Yet, every bakery and every bread-maker has its standard in this area.

A **moral standard**, on the other hand, is remembering to keep holy the seventh day Sabbath. This is a moral standard, since it is a part of God’s ten commandments. Sabbath observance is a **standard**, but how we keep the Sabbath holy is a matter of **principle**. And that principle is a growing love-relationship with Jesus.

Let me explain: The purpose of the Sabbath, and this is true of all God’s commandments, is that we might come into a closer, more trusting relationship with Jesus. Sin has alienated us from God (Isaiah 59:2). It is the purpose of God that the Sabbath provide a time when we can fellowship with Jesus, spend time getting to know Him better, and come to better perceive and understand His love for us. As a result, it is His plan that we come to love Him more. Then, because of our increased love for Him, we re-commit ourselves to honoring His name in every aspect of our lives.

“God’s kindness leads you to repentance.”

(Romans 2:4)

If this is true, then proper Sabbath observance includes anything which helps me to

better understand and appreciate God’s love for me. Improper Sabbath activities would include anything which detracts or distracts from Jesus.

“By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” John 13:35

It is important that we realize that the specifics of quality Sabbath observance may vary from person to person and culture to culture (even as the specifics of being a loving spouse vary from culture to culture).

The **Ultimate Standard**: Why is this important? Because understanding this concept goes a long way toward making me more loving and tolerant of others. And isn’t that the ultimate standard for my Christian experience (John 13:35)?

*Sherman McCormick, Pastor
Tulsa, Oklahoma*

Choices

Provision has been made for making the right choices.

The king had invited his closest friends to come to his son’s wedding feast as described in Matthew 22. He was even going to provide the wedding garments—what a deal!

The results, however, proved disastrous. No one wanted to come, and some even became hostile! The king was quite upset, so he commanded his messengers to go into the streets and invite anyone who would come, and many came.

You’ll recall, however, that one man came dressed in his own clothes, which he thought

were better than those provided by the king. The insubordinate was quickly thrown out and forgotten. What does this story have to do with us, as contemporary Christians?

I work in the marketing department of a major portrait photography studio in the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex. Let’s say that one day I decide, “Hey, this doing what the boss tells me to do is all ‘works-oriented.’ My boss made the sacrifice of putting me on the payroll, which I have gladly accepted. But that’s all I have to do. My boss loves me and will accept me, no matter what I do.

“And this dressing for success thing—it’s all a farce! There’s nothing I need to do, in and of myself, to make an impression. The studio’s image is enough to cover me. Therefore, I’m going to stop worrying about my appearance. I no longer need to shower or shave or comb my hair. I’m also going to stop recruiting new clients. Let them come to me, where I’m at.”

Sound outrageous? I wouldn’t keep my job for long, that’s for sure!

But let’s look at it from a different angle for a moment. How many times have you heard Christians say, “Hey, this doing what Jesus tells me to do, it’s all ‘works-oriented.’ Jesus died on the cross for me and I have accepted that gift, but that’s all I have to do. Jesus loves me, and He’ll accept me, no matter what I do.

“And this acting like a Christian thing—it’s a farce! There’s nothing I can do, in and of myself, to stop sinning. Christ’s righteousness is enough to cover me. Therefore, I’m going to stop worrying about my sins. I no longer need to have devotions, or pray, or go to church. I’m also going to stop reaching out to others with the love of Jesus. Let them come to me where I’m at.”

But, you ask, Dave, isn’t

Christ’s righteousness and painful death on the cross enough to cover all my sins? Yes. Does Christ accept us the way we are? Yes. Does Christ love us unconditionally? Yes. But we need to understand that if we don’t put on Christ’s garment of righteousness because we still have some cherished sins, we will forfeit eternal life.

Christ is inviting us to eternal life. He has given us special clothes—what a deal! It’s up to us to accept Christ’s righteousness to cover our imperfections. We have to accept this gift and wear it every day.

*Dave Tucker
Dallas, Texas*

Choices

Ours was a difficult one, but God came through with His promise.

It all began when we found a postcard for a free Bible in a *Signs* magazine. After studying the Bible for several months with an Adventist couple, my wife and I decided to join the church through baptism.

Once we had studied about tithing, we made a decision to begin right away to return to God that which was His. That first month before we paid our bills we made out the tithe check. That left us with two bills amounting to \$40 and no grocery money for the month. Confronted with these facts, Barb and I knelt to pray. We acknowledged God as the Owner of all things and expressed our belief that He would provide for our needs.

As we were ending our prayer the doorbell rang. A couple from the church stood there with their arms filled with sacks of groceries. They said that while praying they were impressed to bring us this food.

Then we shared with them that we had just prayed for our

needs. All four of us were overwhelmed with God's leading, and right there the four of us offered a prayer of praise and thanksgiving.

That was not the end of the story. Within the next few days we received an unsolicited \$60 from three different people. We were able to pay the remaining bills and had money for the rest of the groceries we needed.

As I write this, I think back over the last 20 years as a Seventh-day Adventist Christian, and I'm amazed at how God has provided for all of our needs as we have honored Him by returning to Him our tithes and offerings.

Dave Slee, Lancaster, Texas

Choices

We've had such joy in following God's leading!

Picking cotton on that North Texas farm was not easy. That black land with plenty of rain and hot sunshine produced great cotton crops. Coming in from the cotton patch one hot August evening, 17-year-old Ben, wiping his brow, approached his father with words that were music to the father's ears!

"Papa," he said, "I've been doing some serious thinking. I would like to go to our school in Keene this year and study to become a minister. Would that be all right with you?"

Father Hassenpflug was a zealous Seventh-day Adventist convert from the Lutheran Church, and he had hoped and prayed that at least one of his seven sons, of whom Ben was number six, would become a preacher. Ben's request thrilled him. Ben would live up to the nickname of "preacher" with which his brothers and sisters had already dubbed him!

Thus began a saga that has lasted 70 years—one that is still on-going. Picking out the highlights of such a long and

active life is both a challenge and a delight.

Starting as an academy sophomore, Ben spent five busy years at Keene looking forward to marching down the aisle for his diploma, but that privilege was denied him by a hail storm that shattered the windows, allowing the heavy rain to beat on the audience awaiting the ceremonies. He, with others, received his diploma several weeks later by mail. Ben's introduction to evangelism followed immediately after receiving his diploma. He spent a summer working in evangelism, during which time the team raised up a new church of 130 members. As a result, Ben knew that his call to the ministry was for certain.

From there he made his way to Lincoln, Nebraska, where he enrolled at Union College for a B.A. degree in theology. He took more graduate work in later years. It took many hours of hard work, but as Ben says, "All God's biddings are enablings." It was here at Union that he met the greatest asset of his life (according to Ben)—a young woman by the name of Lucile Miller. Since they were both juniors, they enjoyed taking many of the same classes. Friendship flourished into romance and upon graduation in 1932 they were married by Lucile's grandfather. He tied such a good knot that it still holds after 63 years!

Lucile knew from the beginning that her life with this committed young preacher would never lack for diversity and challenging activity. Now, newly graduated and married,



Ben and Lucile Hassenpflug

and at the height of the great depression, the church Ben had helped to raise sent an earnest plea for them to come back there to start a 10-grade church school. Lucile taught grades 1-5, and Ben taught grades 6-10. Their combined salary was \$36 per month and a two-room honeymoon suite! Oh, the members brought them all the oatmeal they could eat, and they also found out that sweet potato sandwiches, although choky, were filling!

After two years of teaching, they began their aggressive career in evangelism, first as conference evangelist, then union conference evangelist, then union ministerial secretary and evangelism coordinator. Moving from place to place, with local assistants, this two-member-team held evangelistic crusades in seven of the then nine union conferences in North America. Between these efforts, a seven-year term of instructive evangelism was spent in South Africa—an interesting saga all its own. Lucile also managed to squeeze in 20 years of teaching in church schools and public schools—another saga.

Two mottoes which have helped make life easier are "Do Things Together," and "Bloom Where You Are Planted."

After 44 active years, retirement finally arrived in 1976. But Ben likes to quote H.M.S. Richards, "Retirement is like Sunday keeping; you can't find it in the Bible." Thus, Ben's ministry never abated, and wherever it led him, Lucile was not far behind.

One of their joys in retirement has been their role as leaders and coordinators of retired church workers affairs and activities in local churches, conferences and the Southwestern Union. In their mission stints in the Far Eastern Division, South Pacific, Borneo, and trips back to Africa, they have always found that all of God's biddings are

enablings. God has never failed them. And their prayer is, "Even so, come Lord Jesus. Please let it be in our day!"

*Lucile Hassenpflug
Keene, Texas*

Choices

Amazing are the changes we've made, since we chose Jesus' way!

My family has experienced a lot of sadness and pain—which only Jesus could take away. Unless you see a bit of our past, you won't appreciate where we are now.

My parents died while I was a teenager, and it made a permanent mark on my life. My husband's parents divorced when he was a baby, and he's had only one contact with his father since then.

During our growing-up years we took two different



Tony, Marty and Shannon Siffles

roads. I took the "I don't care" road—people didn't seem to care about me, so I didn't care about them. "Leave me alone, and I'll leave you alone," was my attitude. I erected a wall up around my heart. Nobody could get in, and I wouldn't let me out. I felt that if I didn't care about anyone, then I couldn't get hurt.

Tony traveled the "why was I born?" road. "I didn't ask to be born. Why can't I die?" was his favorite saying. He cared about people, but he didn't

care about himself.

I believe that Jesus was always with us. But we didn't know it.

Before we got married we made a vow that only death would tear us apart. When our son Shannon was born, we knew he was a miracle from above. Finally we had a family of our own! I prayed every day that God would let me live until Shannon grew up, so he wouldn't have to go through the pain I'd experienced. And Tony? He had two big reasons to live now.

Years came and went, and then at some point in our lives we realized life has to have a purpose; there must be a meaning. We believed in God, but we didn't have much to do with Him. We didn't realize then how much He had been active in our lives. (We understand it a little better now.)

We made a choice

We began attending church. We sat in the back pew and never said a word. I sometimes wonder if anyone knew we were there. As soon as the service ended, we left. We wanted to serve Jesus and to love Him, and yet we both felt unworthy. Could the King of the universe really love us?

Little by little we began to grow. And yet we still kept to ourselves a lot—not trusting, not really sure.

Our Lord and Savior had different ideas. "If you are willing," He seemed to say, "I'll use you." It seemed strange to us. Tony was quiet and shy, unsure of himself. I was strong-willed, tell-you-what-I-think, stubborn. Could God use us?

Our lives changed

We knew that Jesus was what we'd been looking for, so we were baptized. We gave our Lord 100% of ourselves. No matter how imperfect we appeared in our own eyes, we believed He would accept us. It felt like going home.

We prayed: "Here we are,

Lord. Use us." And use us He did!

Since that time, just three years ago, we've both become immersed in work for Jesus. And we sit on the front pew now, because we know Jesus loves us—and we've had such little love in our lives.

See the difference

Tony has become head deacon and helps teach a Sabbath school class. He's not quiet and shy anymore—not about our Savior and His love. He talks about Jesus everywhere he goes.

I've learned to care about people, because Jesus cares about me. The walls around my heart have been broken down by the Man from Galilee. I'm still headstrong and stubborn, but Jesus is working on that. I'm head deaconess, community services leader, and treasurer. Tony and I give Bible study lessons to anyone who asks. And of course Shannon is a part of the church too.

Tony Stiffles

We feel secure in God's hands, and we trust Him as we've never trusted anyone. The greatest gift He gave us was His Love! We can never repay Him for that, but we'll spend eternity trying.

Marty Stiffles
Duncan, Oklahoma

Choices

The difference I saw in my parents motivated me to change.

I joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church because, at first, my parents made me go. But one Sabbath when I awoke, I felt I wanted to go too. I learned a lot about God that day. I started asking questions about Him, and from



Shannon Stiffles (left) with his friend, Rusty.

then on I wanted to learn about the Lord.

I began to see the difference Jesus made in my parents' lives. I talked to my mom and asked questions about the Sabbath and other things. She always showed me the answers from the Bible. She explained that though other churches had doctrines and beliefs that weren't founded in the Bible, she believed the Bible is the only book upon which we should base our lives. "It's God's way of talking to us," she explained.

I shared my faith with Rusty, and he made a choice.

My friend Rusty and I met in the first grade and have been best friends ever since. He asked me questions about why I went to church on Saturday instead of Sunday. He said he'd always been taught to attend church on Sunday.

So one day I asked him to come to church with me, and he came. The Lord spoke to his heart and he realized that he was doing the right thing. He began to ask my mom questions like I used to do. She never seemed to mind talking about Jesus and answering our questions. My parents gave us Bible studies, and after a time, Rusty and I were baptized together—as friends and believers in the Lord.

I'd like to thank my parents and Pastor Bill Boyd and his wife Susie for sharing Jesus with me. But mainly I thank the Lord for showing me the right way and sending people to help me. I'm proud to be a Seventh-day Adventist.

We shared our faith with Rusty's grandpa, then he made a choice.

Right after Rusty and I were baptized, our church sponsored a Revelation Seminar. Rusty's grandfather, David Gann, attended almost every one. He's receiving new light and new truths. Our prayer is that he too will join God's remnant church.

It's amazing how God uses people to bring others into His fold. One person helps lead another to Christ, then that person leads someone else, and on and on it goes. It's truly wonderful what God can do . . . when folks are willing.

Shannon Stiffles
Duncan, Oklahoma

Choices

The choices we made have brought rich dividends

When I left our Roswell church in New Mexico to attend the General Conference session in Utrecht, The Netherlands, I was hoping for a possible reunion with former students or acquaintances from 12 years ago when my husband and I served as missionaries in Africa.

Imagine my surprise while waiting at the Dulles airport for a connecting flight to meet Dr. Paul Yeboah, a former Ghanaian student, also heading for Utrecht!

"Madame Jordan!" he



Richard and Jeanne Jordan, who spent 12 years in Ghana and Rwanda teaching in both secondary education and college education.



Dr. and Mrs. Japheth Agboka at one of the African crafts booths at the General Conference session in Utrecht, The Netherlands.

exclaimed in happy surprise. "Your labors are bearing fruit. Many of your students are in leadership positions in both the church and in high places." Yeboah's own ministry has included generous support of missions and planting of churches, not only in his homeland, but also in London and New York City.

While in Utrecht I made several attempts to locate someone from Rwanda who could tell me about the people I knew from there. Finally I came upon Elie Nsengiyumva sitting in a booth behind some basketry from Rwanda. He had been one of our students at Gitwe whom we had helped fund through the Adventist University of East Africa in Kenya. His current position is director at Gitwe Adventist Secondary School—the very post my husband had previously held. "Madame, it was you and your husband who launched me on the right road," he said.

Another Ghanaian student I met was Dr. Japheth Agboka, currently holding the position of communication director of the Africa-Indian Ocean Division and editor of the *African Adventist Review*.

Encounters such as these have made me realize that the choices we make and the influence we have on others to make good choices provide some of the most meaningful experiences in life. I don't have to wait for a "reward" in God's kingdom; I have had it right here by meeting these former students. *Jeanne W. Jordan*
Roswell, New Mexico

Choices

I'm so glad I chose the better way!

Becoming a Seventh-day Adventist was one of the most exciting, yet frightening experiences of my life. It was frightening because of the way Adventists live. They set such high values and standards for themselves.

Before I became an Adventist my life was very different from what it is now. I tried hard to fit in with what was "popular," and I lowered myself to do things I'm not proud to admit to, but at that time I thought it was cool.

My two best friends are Seventh-day Adventists, and they have always cared for and loved me no matter what I've done. What started as irregular church visits soon became a permanent part of my week. Every Sabbath you could see me sitting in church. Eventually I was saved and then baptized.

I've tried my hardest to change my ways to fit my new-found religion, but I could not have done it without God's help and the love and support of my Adventist family.

One experience that really stands out in my mind happened even before I was baptized. My family has always eaten pork. It used to be one of my favorite meats. One day I came home from church to find that my dad had cooked pork my favorite way. When I told him I couldn't eat it, his first reaction was anger. But then my parents became proud of me



Crystal Sanders (center) with her two best friends, Shawwna and Shelley Stepp.

for standing up for my faith.

I'm not saying that my lifestyle is perfect, but I feel a lot better about trying to live it the way God wants me to. I've discovered things I never knew before—such as a conscience.

Before I found the Lord I had an empty place in my heart, but now I feel happy because I'm living the way God wants me to and I'm letting Him guide as I make decisions. Each person is different, but for me, the love and support of my family and friends has helped a great deal, not to mention God's loving guidance. I am so happy I have decided to follow God's way.

Crystal Sanders
Comanche High School Junior
Brownwood Church, Texas

Choices

It's been exciting helping my friend make the right choice.

"A friend of mine was interested in the church but wanted to know about the



Keith Weber

Bible," says Keith Weber of Albuquerque in telling about his first Bible study. "My dad was having studies in Spanish with her family.

Since she doesn't speak Spanish, I offered to give her the lessons in English.

"I was nervous about what I was going to say and everything," recalls Keith, "but it wasn't as scary as I had thought."

His friend made her decision and was baptized. "There are few things that come close to that kind of feeling," continues Keith, "to see someone make the right choice to follow Jesus. It's just amazing!"

Here's what Keith says in sharing with others who would like to give Bible studies. "I would find it hard to go up

and ask someone if they would like to study the Bible. But you don't really have to do that. They notice you're different, and they'll ask you about your style—like why you don't smoke or why you go to church on Saturday. Answer their questions, or if you don't have the answer, say, 'I'm not sure, but why don't we study it together?' Then maybe, little by little, you can get more into it."

Michelle Sturm
Editorial Assistant
Insight Magazine

Choices

We make a difference by adopting sound values.

In a world where we are bombarded by so many conflicting standards and



Amy Jenkins

values regarding dress, sex, music, movies and healthy lifestyle issues, as a young Christian I feel that the decisions we make in our daily lives will, ultimately, affect the direction that the church will go in the future. We must always guard ourselves in the values we choose, because as each generation cycles, the moral code of society continues in a downward spiral, and what was once incomprehensible becomes acceptable.

Therefore, we must set our standards high to keep ourselves apart from the secular world. By making clear the distinct differences between right and wrong, we can set an example to showcase the blessings of living a lifestyle worthy of the name Christian.

Amy Jenkins, Student
Southwestern
Adventist College

Choices

They're easier to make because of my value system

My values affect all my decisions—from what I choose to wear every morning to the career path I have decided to follow. I chose teaching, because I want to have the opportunity to touch children's lives and hopefully leave them with a positive influence. It's so important that children learn how to choose the values they will use to govern their decisions throughout life.

In some areas, I still have a hard time determining if I am being guided by my attitude or my values. How I feel about something does not mean it is wrong or right. Of course there are times when I will not do something that I enjoy, because I feel it is inappropriate. I know, however, that in the end I will be happier for having avoided it. Following the values I have chosen will occasionally mean doing something I don't like because I feel I should.

It's taken me quite a few years to become comfortable with my values and I still have far to go, but with God's help, the decisions I make will grow more and more in accordance with His will. *Jennifer Philbin*

Student at Southwestern Adventist College

Choices

When God guides, we don't have to fear the consequences.

A few years back I began to sense I was coming to a new place in my spiritual walk. It seemed that no matter how hard I tried or how much

prayed, I had a few "corners" that were not being illuminated by Christ's light. I wanted to let God's power and presence touch all of my being. I desperately desired to know God in His fullness. Still something was wrong.

In my life I had some stubborn, entrenched sins. Oh, not the obvious ones, of course! Not drinking or lying or cheating on my wife. I taught Sabbath school. I preached. I was an elder in my local congregation. I prayed. I paid tithes. Outwardly all was well.

Still, each of us comes to a place in our Christian life when we begin to really see ourselves. This is not a pleasant experience. As I began to look within, I saw sin

of the worst kind: self-sufficiency, self-serving, self-righteousness, self-trust. I'm sure you get the point. The operative word is self.

How I cried! How I prayed! And how I read the Word. Then one day while I was crying out to God, I came to see that there was only one hope for my condition: Jesus Christ. I knew that my freedom from indwelling sin must lie in seeing Christ's character and what it cost to redeem me. With this in mind, I began to read the gospels anew.

Then God spoke to me. It wasn't an audible voice, but I knew without a doubt that it was a special message from my Father. I was to read *Desire of*

Ages. Yes, I had read it before, but I knew that this time I would be reading it with a new urgency and purpose.

And what I have found is that Jesus is love. He came to earth wrapped up in human flesh and was offered as a gift to the world. Christ was selfless. His whole life was given in service to suffering humanity for God's glory.

I've learned that when Christ comes into a life He changes it from being critical, judgmental and puffed up, to being a humble servant, wanting only to do God's will and for His glory.

James C. Alexander, Former Teacher, Harrison, Arkansas



SOUTHWESTERN UNION CONFERENCE OF
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

My dear fellow members:

Years ago, when Elder W. A. Spicer was the General Conference president, he visited China. Later when a missionary was sent to teach the people about Jesus, they responded, "Oh, yes, we know Jesus. He visited here with us for three weeks."

When Philip asked Jesus to show the disciples His Father, Jesus answered, "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father."

It's just as true in life today. We reflect our personal values and standards in virtually everything we say or do. When people look at you and me, as Seventh-day Adventists who claim to be the children of God, they should see Jesus just as clearly as the people in China saw Him in the life of Elder Spicer.

Our children sing, "We are climbing Jacob's ladder," and then go on to the second verse which says, "Higher, higher." Jesus is continually calling us to a higher standard.

Do you know anyone who truly lives and loves like Jesus? If so, then they probably look like Jesus, too. I am sure you will also agree their values and standards exhibit their fervent love for their Heavenly Father as it's exhibited by their compelling compassion for their fellowmen.

As you have read this issue of the Record, I'm sure you have been inspired by the real life experiences of many of God's people who live here in the Southwest. They demonstrate the eternal values and beautiful standards exhibited by the wonderful life of Jesus our Savior.

Sincerely your friend,

Cyril Miller
Cyril Miller, President

P.O. Box 4000 • 777 S. Burleson Boulevard • Burleson, TX 75028 • 817/285-0478 • Fax 817/447-2443

Southwestern Union

Members Choose to Follow God's Word

Because of Seventh-day Adventists' biblical understanding of last day events when liberty of conscience and freedom of religion will not be tolerated, every effort must be made by the membership to set forth the church in the very best light. This is being done by many of our members as they face Sabbath conflicts on their jobs. Their faithful obedience to Sabbath observance has provided opportunities to explain our faith and lifestyle to their non-Seventh-day Adventist employers. Only God will be able to measure the fruit of these witnessing encounters.

◆ Sherman Franklin, a postal worker and member in Houston, Texas, was terminated for his stand on the Sabbath, but after working through the system and after six months he was reinstated with a Sabbath accommodation and back pay.

◆ Michael George, a steel worker and member in Fort Worth, Texas, renewed his dedication to the Lord and requested Sabbath privileges. His employer, who wished to accommodate him, commented during the negotiations on how he wished his plant was full of "Michaels," who would be as diligent in their duties.

◆ Dewanna Golden, a new believer working for a chicken hatchery in Hope, Arkansas, was obedient to the commandment to rest on the Sabbath day. She received demerits which would lead to termination, but after communicating with her employer, she was assured this was a mistake and that she would not have to worry about not being accommodated in the future.

◆ William Hausherr from Monroe, Louisiana, refuses to drive his transport truck during Sabbath hours. Every time his supervisors change, which is often, he has to resubmit his request, sometimes written, sometimes oral. He explains that he cannot violate his conscience by working on Sabbath.

The PARL (Public Affairs and Religious Liberty) office stands ready to be of assistance to any-



Home Health Education Service personnel

one experiencing discrimination regarding race, religion, or sex. The Southwestern Union PARL office can be reached by writing to the Southwestern Union Conference, Box 4000, Texas 76097 or calling 817-295-0476.

*Samuel S. Green
PARL Director*

HHES Continues to Expand Services

When four new Home Health Education Service personnel were introduced to the Southwestern Union office staff at a farewell luncheon held for Betty Roberts, who was retiring after 13 years with HHES, someone said to Denton James, union publishing director, "Denton, do you mean to tell us that Betty was so efficient that you have to hire four people to do her job?"

James explained that this was not actually the case. "Our work in HHES is growing very rapidly. It's difficult for one person to handle the work that used to be adequate for one person to do. These four new employees are Southwestern Adventist College students who will work part-time, each with a specific assignment in accounting, secretarial or clerical work."

Roberts is leaving to accompany her husband, Bobby, who

has accepted an assignment to pastor a church on the island of Hilo in Hawaii.

Home Health Education Service salutes Betty Roberts for her many years of service.

"AMEN" Adventist MEN Ministries Weekend Retreat Just for Men!

God has designed Adventist men to be the best husbands, the best fathers and the best spiritual warriors in the world! He designed men to be contemporary, relevant, spiritual giants in a confused and evil world. Join other men at an inspirational, **SPIRITUAL WEEKEND RETREAT at Nameless Valley Ranch, November 3-5.** Registrations should be sent no later than October 20.

To reserve a place, fill in the information below:

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Send registration fee of \$50 with enclosed with this form to VanHurst, Texas Conference of SDA, P.O. Box 800, Alvarado, TX 76009



Betty Roberts

Arkansas-Louisiana

PETER A. KOSTENKO, CORRESPONDENT

The Best Camp Meeting Ever

The 2000 people who came to the Gentry, Arkansas camp meeting crowded into all the tent sites, the RV spaces, dorm rooms and motels for 25 miles around. Since the meetings ended, hundreds of letters have come pouring in from people who expressed their excitement and appreciation for a camp meeting that exceeded all expectations. "Please do this again next year," is what many are saying. "It's the best camp meeting we've attended in living memory."

What was so special about this Gentry camp meeting? For one thing, its planning took 12 lay people seven months of meeting two and three times a week to work out the details. So right from the beginning there was excitement and buy-in for the program.

For months volunteers spent their spare time working on the 70 acres down by Flint Creek where they installed RV hook-ups, tent sites, cement walkways, and cement-block bathrooms. By camp meeting time everything was in place, including the adult tent with 2000 seats. Initially, the Gentry church put up the funding for the campground improvements and bringing in special guests, but in the offerings taken on Friday night and



The uncomfortable metal chairs did not keep people from attending Dan Matthews' devotionals and Morris Venden's evening meetings.

Sabbath—we just took those two offerings—the people were so generous that we have enough to start working on next year's camp meeting."

The whole program centered around the family. The plans included meeting the needs of every age-group, beginning with one-year-olds and on through adulthood. "We had hundreds of volunteers who put in hundreds of hours to make the program a success," says Russ Potter, one of the initiators of the plan.

Everyone seemed so pleased to be at this old fashioned family camp meeting. Their singing during song service was so hearty, their prayers so earnest, and their conversations so heavenly-minded that everyone went home greatly blessed. Children's programs began at 8:00 in the morning and ran until bedtime.

Parents were free to attend all the meetings and workshops without having to be concerned about their children.

The main speaker each morning was Dan Matthews from *It Is Written*, who always presents thought-provoking sermons.

The evening speaker was Morris Venden. With his popularity as a dynamic speaker and writer, there was no problem of non-attendance at his evening meetings. His latest book, *Last Trolley Out*, was available and can still be purchased by those who have not had opportunity to buy one. The music was outstanding, with 22 different soloists and musical groups gracing the services with their talents.

Conference president, James Gilley, expressed his appreciation for the excellent meetings and gave the go-ahead for the lay people to plan a similar program for next year. "This is the best camp meeting I've attended in my life. Lay-sponsored programs like this are the wave of the future. It has certainly involved a maximum number of people to organize the program locally that cannot be done from a far distant conference office," was Gilley's evaluation.

One family has already made reservations for a number of RV sites for next year, and they plan for all their children to come. They're making camp meeting a time for a family reunion. "Many of the sites are already reserved, and most of the dormitory space has been spoken for," says Russ Potter. "Several new motels are being built in the area, including

a new Holiday Inn, so we hope there will be enough room for everyone who comes. We're planning for a crowd of 3,000," he concluded. The dates are already set for May 28 to June 2, and speakers and workshop presenters are being firmed up. Registration forms may be obtained by calling the Gentry church office at 501/736-8808.

OAA Enrollment Breaks 200

Ozark Adventist Academy opened this year with 210 students—the highest enrollment in eight years. This represents an increase of 35 students over last year. It is the highest jump in enrollment OAA has had in at least 20 years.

Contributing factors to this increase may include a strong recruiting program and active prayer support; however, the most significant factors may be God's blessing coupled with student satisfaction with their experiences during the previous school year.

Another indicator may be that 97 percent of last year's dorm students have returned to OAA this year. The other 3 percent did not return for reasons other than dissatisfaction with the school. Though room can always be made for one more, the dormitories are currently filled to capacity.

The staff are excited about the school year, and the students seem happy to be back.

Richard Aldridge, Principal
Ozark Adventist Academy



Bruce Aalborg, Gentry pastor, baptizes Lisa Drummond, her son Wesley and daughter Rachel in the creek at the Gentry campground.

Pathfinders Help Care for the Needy

The Bonnerdale Pathfinders do a lot during the year to help the less fortunate people in our community. They go door to door each year to collect canned food and non-perishable items. Then around Thanksgiving and Christmas they make up food baskets and give them out to those who need them.

The Pathfinders got together one evening this month and baked a bunch of cookies. Then on Sabbath afternoon they went around visiting the elderly in our community, taking them the cookies they had baked earlier in the week. The elderly people really enjoyed the Pathfinders coming by to visit. To some of them it's often the only visit they get for days at a time. We are proud of our Pathfinders here in Bonnerdale.

*Eddie Wynn
Pathfinder Leader,
Bonnerdale*

Pathfinders Experience "Nature After Dark"

You are walking along a boardwalk through several acres of woodlands where enormous elderberry and hackberry trees grow. Waterways are covered with lily pads, wild flowers and insects of every shape and color. All you hear are crickets, frogs, and birds. There's not a sound or sight of the modern world. It's hard to believe you are in New Orleans.

The Louisiana Nature Center is where the Baton Rouge, Houma and Slidell Pathfinders spent one of their most interesting weekends. We experienced a blend of social, cultural and educational activities. We were given "hands on" knowledge of the survival skills of animals.

Our "Nature After Dark" excursion gave us the opportunity to "touch" some friendly nocturnal creatures. The opossum was actually cute, but not as beautiful as the owl. Donning our "bionic ears" we set out in the woods (without flashlights) to listen to the sounds of the night. With the aid of these listening devices, we were able to pick up sounds of many animals and insects. We now know the differ-



Pathfinders from Baton Rouge, Houma and Slidell examine a turtle at the New Orleans nature reserve.

ence between the distress call and the mating call of the frog. Did you know that when your eyes get used to the dark you can see as well as a cat? Scanning for spiders was a treat.

Choosing a place to bed down for the night in the nature center was a thrill. Near the owl (who hooted faithfully at 2:00 a.m.), by the reptile cage, or nestled under the insect collection.

The "early bird" hike the following morning proved to be quite a trip. Backtracking on our night hike we were able to see things that had been hidden by the darkness.

After a scavenger hunt searching for sticky, prickly, fuzzy and moving objects, it was time to

load our gear and go our separate ways. Before leaving we thanked our Lord for giving us the chance to see, touch, smell and hear all the many wonderful things of nature He has given us.

*Brenda L. Guidry
Baton Rouge Pathfinder
Counselor*

A Singing Ministry Is Launched

One hot and humid Sabbath afternoon at the close of the church service at the New Iberia church, an unusual dedication service was held in the parking lot. The ceremony, guided by David Copsey, the pastor, involved the dedication of a Silver

Eagle bus which would be used in connection with a singing ministry.

One-and-a-half years were spent renovating the bus, and now it was ready for its mission. Owners Willard and Margie Ring are musicians and song writers who plan to share their talents with any church to which they are invited. The bus, "Homeward Bound," named after their theme song by the same name, is decorated at the rear with a picture of Christ. Using the title of another of their songs, "The City, God's Garden of Love," Margie and Willard had the sides of the bus painted with scenes of the holy city.

The Rings' hope and prayer is that they can be a blessing as they share God's love in song. They can be contacted at 318-828-3624.

Pathfinders Participate in Parade

Every year on the first Friday of August, Lloyd Peterson, who established a chicken processing plant which has become the primary source of income in Decatur, a town with a population of 1,100, and who is owner of the local discount store, the bank and restaurant, throws a big chicken barbecue for everyone in town. He does this to show his appreciation to the people who have helped him prosper.

This year, the 42nd annual



New Iberia church members who participated in the dedication of the Silver Eagle bus to be used in a singing ministry by Margie and Willard Ring.



The newly-formed Pathfinder club in Decatur participated in the annual chicken barbecue parade through the town.

NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION Prayer and Ministry Conference

A call to Prayer and Spiritual Revival

Gentry, AR — Gentry SDA Church

October 31 - November 4, 1995

Registration Fee: \$55.00

(fee includes needed materials, 4 noon meals) Lodging not included

For more information please contact:

GENTRY SDA CHURCH

21090 Dawn Hill East Rd. • Gentry, AR 72734 • 501/736-8808

of the boys in church the following Sabbath with his mother, grandmother and three siblings. Somewhere he had heard we were vegetarians and that there was to be a fellowship dinner after the

service, so he persuaded his family to come with him to church. We are praying this interest will grow.

*Ruby Roosenberg
Communication Secretary
Huntsville, Arkansas*



The 16 members of the Umpire, Arkansas church scored big when 28 non-Adventist children came to their vacation Bible school, along with three children from the church. One of the classes, pictured here, displays their crafts at the closing program on Friday night.

barbecue was held, and as usual, the town had games for the kids, a beauty contest, and the evening was topped off with a free concert in the park by a well-known country singer. As usual a parade was held in the afternoon for the approximately 2000 people who had gathered for the event.

What was unusual, however, was the Seventh-day Adventist entry in the parade. There was excitement among newly organized Pathfinders and Adventurers as they joined in the parade with their leaders Michelle Owens and Wanda Holley. They

are pleased they have had an opportunity to show the town that the Adventist church is interested in its youth.

VBS Brings Positive Results

We were delighted to have 29 children attend our Huntsville vacation Bible school, since more than half of them were from non-Adventist homes. We wondered what impact this would have on these children, especially since this was the hottest week of the summer.

Imagine our joy on seeing one

Oklahoma

JACK FRANCISCO, CORRESPONDENT

Survival Skills Keep Kids' Attention at VBS

The Stillwater, Oklahoma, SDA Church averaged 26 attendants at vacation Bible school, July 10-14, doubling the number

of participants from 1994. VBS director Tina Lynsky said 14 of this year's participants were not church members. Twenty-four of the VBS children, many of them with their parents, took part in a Sabbath program closing the week's activities.

Using the theme "Friends

Forever," division teachers Robin Sage, Audrey Sandvik, and Betsy Schrock taught the kids about Jesus and friendship through songs, outdoor games and Bible study. Crafts leader Marilyn Gates helped them with projects ranging from personalized photo-plaques for kindergartners to flying model rockets for juniors.

Christy Mitchell directed Jennifer Ireland, Monica Lynsky, Raven Redus, and brothers Aaron, Joseph, and Benjamin Gates in a skit emphasizing friendship. Beulah Cundiff, Ina Clary, and Thelma Radford helped with refreshments. "So many people helped behind the scenes with this year's VBS," said Lynsky, "I just want to thank them all."

Each evening, emergency or health personnel helped the VBS kids learn "survival skills." Stillwater police, firefighters, emergency medical technicians and a public health nurse talked about 911, fire safety, bicycle

safety and personal health care. The kids got close-up looks at a police car, patrol motorcycle, fire truck and an ambulance.

Lynsky, in her second year as VBS director, credits "word-of-mouth" for the increase in participation. "I think our personal invitations did as much good as the posters we put out. Of course, the survival skills programs and the rockets really peaked their interest as well." Lynsky said she looks forward to even greater attendance next year.

Steve Jones

"Famous Kids of the Bible" Appear at Bristow VBS

The Bristow SDA church held a successful VBS program led by Ann Hottal. The program focused on a larger-than-life Bible, and from its pages stepped "Famous Kids of the Bible."



One of the presenters for survival skills at the Stillwater vacation Bible school was a police officer, shown here explaining the different parts of his motorcycle.



Bristow vacation Bible school participants acting out the story of Esther.

Thirty children attended the program, which ran for two hours each evening. Outdoor activities and indoor crafts followed the song service every night. Many church members volunteered their time and help for the VBS program. The church is thankful for their witness to these community children.

Caroline A. Fisher, Assistant Communication Secretary

Teachers and Pastors Attend Joint Convention

What is traditionally known as Workers' Meeting took on a new slant this year with pastors and teachers being brought together for the first time for a joint convention.

The theme of Unity was brought into focus as teachers and pastors worshipped, worked and played together. Walter Wright, Southwestern Union Conference church ministries director, gave timely, thought provoking, and spiritually uplifting devotional messages.

Separate breakout sessions were held for teachers and pastors. LaVona Gillham, Georgia-Cumberland Conference educational specialist, met with the teachers to present the small school curriculum. They learned how to save time and still increase learning opportunities for their students. Gillham also held a "Make and Take" session during the afternoon recreation time.

More than half the teachers took part in this session. Southwestern Union Conference educational director, Doug Walker's session on Sunday gave valuable instruction to help teachers better manage their classrooms.

Pastors learned from Elders Bob Boggess and Walter Wright about evangelism and visiting strategies, as well as effective preaching techniques for the 90's.

The convention ended with a

communion service. Those in attendance expressed their appreciation for the time spent together. Comments such as "I thought it would be just another meeting, but this was the best I've been to," could be heard all over.

Sabbath Evening Vespers Brings Renewal

As a result of a vespers and worship series on Saturday nights at the Bristow Seventh-day Adventist Church, the members are experiencing a spiritual renewal which is making a difference in their personal lives. The video series is hosted by Gary Smalley, a psychologist who deals with family issues and how to improve relationships. Some of the topics include: Discovering Personality Types, Recognizing and Valuing Your Mate's Differences, Becoming Best Friends with Your Family, and Transforming Trials and Hurts into Life Changing Benefits. Almost every-

one who has attended has found a topic to which they can relate, laugh, and learn about.

Bernice Lee, who initiated this program in the church, feels this vespers series has helped support the church's small group approach to prayer and Sabbath school classes.

The turnout for the program has been encouraging, with 20 to 30 people attending consistently. Recently, small prayer groups have been started during the worship segment of the program.

Lee's interest in sharing her tapes has had many good results, but one she probably didn't think of was that she has been selected as personal ministries leader for the next year. Lee and her assistant, Caroline Fisher, are planning continuous vesper services with various themes for the rest of the year, and they hope to be instrumental in bringing the church family together and closer to Christ.

Caroline A. Fisher, Assistant Communication Secretary



LaVona Gillham and Beverly Roberts work together at the "Make and Take" session.

OKLAHOMA CONFERENCE FOOD AND BOOK DISPLAYS

Brought to you by your Adventist Book Center

Shattuck Church	Sat., Oct. 21	Following sundown
Hooker Church	Sun., Oct. 22	2-4 p.m.
Enid Church	Mon., Oct. 23	5-7 p.m.
Okeene Church	Sat., Nov. 4	Following sundown
Lawton Church	Sun., Nov. 5	2-4 p.m.
Ardmore Church	Mon., Nov. 6	5-7 p.m.

Pre-orders are suggested for all case foods.

Christmas is fast approaching, and what better gift to give than a gift from your Adventist Book Center such as the 1996 Devotional Book or one of the many new books that are published in the fall.

Call toll-free 800-522-2665 to place your pre-order.



Teachers and pastors learn the new meaning of pulling together during their convention at Wewoka Woods.

Southwest Region

B. E. WRIGHT, CORRESPONDENT

Ben Carson Speaks in Baton Rouge

Since Dr. Ben Carson's books, *Gifted Hands* and *Think Big*, had been part of the required summer reading for students at Southern University in Baton Rouge, the largest predominantly black university in the nation, it was natural that the students would attend his presentation, clutching their personal copies of his books. These autograph-seeking youth came, along with hundreds of people from the surrounding communities, to see and hear the famed neurosurgeon and author.

The "Saturday Academy Awards Ceremony," which was the closing exercise of the Saturday Academy concept, was the brainchild of State Representative Sharon Weston and a friend who three years ago had successfully persuaded the Louisiana legislature to pass the act creating the Saturday-held extended learning program.

Even though the local Adventist churches could not endorse or participate in the program, without their realizing it, they were exerting a positive influence through the spirit-filled philosophy of world-renowned Seventh-day Adventist doctor, Ben Carson, whose autobiographies were studied and used as the subject of essay contests and other writing assignments. Dr. Carson was invited as the guest speaker for the Friday closing exercises. Following a formal reception at the home of Dr. Delores Spikes, Southern University president, Dr. Carson crossed the street to Mayberry Hall where the evening's ceremony were held. He began by reminding his audience that concern and commitment for others is what causes a person to be regarded as great. He admonished the young people, in particular, to become aware of developments around them, since the industrial age which is now passing, needs to be phased into today's informational age.

Dr. Carson related how significant the impact was that his domestically-employed illiterate

single mother had made on him and his brother, how she stressed the need to develop their intellect to its fullest. Then he described the brain as the most sophisticated computer system in the world. "There is never a reason to utter 'I can't,'" he said. "God doesn't expect us to say, 'That's too hard.'"

He talked about how the fashion-minded are exploited by the fashion industry through the use of advertising. He talked about the role of men in the family and society. "Black males are an endangered species," he said. "When they enter kindergarten, they are as competitive as anybody else, but along the way they are led to believe they are inferior. This is mainly due to the concepts portrayed on television." The audience appeared stunned by his statistics: only 1 in 7000 will become a professional athlete, while 1 in 10,000 will become a professional entertainer.

After telling the young people that most people do great things when they are young, the 33-year-old Dr. Carson shared briefly the story of his role in successfully separating twins who were joined at the back of their heads.

Margaret Lawrence of the Baton Rouge Berean Church presented Dr. Carson a plaque on behalf of all the Adventists in the area. Following the awarding of certificates and additional acknowledgements, the moment youth and adults had waited for arrived—the opportunity for getting his autograph!

*Bill Wright
Communication Director*

Evangelism Takes on a New Face in Baton Rouge

Like so many other Adventist churches in the Southwest Region Conference, the Berean and Faith churches of Baton Rouge, Louisiana were a part of the soul-winning thrust known as Ebony Evangelism. So from June 10 to July 23, the two churches united their efforts to bring about a revival within their sphere of



During the Ebony Evangelism campaign in Baton Rouge, evangelist Jerry W. Lee, Jr. had a birthday. Standing with him to receive birthday wishes are his wife, Katherine, daughter Amber, and son, Jonathan.

influence.

The program included preaching by the conference evangelist, J. W. Lee, Jr. The gospel-filled song services led by Henry Jones and Oliver Moore seemed permeated by the Holy Spirit. An adjunct to the meetings was the food drive for the needy living in the vicinity of the meeting place. This drive, a brainstorm of the evangelist, brought visitors and members to the meetings who had canned goods, packaged foods, and staple items which were made into gift baskets. As a result, many of those who received the boxes are now members in these two churches.

A highlight of the series was advertised as "The Greatest Birthday Party in Baton Rouge—and You Missed It!" Even though we Adventists were sure this would be the presentation of the Sab-

bath, we had no idea that Evangelist Lee would orchestrate the type of celebration that took place.

Under the direction of Ivy Jones, the entire meeting place was transformed into a birthday party fit for a king. And our celebration of the seventh day was worshipping the Creator of the seventh day. The hall was decorated with colorful streamers, birthday banners, posters, and helium-filled balloons, as well as decorative table coverings and cakes everywhere. At the conclusion of the meeting everyone was served birthday cake and punch.

This series of meetings ended with as much enthusiasm as it had begun and has brought a true revival to the members of the Berean and Faith churches.

*Evelyn M. Edwards
Communication Secretary*



Glim Holmes, in the floral print blouse, with a group of volunteers who helped with the food drive during the evangelistic campaign.

Texas

FRANK TOCHTERMAN, CORRESPONDENT

COMING SOON!

"Second Sabbath in Arlington"

A celebration of contemporary church music.

NOVEMBER 11, 1995
Arlington SDA Church
 4409 Pleasant View Drive
 Arlington, Texas

Brownwood Youth Visit Port Aransas

The Brownwood youth group loves the Lord, each other, and having fun. The last week in July found us on another fantastic trip to Port Aransas. We visited the Texas State Aquarium in Corpus Christi and did some souvenir shopping, but mainly we played in the waves and sand and picked up sea shells.

The favorite activity—hands down—was our nightly worship on the beach. We enjoyed fellowship through songs, lesson study, an active devotional, prayer, and a group hug at the end. The kids were responsible for the worship each night.

Our singing earned us an invitation to a "cousins reunion" bonfire one evening. We met some wonderful people including a boy scout leader who had camped with Del Rio Pathfinders. The group with which we

met let our youth know how it thrilled them to see young people who loved the Lord and who witnessed for Him.

Susan Stepp, Youth Leader

Another Perspective on the Port Aransas Trip

I'm part of the youth group of the Brownwood SDA Church. Not long ago we took a trip down to Port Aransas—just to be together and have fun. We were only there five days, but we got our share of sun and water.

Every evening we'd have worship on the beach. We were divided into groups, and different groups took turns being in charge of worship. It was all very special; everyone felt a spiritual closeness. Our worships were active and interesting—everyone WANTED to take part and listen.

I think I speak for all of us when I say that it's really cool to be a part of a group of people my age who feel the way I do about God. In our youth group no one gets left out, and we can all just relax and be ourselves. We don't have to impress or "fit in."

We all had tons of good, clean fun. We all learned why being a part of the right crowd and being a good leader is so important. We won't soon forget the



"Are we sad or are we tired? Maybe both!" Brownwood youth group on their way home, from back left: Koby Majors, Ronnie Brown, Jonas Hernandez, Sam Stumph, Lee Jimenez, Crystal Sanders, David Beam. Middle: Shelley Stepp, Amy Beam, Shayla Stepp. Front: Josh Stumph, Shawna Stepp and Lauren Turner.

closeness we feel toward each other and our Lord. We all left with good impressions—on us and everyone around us.

Shelley Stepp
High School Junior
Comanche, Texas

Arlington Church Holds "Super Day Camp"

The Arlington church hosted a day camp at Burton Adventist Academy, June 19-23, for approximately 60 children ages seven to 15 from Arlington and surrounding churches. It was a week filled to the brim with activities and excursions.

Youth pastor Bernie Anderson acted as camp director and

coordinator, assisted by Tibor Shelly, Richardson youth pastor, who attended daily and gave the morning devotional talks. In addition, 15 Burton Academy students served as camp counselors and helped with registration, clean-up, and other camp duties. Their time, which amounted to 10-hour days, was all donated.

"Our purpose is to inspire young people to be the best they can be and have fun doing it," said Pastor Bernie. "We hope each camper will be drawn closer to God through their experiences and interaction with our Christian staff, and will make a commitment to follow Jesus Christ."

Sandra Cole
Communication Secretary



Arlington Super Day Camp '95 participants enjoy a field trip to Six Flags Over Texas.

Heritage Company Marks First Anniversary with Baptism

July marked the first-year anniversary of the Heritage Seventh-day Adventist Company in Friendswood, Texas, a suburb of Houston. We experienced a Sabbath day which the 65 who attended will long remember.

In Sabbath school Costin Jordache, a student at SAC, shared his experiences of a recent mission trip to Romania during which 70 students helped construct a church.

Worship commenced with opening exercises including a short dedication of new members by Larry Moore, Texas Conference secretary, our guest speaker. Seventeen members were transferred into the new company, and another joined through baptism. The anniversary was a day of rejoicing and thankfulness for the amazing way the Lord has led in the company's formation.

Bev Cook

Communication Secretary

Valley Grande Manor Opens New Addition

Valley Grande Manor recently celebrated the completion of a \$500,000 addition with a gala ribbon-cutting ceremony on Founder's Day. The service also recognized members of the community who have been instrumental in the growth of this full-service nursing home.

The 4,500 square-foot addition includes a new rehabilitation



Conference Secretary Larry Moore baptizes Scott Torino the afternoon of August 22 at the one-year anniversary of the Heritage company in Houston, Texas.

center and kitchen. Valley Grande Manor, founded in 1968, offers speech, occupational, and physical therapy to residents and out-patients.

"This was truly a remarkable day in the history of Valley Grande Manor," said Sylvia Williams. "The renovation clearly positions us as one of the premier nursing homes in the Valley.

One of the highlights of the ceremony was the naming of the new kitchen in honor of Fern Matlock, Valley Grande Manor's first dietary supervisor. In addition, the new rehabilitation center was named after Altus Hayes, who was instrumental in the planning and development of Valley Grande Manor. Mr. Hayes serves on the board of trustees for the nursing home.

Special recognition was also given to O. J. Pitts, the architect of Valley Grande Manor; Ben

Leach, former president of both the Texas Conference and the Southwestern Union Conference; Gary Matlock, building contractor; and Duane Tucker, the nursing home's first administrator.

"Over the years, we have drawn on many community resources," added Williams. "These people are among the many who understand our mission and generously contribute their time and energy so that the elderly of this community can live with dignity in a nursing home that provides the best care and offers the finest services."

Sylvia Williams, Administrator

Atascosa Lay Pastor Retires

It began after Christmas of 1987. A handful of members were meeting in Jourdan, 45 miles south of San Antonio. Dr. Claude Heitman, a retired professor from La Sierra University, and his wife, Ruth, of Natalia, Texas, began an eight-year term as lay pastor of the Atascosa church.

For the last eight years, the Heitmans have faithfully got up at 5:30 Sabbath morning to be present at the 9:00 services at the Atascosa church. On August 5, 82-year-old Heitman, retired from this position.

The church now meets in Pleasanton and has grown to 24 members. Between the two of them, Heitmans have over 100 years of service in the church.

Dallas Brazilian Church Organized

The Dallas Brazilian church of 125 members was officially organized on Sabbath, August 27. Conference and union officers were present for the occasion. Steve Gifford, Texas conference president, delivered the morning message.

"This is a group of mainly younger people with 92 percent of the members being between 18 and 31," reported Cyril Miller, Southwestern Union Conference president, "and they are extremely enthusiastic and dedicated. In addition, many of them are well-educated and talented. Their male quartet rivals that of the South American Division Voice of Prophecy quartet."

Burton Enjoys Highest Enrollment on Record

Burton Academy has 399 students enrolled for the fall term, and it is possible that figure will soon reach the 400 mark. Academy principal, John Hopps, attributes the success of the school to the support of the constituent churches.

"The values of our churches are reflected in the values taught to our young people," says Hopps. "Our school is proof of what can be accomplished when churches and school work together."

Improvements have been made to the campus just in time for the August 14 opening day.

Sandra Cole, Public Relations
Burton Academy



Officiating at the ribbon-cutting ceremony marking the opening of the \$500,000 addition to the Valley Grande Manor are key members of the staff and in center, Sylvia Williams, administrator; Glen Hamel, general manager; and Steve Gifford, Texas Conference president.

**COMING TO THE
DeSoto SDA Church
October 7, at 6:00 p.m.
IN CONCERT**

**Jim McKee
Music Ministry**

Jim is a prison pastor volunteer chaplain at the pre-release center in Bridgeport, Texas, director of special projects for the Adventist Prison Commission, and director of prison ministries at Mid-Cities SDA church where he is a member.

He writes and records gospel music and has just released several of his own compositions. His new recording, "The Crow Bar Hotel," will be in most Christian bookstores throughout the Southwest by the end of the month. His performances of country-style music at churches and detention centers has been well received.



Three very happy pastors of the Keene Spanish church at the ground breaking are from left: Saulo Sauza, Orlando Perez and Ronaldo Marsollier. Photo: Frank Tochtermann

Spanish Members Break Ground in Keene

Ground breaking for the new Keene Spanish church took place on the sunny Sunday morning of August 27. This church complex will be located at the top of a small hill on the south side of Highway 67 and will command a spectacular view of the surrounding landscape.

The first phase is a gymnasium and auditorium which will double as a 1000-seat worship area until the 750-seat sanctuary is built.

Steve Gifford, Texas Conference president, presented a check, the first installment of the \$50,000 contribution to the project by the Texas Conference.

Pastors of the 220-member congregation are Orlando Perez, Saulo Sauza, and Ronaldo Marsollier.

Burleson Bids Farewell to Roy Lowe



More than a hundred people came to the Burleson church fellowship hall the evening of August 26 to bid farewell to associate pastor, Roy Lowe.

After a potluck supper, Bryan Aalborg, Burleson's senior pastor, explained that Lowe was leaving to spend two and a half years at Andrews University Theological Seminary in Berrien Springs, Michigan working on a masters degree of divinity.

Many of the members spoke

of their relationship with Lowe and thanked him for the rapport he had developed with the young people. Conference president, Steve Gifford, related some humorous situations relating to the days when Lowe and his son had roomed together at Southwestern Adventist College. He also wished him God's blessing as he continued his studies at the seminary.

*Thurman C. Petty,
Communication Secretary*

ASI Awards Go to Outstanding Women

One of the highlights of the Adventist-Laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) convention held in Spokane in August was a luncheon honoring women who have given outstanding service to the church and community.

The Southwestern Union award went to Alice Davis, founder and president of the New Discovery Bible School. Davis and her staff of volunteers now

have 14 schools operating in six states.

The correspondence course was designed especially for incarcerated women, but no one is denied access. Lives are being changed, and requests for baptism are being processed.

Top photo: Travis Sager (center) is installed as pastor of the of the Brazosport church. Church elders Nickie Linder (left) and Robert Johnston (right) are his support staff. Photo: Frank Tochtermann



Lower photo: Joseph and Nadine Forcke and family at their 50th anniversary in Brazosport. Photo: Frank Tochtermann



Kenneth Cox Video Training

Sabbath, September 16	3:00 - 5:30 p.m.	Arlington SDA Church
Sabbath, September 30	5:00 - 7:30 p.m.	Houston Central SDA Church
Sabbath, October 7	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	San Antonio Laurel Heights Church
Sabbath, October 14	3:00 - 5:30 p.m.	Tyler SDA Church

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Sunday, October 15, 1995

8:00 a.m. Shotgun Start

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Retiring pastor Wes Spiva in front of the new entrance to the Waxahachie church.

Abilene Youth Witness to Community

"Abilene may have cornered the role model market," was how an article began in a recent issue of the *Abilene Reporter-News*. The newspaper's music editor, Greg Jaklewicz, went on to describe a recent concert by "seven young boys turning to men." It was the second summer concert they had presented, he said, and was attended by "a crowd easily three times the size of last summer's gathering."

These young men are members of HIM (Harmony in Motion), which is, according to the reporter, "a talented singing group that is exceeded only by the character of its members."

Zuriel and Nerchi Nermal, Andrae and Rodney Patterson, Larry Gayao, Jamie Merrill and Nate Crawford make up the group. The news article continues, "What sets this group apart is its strong morals, which aren't left off stage when the show begins. HIM is not afraid to perform gospel and to tout their parents. In fact, the guys called their mothers to the stage . . . presented them roses and then serenaded them. . . ."

"These guys are hip to their parents, and that's certainly a positive message the teen-agers in the crowd needed to hear."

"We wanted to thank our parents for what they've given us,"

explains Zuriel. "For showing us the right way. Nowadays, parents and their kids aren't close any more. We wanted to see people reunited again as a family. We're glad our families are close."

Four of the members of the tight-harmony vocal group are Seventh-day Adventists, and the group has been an ongoing blessing to the Abilene Church.

Elaine Martin

Sandia View Junior Academy Opens

Albuquerque area students in grades K-10 are pleased with the opening of Sandia View Junior Academy for the 1995-96 school year on the campus of what was formerly Sandia View Academy. The academy will not be functioning as a boarding school during the current school term.

Principal Patty Osborne (grades 1-3) and teachers Ernie and Joy Wallen (grades 7-10), Jessica Davidson (grades 4-6) and Frances Bommarito-Baca (PK-K) report that the year is off to a good start.

Some of the students who attended Sandia View Academy last year are now attending other academies. Although disappointed that they cannot return to SVA for the 1995-96 year, some former students have expressed appreciation for the good times they experienced there.

Richelle Lytle of Deming writes,



Richelle Lytle and Rebecca Alvidrez remember the good times they shared at Sandia View Academy.

"The memories I have of Sandia View Academy still linger . . . Waking up every morning in the dorm to the sound of Christian music that the dean played—the songs still play in my mind . . . The laughing voices of my friends in my room when I used to wake up still haunt me."

She goes on to speak about the good times on weekend trips. "Through all the tough times and the fun times, SVA students as a group were pretty close. The small number of students . . . drew everyone together . . . To everyone from SVA who reads this, hold on to the memories. God will bring us all together again, if not on earth, may it be in heaven."

An El Paso student, Irish Faye V. Rivera, shares Richelle's enthusiasm about SVA. Speaking of her companions, she says: "The students display a spirit and energy [that] is the type that can help finish the work within this world. [They] also display a tremendous amount of determination to accomplish seemingly impossible goals . . ."

Let us pray that God will continue to lead those who attended Sandia View Academy in the past and that He will also bless the endeavors and activities as SVJA.

Saragosa Youth Enjoy VBS

Even with temperatures soaring well over 100°, 53 children attended vacation Bible school in the Saragosa SDA Church, July 23-27, 1995.

Under the direction of Hazel Wendt, church youth cooperated in bringing the message of being

better disciples of Jesus. The evening programs began with a short song service led by Chuyita Mondragon and Marla Wendt. "Peter" would then answer questions which were puzzling "CJ." These roles were played by Charlie Anderman and Herman Tarin.

Each evening CJ would go to a different port where various participants would portray a teaching from the Bible. The ports appeared to be very realistic, since there was a life-like boat, nets and other props to represent the seaside. Lessons included those from the stories of the fishermen casting their nets, the parable of the rocky and good soil, Peter walking on the water, his denial at the time of the crucifixion, and his experience in being set free from prison by an angel.

On the final evening, CJ chatted with one character from each of the skits and concluded that having Jesus in his heart was the only way he could truly be like Him.

Crafts and refreshments reflected the over-all theme. Those who attended worked a little bit each night on making boats of posterboard, paper and popsicle sticks, and they ate such things as "anchors" and "sand dollars."

Those in charge of organizing the program felt their efforts were well repaid by the way children participated in the program.

Sandia View Academy Alumni Weekend

Come join your friends and acquaintances on October 13-15, 1995, to honor the classes of '85, '75, '65, and '55. A banquet begins the weekend activities on Friday at 5:30 p.m. Alumni may reserve a place by sending \$15. An additional \$5 will cover the fees for for non-alumni. Registration for the banquet should be done no later than Monday, October 9, 1995. For more information or registration, call Lydia Lucero-Montes de Oca at 505-898-9649.



Harmony In Motion (HIM) singing group, from left: Nerchi Nermal, Laurence Gayao Jr., Rodney Patterson, Andrae Patterson, Jamie Merrill, Zuriel Nermal.

Amarillo Church Participates in Area-wide Campout

Approximately 40 members of the Olsen Park church were present on Sabbath, August 5, at Black Mesa State Park in the westernmost portion of the Oklahoma panhandle when Rodney Grove, president of the Oklahoma Conference, spoke for the church service. Grove also spoke for vespers Friday and Saturday evening as campers from Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas came together for a weekend of camping, worship and fellowship.

Sabbath afternoon activities included a hike to the highest point in Oklahoma, which has an elevation of 4,973 feet. Mark Phillips commented that while it doesn't sound high, the trip was "gnarly and steep." On the other hand, Vincent Melashenko, one of the three people who made it to the top, said, "It was a nice Sabbath afternoon walk. Three to four miles in, and three to four miles out. It was fun!" (Vincent has had experience hiking at elevations of 14,000 feet!) Vincent's son, Peter, and Brad-

ley Chapman also made it to the top.

Also on the agenda for Sabbath afternoon was a trip to Inscription Rock. This cliff face along the Old Santa Fe Trail is where pioneers carved their names, where they were from, and the date, as they passed by on their journey. Ralph Harmon noted that one inscription dated back to 1861.

Olsen Park's "own" participated in vespers on Sabbath evening. Sheri Denny sang a solo; Amy, Jessica and Joshua Powell sang as a trio; Jody McReynolds had a children's story; Brandon, Derek and David Shedd performed skits; Dusty Tunnell performed a song in sign language; and Pastor Harold Bohr gave a sermonette on David and Absalom.

Louie Torrez, pastor of the Clayton, Dalhart and Raton, churches, began planning and organizing the weekend many months ago "to get churches together." His expectations of having 40-50 people were far exceeded when more than 150 showed up for the weekend.

*Donna Songy-Wilson
Communication Secretary
Olsen Park*



Three ladies who helped serve lunch to volunteers who came for the Amarillo Adventist Academy workbee were Sue Garner, Neva Baker and Barbara Harmon. Nineteen students are in attendance this year.

Convocation Gives for Philippine Evangelism

Texico Conference demonstrated its support for VOP Target 50,000 when its constituents gave and pledged some \$2,000 for the project. The offering was received during the International Convocation held in the eastern area of the conference at Abilene, Texas, August 12.

VOP Target 50,000 is the church's largest evangelistic venture, with an attempt to baptize 50,000 souls in the Philippines by April, 1996.

During the convocation, Texico president Ralph Orduno expressed the conference's commitment to the VOP venture by personally joining the evangelistic teams, which include those of Steve Bohr, Dem Robles, Abel Cordero and three other conference pastors. He challenged the attendees, including concerned Filipinos from the Texas Conference and Canada, to pray for the project, assist financially, and pass the challenge along.

Present for VOP Target 50,000 promotion were John McLarty, producer/writer of the Voice of Prophecy, and Dr. Benjamin Banaag, executive director of US-based Partnership in Evangelism of the Philippines. Three conference and mission presidents from the North Philippine Union updated the congregation regarding their respective groundwork preparation. *Abel A. Cordero
District Pastor, Abilene*

Youth Department Strengthens Junior Camp

Texico junior camp was held July 16-23 at Tres Rios Christian Growth Center in Carlsbad, New Mexico. Twenty-two staff and

counselors were selected to run the camp for the 79 campers. Activities included crafts, games, canoeing, swimming, camp fire programs, and a visit to Carlsbad Caverns.

Because of the growing interest of juniors and youth in summer camp, the youth department began a youth counselors training program this year. It is surprising to see that there are many young people who are willing to be trained.

The Texico youth department tries to develop strong youth programs, such as the organization of youth societies in local churches; coordination of conference-wide activities; and the planning and promoting of youth and junior camps, youth summits and rallies. Early this year the youth summit at Roswell attracted more than 300 youth from various churches of the Texico Conference. It was the largest youth gathering in Texico up to that time.

Camp is one of the activities our church provides to hold, train and inspire young people in outreach for the Lord. Without events such as junior camp, youth camp, Pathfinder camp or camporee, or other youth activities, the youth of the church would have no core group to identify themselves with, and they would fill the gap outside of the church. *Dem Robles
Church Ministries Director*



Counselor Robert Martinez (left) with Jerrod Songy at Texico's summer youth camp.

TEXICO CONFERENCE BOOK AND FOOD DISPLAYS

Brought to you by your Adventist Book Center

Set-up Displays

Clovis Church	Mon., Oct. 9	5-7 p.m.
Roswell Church	Tues., Oct. 10	5-7 p.m.
Albuquerque Heights	Wed., Oct. 11	4-7 p.m.
Amarillo Olsen Park	Thurs., Oct. 12	4:30-7 p.m.
Lubbock Church	Wed., Oct. 25	5-7 p.m.
Midland Church	Thurs., Oct. 26	5-7 p.m.
El Paso		
Central English	Sat., Oct. 28	Following sundown
Silver City Church	Sun., Oct. 29	2-4 p.m.

Drops Only

Socorro Church	Wed., Oct. 11	10-11 a.m.
Tucumcari Church	Thurs., Oct. 12	10-11 a.m.
Pecos Church	Fri., Oct. 27	9-10 a.m.
Deming Church	Sun., Oct. 29	9-10 a.m.

Pre-orders (such as case foods) are welcome for the set-up displays and essential for the drops.

Christmas is fast approaching, and what better gift to give than a gift from your Adventist Book Center such as the 1996 Devotional Book or one of the many new books that are published in the fall.

Call toll-free 800-522-2665 to place your pre-order.

Southwestern Adventist College

JENELL RUSK, CORRESPONDENT

Professor Emeritus Dies

Wilbur Alden Schram, well-known musician, teacher and professor emeritus at Southwestern Adventist College, died July 30, 1995 in Fort Worth, Texas. He was born May 31, 1904 in Battle Creek, Michigan and began studying music at age 7. While in Battle Creek he conducted the orchestra at the famous Dime Tabernacle and at Battle Creek College. He had the distinction of being the last pianist to play in the Tabernacle before it burned. In 1929 he married Vivian Copeland who was also a well-known musician in Battle Creek.

Professor Schram taught music at Indiana Academy, at Fox River Academy in Illinois, and at Broadview Academy before be-

to study with famous organists. He began building his own pipe organ in 1931, which is installed in his home in Keene. He was also instrumental in purchasing and installing the pipe organ in the Keene church.

Schram is survived by his wife of 66 years, Vivian, of Keene; his daughter, Mary Lynn Bailey, also of Keene; 5 grandchildren; one great-granddaughter, and a brother, George, of Keene.

SAC Welcomes New Faculty

Three full-time professors have joined the Southwestern Adventist College faculty in the 1995-96 academic year: Jean Alway, M.S., assistant professor of nursing; Daryl Thomas, Ph.D., associate professor of computer science; and Alan Weis, M.B.A., assistant professor of business administration.

Alway will teach obstetrics in the nursing department. She graduated from Chisholm Trail Academy in 1971, attended Southwestern and received her B.S.N. from Loma Linda University. In 1992, Alway received her master's degree from the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. She has experience both in academic and hospital nursing. Alway and her husband Raymond have three children, Robert, Joseph and Richard.

Thomas joins the department of mathematics/physical and computer sciences. He is a graduate of Louisiana State University, where he received both his B.S. and Ph.D. Thomas has ex-

Southwestern Adventist College Activities Planned

FOR 1995-96 SCHOOL YEAR

You are invited to attend this year's events at Southwestern Adventist College.

Sculpture Exhibit	October 9-13	Meadows Gallery, Library
Cross Roads Crusade	October 11-14	Keene Church
College Days	October 29	Campus
Stitchery Exhibit	Nov 13-17	Meadows Gallery, Library
Keene Camerata Recital	November 19	Evans Hall
SAC Band Concert	December 2	To be announced
Spring registration	January 8	Leiske-Pultar Gym
Nurses' dedication	January 27	Keene SDA Church
Week of Prayer	Jan 29-Feb 3	Keene Church
Music Festival	February 14-17	Leiske-Pultar Gym
Black History Week	February 19-24	SAC campus
Keene Camerata	March 2	Evans Hall
Keene Camerata		
Student Recital	March 24	Mabee Center
International Week	March 25-30	SAC campus
SACrobats Home Show	March 30	Leiske-Pultar Gym
Dale Heinrich	April 6	Mabee Center
Scholarship Recital		
Awards Convocation	April 10	Evans Hall
American Life Exhibit	April 10-13	Museum of Student Life
Alumni Weekend	April 11-14	Campus
"Elijah" Concert	April 13	Leiske-Pultar Gym
SAC Band and Keene		
Camerata Concert	April 12	Evans Hall
SAC Band Concert	April 20	To be announced
Graduation Weekend	May 3-5	SAC campus



Wilbur Alden Schram seated at his favorite musical instrument, the pipe organ.

coming chairman of the music department at Atlantic Union College in 1949. In 1953 he became chairman of the music department at Southwestern Adventist College in Keene where he taught band until his retirement in 1968. Even after his formal retirement he continued to teach band at Keene Adventist Elementary School until 1975.

One of Professor Schram's greatest loves was pipe organ, which he studied for many years. He traveled to Paris and Vienna

to study with famous organists. He has published articles in the field of robotics and intelligent systems. He and his wife, Janet, have one son, Bryce.

Weis returns to SAC, where he was an assistant professor from 1986-93. He received his B.B.A. from SAC, and his M.B.A.

from West Texas State University. Weis has a special interest in practical business education and is very supportive of student-led activities such as S.I.F.E. (Students in Free Enterprise). Weis and his wife Christine have twin daughters, Kilory and Nikki.

Announcements

Upcoming programs and events that may be of interest to *Record* readers are announced here in brief. Additional information is available as indicated in each item.

Oakwood Class of '76 Sought

Members of the class of 1976, we are looking for you! Plans are now being made for a special 20-year reunion to be held during the Oakwood College Centennial celebration at Alumni Weekend, April 4-7, 1996. Make it your plan to be a part of the reunion. For further information, contact: Terri White Graham, 2276 Old Del Monte, Stockton, CA 95206,

209/462-1227; or Janice Coopwood Ford, 7212 South Ridge Trail, Fort Worth, TX 76133, 817/292-4445.

Mesquite Church Seeks Names

The Way to Life Prophecy Crusade will be conducting meetings in Mesquite, Texas from October 21-November 18. If you know any former SDAs or interests who live in this area, please send this information to Elder Andrew Adams, Mesquite SDA

Church, 300 Paza Dr., Mesquite, TX 75149; phone 214/288-0848.

Indiana Academy Announces Homecoming

Indiana Academy's alumni weekend will be October 13-14 at Cicero, Indiana. Special reunion events are planned for the honor classes of 1940, 1945, 1965 and 1970. Call 317/844-6201 for details.

Obituaries

BROOKS, Mildred, was born April 25, 1921 in Clearbrook, MN and died July 1, 1995 in El Paso, TX. Survivors: daughters, Judy Allen, Donna Mize and Jeri Kish; and 3 grandsons.

CARLOCK, J. W. (Wes), was born May 1, 1918 in Cleburne, TX and died July 7, 1995 in Cleburne. Survivors: sons, Joe Don and Charles, both of Cleburne; daughter, Joan Hathcox, Millsap, TX; brother, T. D. Carlock; sisters, Helen Burgess and Eudell Lain; 9 grandchildren; and 8 great-grandchildren.

Richard Peterson

CLARK, Gladys, was born 8/21/04 in Davenport, IA and died 6/25/95 in Keene, TX. Survivors: son, Ralph, of Florida; 6 grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

R. R. Mehling

CONE, Mary Coma (Comie), was born 8/30/27 in Spring, TX and died 6/18/95 in Crowley, TX. She taught church school in the Oklahoma and Texas Conferences. Survivors: husband, George, Mustang, OK; sons, James, Nashville, TN and Robert, Houston, TX; sisters, Inez Myers and Doris Schmidt, both of Crowley; and 1 granddaughter.

Arta Levesey

CREEL, Lilah Beth, was born Nov. 18, 1906 in Beaver, OK and died Aug. 10, 1995 in Cleburne, TX. Survivors: brothers, J. T. Hopps and Herbert Hopps, both of Keene, TX; and sister, Frances Fry, Cleburne.

EDMONDS, Eva Mae, was born Feb. 19, 1907 in Norton, KY and died June 17, 1995 in Keene, TX. She is survived by her son, Robert D. Rider, of Keene, 2 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren.

Richard Peterson

FINDLEY, Ida, was born Dec. 4, 1909 and died June 20, 1995 in San Jose, CA. Survivors: daughter, Sue McCarthy,

Saratoga, CA; son, Sidney Findley, Jr., San Luis Obispo, CA; sisters, Mabel Peacock, Tucson, AZ and Fern Harris, Fort Worth, TX; brother, David Rains, Fort Worth; and 5 grandchildren.

FREELAND, Wilma, was born May 24, 1926 and died July 22, 1995 in Denison, TX. Survivors: husband, Harold, Keene; son, Darrell Smith, Cleburne; daughter, Cheryl Bell, Desdemona, TX; stepson, Eric Freeland, Burleson, TX; stepdaughter, Rebecca Freeland, Burleson; sister,

Vivian Combs, Indianapolis; 5 grandchildren; and 1 great-grandchild.

GARBER, Nellia, was born 7/18/13 in Wichita, KS and died 8/13/94 in Tyler, TX. She and her husband Robert served as missionaries in Africa. She wrote 7 books and numerous articles for church publications. Survivors: husband, Robert, Tyler; son, Douglas, Muskogee, OK; daughter, Sharron Maxey, Frankston, TX; 11 grandchildren; and 4 great-grandchildren.

Lisa Watson-White

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10-11

MOVING? BUYING OR SELLING? For toll-free, no-cost, no obligation information on real estate anywhere in mainland USA, Hawaii, Alaska or Canada, call 800/523-2460, ext. T211-1.

8-6t

INTERESTED IN BUYING OR SELLING in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas? Contact the only real estate company in the Valley owned and operated by an SDA. Contact: Lou Ann Matlock, Broker, Matlock Realty, 2114 W. 6th St., Weslaco, TX 78596; phone 210/968-8317.

8-6t

AFFORDABLE FLORIDA HOUSES FOR SALE: Price range \$25,900 to \$80,000. Located in following areas: Inverness-2; Winter Haven area-2; Avon Park area-3; Lake Worth-1. For further information contact Estate Services Dept., Florida Conference; 407/644-5000.

10-2t

EMPLOYMENT

MIDWIFE NEEDED to join Adventist obstetrician in beautiful Ohio Valley foothills. SDA church school within 12 miles. Must have Ohio license. We are also in need of a **PEDIATRICIAN** now. Please send C.V. to C. Whetmore, D.O., 109 Summerset Dr., Marietta, OH 45750. Phone 614/374-3377.

10-4t

NURSING FACULTY POSITION: Southwestern Adventist College is seeking applicants for nursing faculty whose primary expertise is in Community Health. Master's in Nursing required; doctorate preferred. Send vitae to Holly Gadd, Nursing Dept., SAC, Keene, TX 76059; 817/645-3921.

10-1t

How would you like to be involved in one of the most rewarding fields of Christian endeavor? **CHRISTIAN RECORD SERVICES** currently has openings in Texas, Oklahoma, and Louisiana. If you feel that God is calling you to the wonderful ministry for the sight and hearing impaired, please contact Kevin Hargett at 501/356-4829 or write to: Route 1, Box 47, Bonnerdale, AR 79133.

10-1t

THUNDERBIRD FURNITURE of Scottsdale seeks qualified applicants for future opportunities within the company. Applications and resumes are being accepted for these areas: machine operations and setup, forklift drivers, inventory management, CNC programming and operations, equipment maintenance, truck drivers, product management and cost accounting. Excellent benefits. Send your resume to: Personnel Dept., 7501 E. Redfield Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85260.

10-3t

Please ... Help Us!



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Call 817-295-9826 For Bringing Horses to Keene Area

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10-3t

join a quality team of Christian driving professionals, we want to hear from you. Montana Conference Transportation, 1201 Franklin Blvd., Nampa, ID 83687, 1-800-525-1777; fax 208-463-1788. 9-4t

ADRA-International is seeking a committed financial professional to serve as SENIOR FINANCIAL COMPLIANCE OFFICER based at its world headquarters in Silver Spring, MD. The individual selected will have a minimum of 10 years experience in financial administration, accounting/auditing, and will be a CPA or equivalent. Fluency in English is required, and competency in French or Spanish is greatly desired. Extensive global travel is a primary requirement of the position. Interested individuals may send comprehensive resumes to Byron L. Scheuneman, ADRA-International, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904. 10-1t

MISCELLANEOUS

SUMMIT RIDGE RETIREMENT CENTER in Harrah, OK is the best-kept secret in the Adventist family! Country living, yet near Oklahoma City. Individual homes, duplexes, apartments, residential care, nursing home and a church. Whatever fits your needs. The best housing prices in the country. For information call 405/454-2431; Delbert Gilman, administrator. 10-1t

"The Story of Fordyce Detamore - God's Living Dynamo." \$11.95 includes shipping. Make checks payable to: Detamore Book, P.O. Box 357, Dunlap, TN 37327. 10-1t

FOOTSTEPS OF PAUL, Greek Isles, and Holy Land cruise with Escorted Adventist Group, March 27-April 11, 1996 from Athens to Jerusalem. Special rates from \$3399 including airfare. Call Madlyn at 800/274-0016 or 301/317-5741. Space is limited. 10-3t

CLASSICAL MUSIC THEME ESCORTED ADVENTIST GROUP CRUISE from Ensenada, Mexico to Honolulu, Hawaii, January 18-23, 1996. 5 days on world class QE2 including a full day in Lahaina, Maui. Rates from \$1267, free airfare. Space very limited. Call Madlyn at 800/274-0016 or 301/317-5741. 10-3t

BARHI DATES - \$34 for 12 lbs shipped UPS, beginning approximately Nov. 6. Please send check with order to Cloverdale SDA School, 1081 S. Cloverdale Blvd., Cloverdale, CA 95425. 10-2t

SINGLE? Adventist Singles News is free; also write your personal ad free and receive written responses free: 800/771-5095. Record voicemail ads free: 800/944-7671. Listen/respond to Adventist Connection for Singles: 900/446-3400, \$2 per minute. Must be 18 or older. 10-1t

SINGLE? WIDOWED? DIVORCED? The SDA Friendship Finder confidentially lists birthday, marital status, occupation, race, year became SDA, interests, detailed descriptions (no word limit) of many eligible SDAs. Plus, how participants met/wed, and beneficial extras. For listing application/information, send stamped envelope. Catalog \$25. SDAFF, Box 465, Shannon, GA 30172. 10-2t

WHY BE LONELY? SDA Singles Photo Directories, including names, addresses, phone numbers, and full descriptions, bring new Adventist friendships. Ages 18-95. Reasonable. Send stamped, self-addressed envelope to: SDA Singles, P.O. Box 694, College Place, WA 99324 or call 509/522-2379. 10-4t

JUST PRINTED: Another 50,000 booklets, What Must I Do to Inherit Eternal Life? (a Bible study). Will you help distribute them? No cost to you. Together we can direct others to God and to heaven. For sample copy and details write: Otis Rupright, Box 2872, West Lafayette, IN 47906. 10-1t

BOOK PRINTING, publishing and distributing. Complete typesetting, layout and design services. For free price guide call 800/FOR-1844, 9-5 ET. 10-1t

HIGH PROFIT CHRISTIAN FUND-RAISER! Pathfinders, schools, churches, ministry groups, individuals: Sell beautiful scripture calendars. Earn more than 50% profit. Free custom imprint available. Large selection of styles and prices. Liberal credit terms. Free color brochure. Sample calendar \$4.00. Don't delay. Call now! 800/456-2640. Enduring Books, 116 Walker, Rolla, MO 65401. 10-1t

FANTASTIC NEW GIFT IDEA! Perfect for holiday giving. *Peace Above the Storm* magabook is beautifully illustrated with 8x10 full color nature pictures, stories and Bible promises - *Steps to Christ* with a new look. Give the gift of Peace to those you love. Ask about our incredible savings and fund raising opportunities. Call 800/777-2848. 10-3t

USED SDA BOOK SALE, Urbandale, Michigan Fellowship Hall. Over 10,000 used SDA books, vegetarian cookbooks, songbooks. Oct. 11, 12, 13, 15; 10-5, Sat. 1/2 hour after sundown. Questions, 800/732-2664; home 616/781-6379. Also want to buy used SDA books. 9-2t

Now full HYPERTEXT capability on our new Windows and Mac version E.G. White CD-ROM. 287 books, periodicals, pamphlets and manuscript collections plus KJV Bible. Find, categorize, highlight, annotate, organize and print those significant quotes with ease. Free information packet call 800/382-9622. 9-2t

SINGLES: Now you can meet and date other Adventists throughout the US. Discreet, confidential, exclusively for Adventists since 1987. Magazine format with enlightening and profitable articles. If you are 18-85 and want friendship and fellowship, mail stamped, self-addressed, large envelope to: DISCOVER, Rt. 1, Box 68, Roca, NE 68430. 9-12t

MUSIC MINISTRY? Award-winning record producer/vocalist Jim McDonald can help you get started. Winner of 44 albums of the year, over 20 years experience. Call Jim at 619/692-2411. Mail rough demo to 3808 Rosecrans St., #458, San Diego, CA 92110. No contests, no gimmicks, ministry only. 8-3t

MOTORHOME, TRAVEL TRAILER OR 5TH WHEEL IN YOUR FUTURE? We can probably save you money! As an Adventist owned and operated RV dealership, we've been saving SDAs money for over 20 years on HitchHiker, Jayco, Coleman, Travel Supreme, Kountry Aire, Kountry Star, Dutch Star, Pinnacle, Residency, Dolphin, Seabreeze and many other top brands. \$4 million inventory. We also rent. Call Nationwide Toll Free 800/545-0066 and ask for Lee Litchfield. Be sure to tell me you're an SDA. Lee's RV City, 9300 SE 29th, Oklahoma City, OK 73130. 3-12t

PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS! Be our Preview Southern guests at Southern College of Seventh-day Adventists, Collegedale, Tennessee (near Chattanooga). October 15-16. Experience our Christian campus for 24 hours. Free meals, room, activities. For information and reservations call 1-800-SOUTHERN. 10-1t

SOUTHWESTERN UNION Record

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Those desiring to make wills, agreements, and annuities, should make them in favor of the legal association rather than the conference. Write your conference Director of Trust Services for further information.

ADVENTIST BOOK CENTER DIRECTORY

ARKANSAS-LOUISIANA — 7025 Greenwood Rd., P.O. Box 31000, Shreveport, LA 71130. 318/631-6248.
OKLAHOMA — 4735 NW 63rd St., P.O. Box 32188, Oklahoma City, OK 73123, 405/721-6144; Toll-Free: 800/522-2665. The Oklahoma ABC also serves the Texico Conference territory.
SOUTHWEST REGION — 2215 Lanark, P.O. Box 226289, Dallas, TX 75266. 214/948-6382.
TEXAS — I-35 & US 67; P.O. Box 800, Alvarado, TX 76009. 817/645-4744; 783-2261; Toll-Free: 800/333-1844 (orders only).
TEXICO — See the Oklahoma listing above.

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Announcement for Events

on Weekend of

December 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 October 20
January 6, 13, 20 and 27 November 17
February 3, 10, 17 and 24 December 15

COPY DEADLINES

Should Be in Local

Conference Office by

Volume 94, Number 10

October 1995

Sunset Calendar

	Oct. 13	Oct. 20	Oct. 27	*Nov. 3	*Nov. 10	*Nov. 17
Abilene, Texas	7:09	7:01	6:54	5:47	5:42	5:38
Amarillo, Texas	7:15	7:06	6:58	5:51	5:45	5:40
Brownsville, Texas	7:04	6:58	6:52	5:47	5:43	5:40
Dallas, Texas	6:57	6:48	6:41	5:34	5:29	5:25
El Paso, Texas	6:36	6:28	6:21	5:15	5:10	5:05
Fort Worth/Keene, Texas	6:59	6:50	6:43	5:36	5:31	5:27
Galveston/Houston, Texas	6:52	6:44	6:38	5:32	5:27	5:24
Gentry, Arkansas	6:45	6:36	6:27	5:21	5:14	5:09
Little Rock, Arkansas	6:37	6:28	6:21	5:14	5:08	5:04
Muskogee, Oklahoma	6:49	6:40	6:32	5:25	5:18	5:13
New Orleans, Louisiana	6:32	6:24	6:18	5:12	5:07	5:03
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	6:58	6:49	6:41	5:34	5:27	5:22
San Antonio, Texas	7:07	6:59	6:53	5:47	5:42	5:38
Santa Fe, New Mexico	6:31	6:22	6:14	5:06	5:00	4:55
Shreveport, Louisiana	6:45	6:36	6:29	5:23	5:18	5:13
Tulsa, Oklahoma	6:51	6:42	6:34	5:27	5:20	5:15

*Standard Time

VoiceNOTES

Voice of Prophecy Philippines Goal: 50,000 Baptisms in Six Months!



VOP director-speaker Lonnie Melashenko talks with Nestor Dayson, VOP speaker in Manila, about the "Target: 50,000" campaign goal of 50,000 baptisms in the Philippines during the first six months of 1996.

The largest-ever Voice of Prophecy evangelistic campaign is planned for January-June 1996 in the Philippines to celebrate 50 years of VOP radio and Bible School ministry there.

With 615,000 members already, the Adventist Church in the Philippines will grow by 8% in only six months!

Voice of Prophecy director-speaker Lonnie Melashenko invites YOU to

participate in this front-line evangelism. You'll be inspired by the dedication of Adventists in the Philippines to sharing the good news of the gospel and Christ's soon coming. And if you can't be there in person, please join in praying for a great harvest of souls.

Request more information about "Target: 50,000" by writing: VOP, Box 2525, Newbury Park, CA 91319.

DISCOVER Course Is Evangelistic Tool

The Voice of Prophecy's new course, DISCOVER, is helping thousands discover the biblical basis for Adventists beliefs. The 26-lesson series covers both the basics—God and the Bible, sin and salvation, prayer and the Holy Spirit—and the distinctives—the state of the dead, the change of the Sabbath, and the Three Angels' Messages.

DISCOVER is being used for individual and group study across the United States and Canada. A pastor's wife studied the DISCOVER lessons with Victoria VanHager, who became the first graduate—and baptism—from the course.

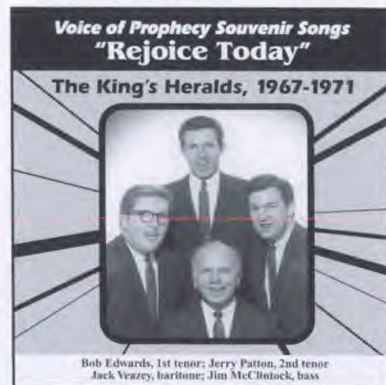
The La Mesa church in California tied each night of its evangelistic seminar to the top of one lesson, which became the take-home summary of the message. At the conclusion of the seminar, 75 persons received diplomas and several of these were baptized.



Victoria VanHager was baptized December 17, 1994 by Pastor Keith Mulligan. She was the first graduate of the Voice of Prophecy's DISCOVER course.

For more information on how you can use the DISCOVER lessons in your local church outreach, write the VOP Bible School, Box 2525, Newbury Park, CA 91319.

Hear Them Again for the First Time—On Compact Disc!



It's brand new—almost an hour of your favorites by one of the best loved King's Heralds combinations: Bob Edwards, Jerry Patton, Jack Veazey, and Jim McClintock. You'll love these 21 hymns, gospel songs, spirituals, and early American sacred folk songs—now on CD and cassette.

This souvenir recording can be yours for a gift of \$25 or more to the Voice of Prophecy ministry during October.

October 21 is VOP Day across North America. Place your special offering in an envelope, mark it Voice of Prophecy, and place it in the offering plate that day. Or use the coupon and mail your gift directly to the VOP if you'd like a copy of the new King's Heralds CD or cassette.

- ☐ YES, I want my gift of \$_____ to help with VOP radio and Bible School work.
- ☐ For my gift of \$25 or more, please send me the new CD of favorites by the King's Heralds.
- ☐ I prefer a cassette instead of CD.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

— MAIL TO: —



Box 55 • Los Angeles, CA 90053

SW

A weekend of special celebration is in place to highlight several momentous events which occurred 140 years ago in Battle Creek, Michigan, and helped shape the Seventh-day Adventist church. **This Heritage Camp Meeting will be held October 12-15.**

During the formative years of the church a number of "Sabbath Conferences" were held when the leading minds from the scattered groups of Sabbathkeeping Adventists came together to search the scriptures, resolve their differences and set in place the cardinal doctrines of the church. Thus it was that in 1855, using Genesis 2:2, 3 as the basis for their decision, the sunset-to-sunset time for the celebration of the Sabbath was clarified

A Time to Remember the Way the Lord Has Led

spirit-filled preaching, music, seminars and classes, and tours of the historic sites in Battle Creek. It will also be a time to become reacquainted with the providential hand of God in the establishment and growth of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

A tent seating 6000 is to be pitched on the campus of Battle Creek Academy for the main meetings on Friday and Sabbath. The Adventist Communication Network will broadcast a portion of the Sabbath services by satellite to homes and churches across North America.

The oldest known SDA landmark in Battle Creek is this house, the central six-room portion being the first home owned by James and Ellen White in 1856. It was here in the front upstairs bedroom that Ellen White wrote the first edition of what is now known as The Great Controversy.

