

Southern **Tidings**



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City Salutes New Conference Office

by Ron Quick

At the sound of the trumpets, the Ft. Bragg color guard marched into position. With a smart "right face," they started raising the colors: first the American flag, then, South Carolina's, next, North Carolina's, then, the Christian flag. Automobiles traveling on the busy highway slowed to a snail's pace to watch the excitement generated by the grand opening of the new Carolina Conference office building. The spirits, of the more than 500 visitors who came out on a cold, windy Sunday in December, were about as high as the flags that had just been raised.

Tears filled eyes when Lester Rilea, Southern Union chaplain, offered a special prayer for the troops who, at that very moment, were preparing to move into Bosnia. Local television news covered the event as the mayor and other honored guests commended Seventh-day Adventist's work, both local and worldwide.

There were smiles and applause when Kenneth Coonley, conference president, announced that the new headquarters for the more than



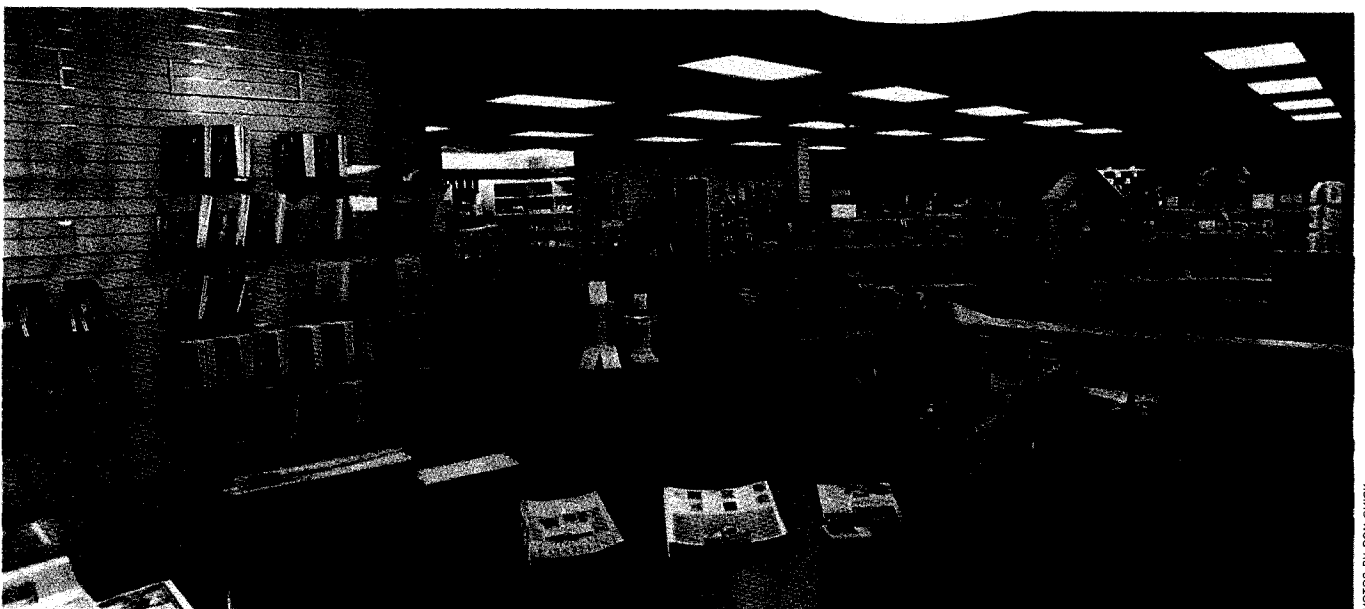
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100 Adventist churches in the Carolina's is completely paid for. The 27,500 square-foot, all brick Georgian style complex, is located on a major four-lane road in Charlotte's rapidly growing university area. The Adventist Christian Book Center, with more than 2,000 square-feet of showroom space, is located on the first floor.

"It is truly a blessing from God," stated Coonley at the dedication service held just prior to the open house ceremony. "The new office building, along with a 5,625-square-foot garage building, was built for only \$59.50 square foot." Construction of commercial buildings in Charlotte is estimated at \$100 a square foot. The Conference Drive location was purchased by the City of Charlotte and will be the new branch library.

A family living behind the new office wrote the following comment to the president, "Thank you for the tour of the new building—it is an asset to the neighborhood and I must commend all involved for honoring your pledge to build a facility that the area would be proud." ■

Cover: Inside new Carolina Conference building. Photo credit: Ron Quick.



More than 2,000 square feet of showroom in the new Adventist Christian Book Center.

PHOTOS BY RON QUICK



Ft. Bragg color guard raise the flags at the Carolina Conference open house while the television news videotapes the event.



New Carolina Conference building—spectacular at night.

These Are They . . .

Family Health Education Service Literature Evangelist Year-End Convention



Stanley Robinson, Ruth Robinson, highest sales, and Ralph Peay, South Atlantic president.

by Ted Smith

December 27-30, 1995, marked the 22nd consecutive year of the FHES Year-End Convention. Hundreds of literature evangelists, publishing directors, district leaders and conference and union personnel of the Southern Union Conference along with the NAD regional conferences and their literature evangelists personnel convened at Grenelefe Resort in Haines City, Florida, for four days of relaxation, fun, fellowship, workshops, and reports.

The enthusiasm of these soldiers of the cross was so contagious that it caused many of the guests and visitors at the Grenelefe Resort to inquire who these men and women were and what were they doing here? As I attempted to give brief, concise answers to their questions, in my mind, I said these are they who have braved the storm through sunshine and rain; through snow and sleet; hot and cold; night and day; good times and bad times; ups and downs; and everything in between. These are they who have dedicated their lives to the publishing ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. They are the foot

soldiers, the Marine Corps, the avant-garde, the vanguard of God's army, the Air Force to scatter the message of a soon coming Saviour through the printed pages like the leaves of autumn.

The four-day retreat began Wednesday night with a message from Eugene Anthony, publishing director of the Lake Region Conference, admonishing us that God will see us through. An old fashion prayer and testimonial meeting followed, where William Smith, publishing director of the South Central Conference, delivered another inspired message.

Further momentum to this spiritual retreat came from the devotional message Thursday morning by Dennis Keith on the subject, "Here am I." Thursday was recreation day when many went to Disney World and other places but returned early enough to be blessed by the spirit filled message entitled "Deliverance" by Jonathan Thompson, pastor of the Allegheny East Conference, in the evening.

Friday morning, Robert T. Smith, publishing director of the South Atlantic Conference, presented a message entitled, "Do It." He said whatever Jesus tells us to do, do it.

Friday was workshop day with a promotional period chaired by Ted Smith and Robert L. Lagrone. Representatives from the Review and Herald, Pacific Press and Bible companies presented new products for the literature evangelists to sell. Stephen P. Ruff, editor for *Message* magazine, and Clarence Richardson, marketing representative, gave reports on how God is blessing the publishing work. This was followed by three FHES cash workshops chaired by Ted Smith. Presenters included E. E. Cleveland followed by Tony Hill, vice president of Prison Ministry Inc., who admonished all to get involved in prison ministry. Tyrone Phillips, director of the Oakwood College LETC (Literature Evangelist Training Center) gave a workshop on the "Dynamics in the Science of Prayer."

Sabbath services were truly "a high day in Israel." The two chief musicians, Gayle Murphy and

Winifred Rivers, along with Marshal Kelly, Wanda Lott, Linda Polite, Kimberly and Cynthia Palmer, Myra Richardson, MaryLyn Brown and other selected singers contributed to make this a highly spiritual meeting. Charles E. Bradford delivered, as usual, a powerful message reminding us there is a "Balm in Gilead."

The holy communion service was presided by Charles L. Cheatham, Allegheny East's secretary, and assisted by Robert Patterson and Ted Smith. More than 600 people sat with rapt attention while a motion picture of the crucifixion of Jesus was shown complemented with soft somber music. The spell-bound audience sat quietly, but when Cheatham began to read 1 Cor. 11:23 and Wanda Lott sang, "Let Us Break Bread Together On Our Knees" you could hear muffled cries of "Amen's" and "Thank you Jesus" coming from across the auditorium. When he read 1 Cor. 11:25—"this cup in the New Testament is my blood," while Kelly's deep, melodious, baritone voice sang, "He Is Worthy—Oh, the Bleeding Lamb," there were unashamedly outbursts of weeping and "Thank you Jesus."

The Sabbath school lesson, taught by Samuel S. Thomas on the birth of Christ, illustrated how the Holy Trinity worked together in the plan of salvation—how it was preordained who would be Christ's mother.

E. E. Cleveland delivered a powerful sermon to the jam-packed audience of more than 1000 expounding on the convention's theme, "This One Thing I Do." He encouraged all to stay focused, drawing parallels from his own 54 years as an evangelist though many times he was urged to accept other phases of the ministry but through the years he stayed with what God called him to do.

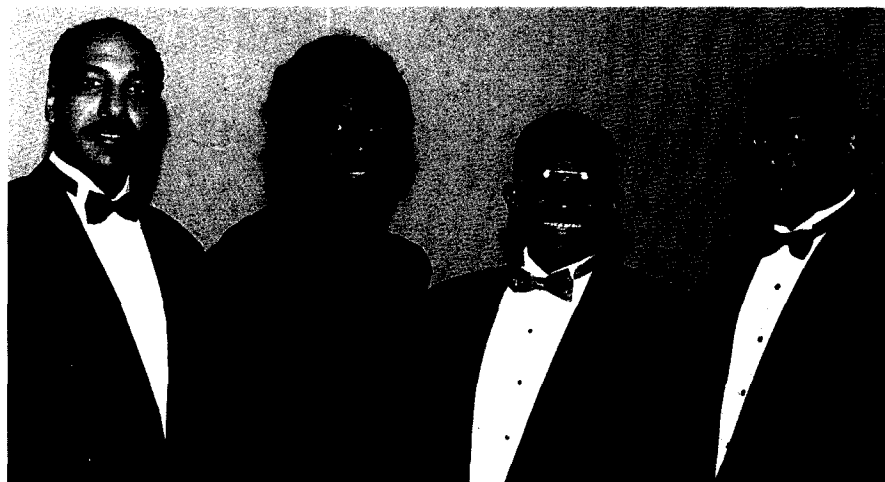
The grand finale was the Awards Banquet on Saturday night. Robert S. Smith, North America Division publishing director, was the chairman, and Ralph Peay, president of the South Atlantic Conference, served as master of ceremony. The grand ballroom was almost filled to capacity as those

present finished eating and sat eagerly waiting to hear the reports of sales and lives won by the faithful literature evangelists from across the North American Division. Award recipients gingerly walked across the stage to receive awards and commendation for sales ranging from \$15,000 all the way up to \$168,098. The top FHES literature evangelist for the North American Division was Ruth Robinson, the wife of Stanley Robinson, district director of the South Atlantic Conference. Mrs. Robinson holds the distinction of being the top FHES cash worker in the NAD for the last six consecutive years. Stan Robinson was the top FHES district leader in the NAD this year with sales of \$369,000. Stan has been the top district leader in the South Atlantic Conference the last eight years. South Atlantic has been the top FHES conference in the NAD the past two years with sales of \$809,000 for 1995. The total sales for the three FHES's in the Southern Union in '95 were \$1,313,000 and 280 baptisms. All FHES sales for the NAD totaled \$3,449,373 and 544 joined the church.

All this could not have been done without the support of our conference and union administrators. We say thank you to publishing directors, Robert T. Smith, William Golson, William Smith and their faithful associates, dedicated literature evangelists and families. 1995 marked the 50th year since Black Conferences were organized. The first five years literature evangelists sales in the South Atlantic Conference were only \$465,000. The past five years we have had sales of \$5,402,439 and 1,192 souls. Our dedicated literature evangelists have started two churches. The wave of the future—the emphasis will be on recruiting, sales, soul winning, small literature, prison ministry, students from our Literature Evangelist Training Center, and academies and churches.

Yes, these are they whom Rev. 7:13,14 speaks, "And one of the elders answered saying, unto me, what are these which are arrayed in white robes? And whence came they? (verse 14) And I said unto him, sir thou knowest and he said to me these are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

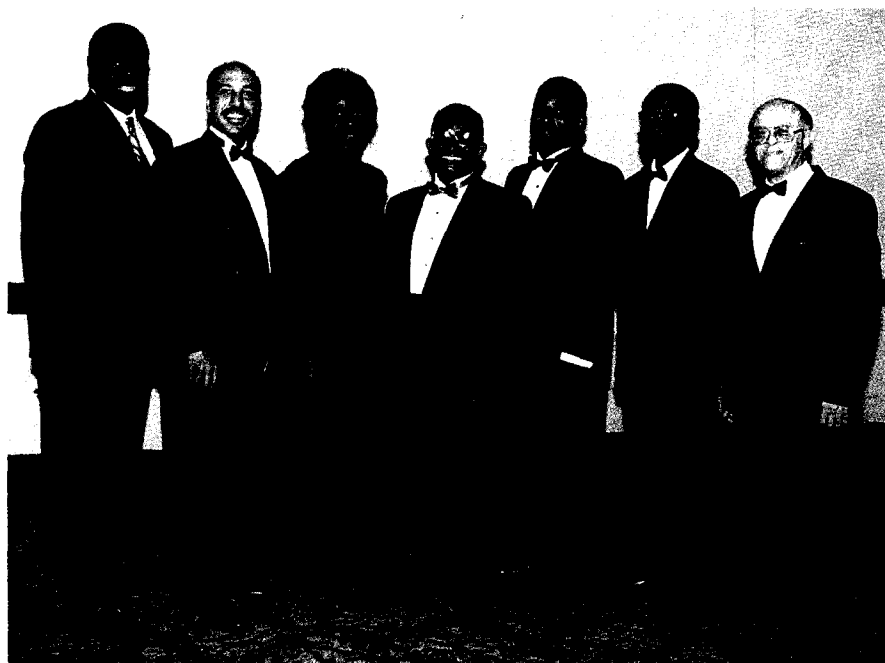
Ted Smith is the associate publishing director at Southern Union.



Left to Right: William S. Smith (Publishing Director, South Central), Mary Wells (Secretary, Publishing Department, Southeastern), Ted R. Smith (FHES Publishing Director, Southern Union), Robert T. Smith (Publishing Director, South Atlantic).



Back Row, Left to Right: Ted R. Smith (FHES Publishing Director, Southern Union), Eugene M. Mason (Treasurer, South Atlantic), Ralph P. Peay (President, South Atlantic), and Robert T. Smith (Publishing Director, South Atlantic); Front Row, Left to Right: E. Sullivan (Top LE Subscription Literature, South Atlantic), Dutches and Al Bowden (District Director, South Atlantic), Stanley Robinson (Top FHES District Director), Eunice and Ed Wheeler (District Director, South Atlantic).



Left to Right: Joseph W. McCoy (President, South Central), William Smith (Publishing Director, South Central), Mary Wells (Secretary, Publishing Department, Southeastern), Ted R. Smith (FHES Publishing Director, Southern Union), Robert T. Smith (Publishing Director, South Atlantic), Ralph P. Peay (President, South Atlantic), Sandy C. Robinson (Retired, Review & Herald).

Teachers Focus on the Future



Brooke Sadler presented one of the workshops.



Ken Fuller (left) and Fred Anderson share ideas during the convention.

by **Clarence Dunbebin**

Nearly 1,000 secondary school educators converged on Gatlinburg, Tennessee, for the first-ever five-union teacher convention. The educators came from the Canadian, Atlantic, Columbia, Lake, and Southern unions.

During the three-day conference, the teachers focused on how Christian education should change for the 21st century. Their conference theme was: "Change! Ready or Not."

Gil Plubell, North American Division director of education, presented the keynote address to open the convention, telling the teachers: "Adventist pioneers had a dream about education. They wanted hearts and lives to change because of attending a Christian school. They wanted an encounter for the children that would make a change in their lives as they learned about Jesus Christ."

For decades, conferences have held conventions for K-10 teachers; however, secondary teachers have been left out. The directors of the five sponsoring unions

believed the time had come to bring senior and junior academy teachers together. The planners wanted to build camaraderie and provide professional growth opportunities.

A participant explained the importance of this convention. "Academy teachers are almost the forgotten educators of our church. They seldom meet in groups larger than their own faculty; therefore, they frequently feel isolated and lonely. Bringing more than 900 secondary teachers together gave them a shot in the arm and an opportunity to share ideas with colleagues."

And share they did! Teachers took advantage of daily opportunities to talk shop with others who share the same teaching tasks. The convention also provided 10 breakout subject areas for teachers to attend.

The teachers explored such topics as: "Scans: A New Look at Workforce Readiness" for business education teachers and "The Critical Analysis and Thinking Skills Program" for English teachers. Bible teachers zeroed in on: "The Secularity of Adventism," "Presenting Salvation to Teens" and "The Everlasting Gospel." Presenters included Jon Paulien, a Seventh-day Adventist Seminary professor, and Jack Sequeira, a Potomac Conference pastor.

Throughout the convention, devotional speakers encouraged the



The convention provided an opportunity for teachers to exchange ideas.

teachers to look at their profession as a direct call from God to ministry. Others encouraged the teachers to commit themselves to a ministry "that is as valid as the pastoral ministry." They urged teachers to present the gift of grace to their students in the content of the subjects they teach.

Teachers expressed their gratitude for the convention. They said, "We're getting good ideas from the presenters, and we're also learning from each other."

The five-union convention illustrates the cooperative efforts typical of Adventist educators within the Atlantic, Canadian, Columbia, Lake, and Southern unions. ■

Clarence Dunbebin is associate superintendent of schools for the Chesapeake Conference.



Teachers explored such topics as, "Presenting Salvation to Teens."

Gift of Love

by Patricia Foster

This Christmas was the best one I've had in a long time," said Bill Young. He received the greatest gift he could have ever asked for—a kidney from Verlie, his wife. They met in the back of an ambulance while transporting a patient and have been married for 17 years.

For the past two years Bill, 38, has been on the donor list for a kidney transplant. His medical problems began about 10 years ago when doctors found his left kidney was failing and had to be removed. Health problems relating to hypertension resulted in a heart attack when Bill was 34. Two years later he began having problems with his right kidney. A year and a half ago it too had to be removed.

Bill has spent much time in and out of the hospital during the past two years. In November, 1994, he was in intensive care for most of the month. "I thought I was going to die. I just couldn't live the quality of life I was used to; I was tired all the time and miserable," he said.

Bill and Verlie have four children—Tammie, John, Patricia, and Dustin. Their 12-year-old daughter, Dustin, decided she would surprise her father and offered to donate her kidney to him for a Christmas present. "I just wanted to do it because I love him. It didn't take much thinking," Dustin said. She was unable to donate because she was too young. It was at this time Verlie decided to be tested. "The doctors told us it was a one in a million shot," Bill said.

In April 1995, Verlie was notified she matched to be a donor. "I was excited about it, but Bill didn't want me to do it," Verlie said. "We made a commitment when we got married. If you love somebody you'd do anything for them."

Being in the medical profession, Bill, a paramedic for Whitfield County in Northeast Ga., knew how painful the surgery would be for his wife. He also knew that without a kidney he would eventually have to quit work and become disabled.

Surgery was scheduled for October 24. On the day of the surgery,

Bill was still reluctant for his wife to be the donor. "She's more stubborn than me, so we went through with it," Bill said with a smile. The surgery was a success and four days later, Bill was released from the hospital. He returned to work December 27—only two months after the transplant.

"The change in him was incredible—he suddenly had energy again," Verlie said.

The busy life of a husband, father, and paramedic doesn't keep Bill from being involved in his local church in Calhoun, Georgia. He also has a deep love for young people and is the Pathfinder general coordinator for the conference, working with director of children's ministries, John Swafford, in planning conference-wide Pathfinder functions.

"We contribute the quick recovery of both Verlie and me to answered prayers. We had people praying for us from the east to the west coast," Bill said.

Bill has a real burden to encourage people to sign their donor cards. Six people die each day because there are not enough organs and yet up to 70 people could be helped from one person. Bill is proof, organ transplants work. ■

Patricia Foster is the editorial secretary at Georgia-Cumberland Conference.



Bill and Verlie Young.



Bill and Verlie Young.



Bill and Verlie Young with John Swafford, director of children's ministries at Georgia-Cumberland Conference.

CAROLINA

Betty O'Leary, a member of the Sharon church in Charlotte, N.C., was featured on the front page of the *Monroe Enquirer/Journal*. Her work with birds of prey at the Raptor Center has gained notoriety in the area. O'Leary presents educational programs, primarily to school children, regarding the purpose of the Raptor Center, the natural history of birds of prey, and information about the law which protect the birds. She received the recognition after conducting two programs in a Monroe, N.C., elementary school.

As **Benny Moore** makes plans to move on to the Northern Pacific Union, the conference was in search of a new treasurer to take his place. At the December 11, 1995, executive committee meeting, conference undertreasurer **Randee Reynolds** was unanimously voted in as the new treasurer. Reynolds has been with the conference for eight years and has worked in various areas of the treasury department. He is very well acquainted with the Carolina Conference operations.



FLORIDA

Erik Sanchez, a 1995 honors graduate of Greater Miami Academy (GMA), is studying at the University of Miami on a full scholarship due to his high grade point average and Scholastic Achievement Test (SAT) score. He is studying premed and is under an apprenticeship of a surgeon. "Erik is outstanding in many ways," said his GMA math and physics teacher, George Aristide, also director of development. "Not only is he very bright, but is a spiritual leader. Erik has preached many times at the Northwest Miami



Koseruba Breaks the Record for the Oldest Jumper at DeLand's Center

It's not inconceivable that a doctor would fly to Florida for a weekend skydiving excursion, but consider that **Dr. George Koseruba** of Wilmington, North Carolina, is 82 years old.

Koseruba's zest for life and belief in living every moment as if it were his last drove him to jump from a plane 14,000 feet above an open field.

It took some coaxing from his son David, but the Wilmington pediatrician went to DeLand, Florida, and made the jump, falling 110 miles per hour.

"When you get out of that plane and lay in the air on your tummy, it's really a thrilling experience," Koseruba said. "And now I can finally say I got to skydive."

Not only did he skydive, he broke the DeLand center's record for the oldest jumper, which was 78 before Koseruba came along. The center presented him with a certificate after he landed to family and friends cheering below.

The Wilmington church member believes that staying fit mentally and physically is what enabled him to stay active at 82. He stresses the importance of not getting stressed. Koseruba retired in 1989 from the practice he founded in 1942. However, after three years of retirement, he felt his mind was getting sluggish so he returned to work three days a week at a Wilmington doctor's office. He feels helping children again and keeping busy has rejuvenated him.

Spanish church and at the recent youth crusade. He's a positive person who always has a word of encouragement for others." He is also a talented artist, and created posters, backdrops, and more for GMA's various outreach activities. Although not a Seventh-day Adventist when he first attended GMA in the eighth grade, he was baptized a year later. He is the only member of his immediate family who is an Adventist, and has overcome many personal conflicts. (Some time after becoming an Adventist, he realized that as a small child his nanny took him to an Adventist church with her.) Sanchez is reminded daily of the final words his 21-year-old cousin, Frances (Miki) Jakovljevic, spoke to him on her deathbed. "Although she was extremely weak from ovarian cancer, she grabbed my hand and made me promise to never leave God. This promise guides my life daily."

GULF STATES



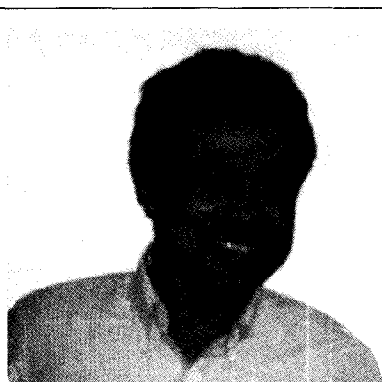
Donna Bumpers of the Jackson, Ala., church attended a Gospel Workers' Training program conducted by Tony Cirigliano. Donna envisioned giving more Bible studies than in the past,

besides wanting to do all she could to help her church grow where there were only three families attending. Soon the Lord was blessing with more and more people interested in studying the Bible. She and Dan Houghtaling, the pastor, worked together as a team and God blessed with 15 new members as a result of their efforts. Donna is now teaching a group of nine church members to be Bible workers. She also works as a literature evangelist in the Gulf States Conference. In addition to personally giving Bible studies, she enrolls many in a free Bible course, and places many truth-filled books in the homes.

Janet Fordjour, of Memphis, was among six women named by the Association of Adventist Women as Adventist Woman of the Year for 1995. She was honored at a banquet brunch during the annual AAW Conference in Collegedale, Tenn. She is married to Isaac Fordjour, M.D., and is his surgical assistant. She is also an active member of the Longview Heights church as family ministries coordinator with her husband, home and school leader, and youth division teacher. She has taught cooking and exercise classes for the church and community.



One of her appreciated projects is an annual High School Senior Banquet for the Adventist children of all the Memphis churches who do not attend Adventist academies; nonAdventist young people are welcomed too.



The Prayer of a Parent

Angelo Cerna was raised a Seventh-day Adventist. He attended church school and Antillian Union College. At the age of 17 he began to have trouble in college and decided to quit school and religion. Joining the U.S. Army, he was assigned to the 82nd Airborne in Ft. Bragg, N.C. He served seven years and then joined the Marines for another seven years.

While in the service, he met his wife, Sue. Their lifestyle was one of drugs and alcohol. When Angelo left the military, he had problems keeping a job to support his wife and three children.

In 1991 Angelo was convicted on a DUI, and his license was taken away. It was at this time that Sue decided she needed a change in her life and decided

to attend church where her brother was a pastor.

Angelo saw the change in his wife and knew he should attend, but felt the Seventh-day Adventist Church was where he should be. In the spring of 1994, he saw an advertisement for a Revelation Seminar being held at the Ellijay, Ga., church. He and Sue started attending.

Sabbath work was a problem, and Angelo became very discouraged. However, the encouragement of the church family strengthened their ties.

It had been almost 25 years since Angelo had contacted any of his family, and now he had a desire to find them. Pastor James Peel's son, Michael, had taken young people on mission trips to Costa Rica where Angelo's parents pastored when he left home. Michael had become acquainted with an Alfredo Cerna and located him in Springdale, Ark. This was Angelo's only brother.

Elder and Mrs. Cerna now lived in Nicaragua. Elder Cerna had retired and was in poor health. Mrs. Cerna was very active conducting evangelistic meetings. It was about this time that she prayed, "Lord, I am going to hold an evangelistic meeting to reach the young men in this city. If it is possible, at the end of this meeting please let me hear from my Angelo."

Her prayers were answered. In September of 1995, arrangements were made for Angelo's mother and father to fly to the United States to visit with both sons and to witness the baptism of Angelo. They are praying now that Sue and the children will become members.

James Peel, pastor Ellijay, Ga.

Meeting an urgent, critical need of Holbrook Indian School, a new dormitory will be built, the result of a gift from the McKee family in memory of their mother, **Anna Ruth King McKee**.



In the later years before her death, Ruth told family members there was only one thing she missed in her life, and that was teaching young people. Her formal education prepared her to teach school. Instead of teaching, she supported her husband in establishing the family business.

The Ruth McKee Hall will be home for 80 Indian girls, ages 6 through 20. It will have 30 rooms, modest apartments for the dean and her assistant, and a small computer/study room.

Together the McKees turned a Depression-days cookie business into the McKee Foods Corporation, the largest producer of snack cakes in North America.





Carolina

Women from the **CHARLESTON CHURCH** recently held first-ever **PRAYER BREAKFAST** at Kiawah beach. Mother-daughter picnics and "Sisters of the Sabbath" are other women's ministries sponsored events at this church.

More than 500 volunteer hours were contributed by the **COLUMBIA FIRST CHURCH** to handle the booth at the **SOUTH CAROLINA STATE FAIR**. In addition to offering a hearing test, volunteers also took health surveys and checked blood pressures. Hundreds of pamphlets and books were given out during the ten days of the fair.

During the **PAST 10 YEARS, THE SALISBURY, N.C., CHURCH HAS SEEN CHURCH MEMBERSHIP GROW** by 45 percent. During the same time, tithe income has risen 81 percent.

Each baby dedicated in the **SPARTANBURG, S.C., CHURCH** receives an **EDUCATION CERTIFICATE** good for the first and last months tuition for the child's first year of church school.

The **ERWIN HILLS CHURCH NEAR ASHEVILLE, N.C.**, held their **10-YEAR CELEBRATION AND HOMECOMING** December 9.

The **MUSIC DEPARTMENT OF MOUNT PISGAH**

ACADEMY presented a **WEEKEND OF MUSIC**, December 15. As in years past, on Friday the students performed Vivaldi's *Gloria*. On Saturday night, guests of the academy enjoyed the musical talents of students in the band.

THE ROCKY MOUNT, N.C., church was the first to have a **NEW MEMBER BAPTIZED IN THE INLET WATERS AT EASTERN CAROLINA CAMP MEETING** at Oak Island, N.C. Ted Huskins, pastor, was glad to take the opportunity to baptize and welcome Ronnie D. Lloyd, a Nashville, N.C., dentist, officially into God's family.

MORGANTON, N.C., CHURCH MEMBER Nancy Naegler, an 88-year-old gospel worker, is **EAGER TO WORK FOR SOULS**. She is currently giving several Bible studies and one of her students attended a Revelation Now campaign at the Morganton church and is considering becoming a member of the church.

The gymnastic team at **FLETCHER ACADEMY** recently enjoyed a trip to Canada for some performances. The school held a **FALL STUDENT ASSOCIATION** fair where Fletcher Academy administrator Jon Smith was dunked three straight times. The project not only increased student moral, but also brought in income for the academy.



Florida

Sharing your faith was the focus of a state-wide **YOUTH EVANGELISM CONGRESS** held at Greater Miami Academy, February 1-3. More than 400 attended the meetings sponsored by the conference youth/young adult ministries department. During the weekend, delegates participated in projects that included: working with Habitat for Humanity to build homes for the needy in the greater Miami area; one-on-one street witnessing; and visiting local elementary schools to promote the advantages of a healthy, drug-free lifestyle.

More than 100 Hispanic lay leaders in the greater Miami area participated in a recent **STEWARDSHIP SEMINAR** held at the Westchester Spanish church. The event was sponsored by the conference stewardship department and focused on avoiding debt, creating and sticking to a budget, and learning how to save for retirement. Richard Shepard, conference stewardship director, and Bolivar Bueno, Kissimmee Spanish church pastor and former stewardship director for the East Boliva Mission in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, were featured speakers.

FIVE INDIVIDUALS WERE BAPTIZED INTO THE APOPKA SPANISH CHURCH, November 25. As a result, the church reports 25 baptisms for 1995.

The topic of **PRAYER** drew more than 50 to a special seminar on the subject sponsored by the Jacksonville Southpoint church. Richard O'Ffill, revivalist, conducted the meeting which focused on praying more effectively and what it means to pray in Jesus' name.

One-hundred-twenty youth leaders, pastors, and Sabbath school personnel attended **REV95**, a state-wide youth leadership convention at

Camp Kulaqua, December 1-3. The meetings were sponsored by the conference's youth/young adult ministries department. Seminars included: Kids and God; Understanding and Developing Teenage Spirituality; Multi-Cultural Youth Ministry; Making It Work; How Young Adults Worship, and Generation X: Who Are They and How to Relate to Them.

Frank McMillan, conference director of legal counsel, and Robert Seal, secretary of the Florida Conference Association, were among 100 attorneys who attended a **CONVENTION FOR ADVENTIST LAWYERS** sponsored by the North American Division. The meetings, held in Daytona Beach, focused on ethical considerations in the practice of law and the integration of legal duties and Christian practice.

Eighteen youth leaders from the Orlando Central Hospital, and Forest Lake churches attended **YOUTH SPECIALTIES**, an interdenominational youth leadership congress in Nashville. Topics covered at the five-day event included: Empowering Young People to Lead; Stimulating an Individual's Spiritual Growth; and Avoiding Burnout in Youth Work.

Stephanie Johnson, Forest Lake Academy guidance counselor, and five of her student peer counselors were invited to give a presentation at a recent **FLORIDA PEER HELPER ASSOCIATION** (FPHA) convention in Daytona Beach, Florida. FPFA is made up of peer counseling program directors throughout the state of Florida. Johnson and her group addressed concerns facing teens today such as: how to say *no* to peer pressure; suicide prevention; cults and mind control; conflict management; and sexual harassment.

Georgia-Cumberland



Early in December, the Ooltewah earliteen group enjoyed their **ANNUAL WINTER RETREAT** at Cloudland Canyon State Park. The retreat called "Knee to Knee Worship" was designed to help the young people focus on how to ignite and fortify their faith in Jesus as well as strengthen their friendships through different activities and experiential worship.

Michael Ryan, Global Mission director for the General Conference, was the **GUEST SPEAKER FOR THE KINGSPORT CHURCH** December 9. He gave a report on new areas being entered around the world. A special offering was taken to support unentered territories.

CAMPUS ADVENT ORGANIZATION presently has participating chapters at the University of Georgia in Athens, a developing ministry in the Chattanooga area, prospects for student groups in the Atlanta area, and the ongoing Advent House at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville.

The McMinnville church reports **EIGHT BAPTISMS** for 1995. The booth at the county fair was a success because of the many visitors that received literature.

AAA GETS INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS. As part of the Big Brother/Big Sister program, students spend time with Cascade Elementary children helping them with their school work and spending quality time. **PROJECT PRIDE** reaches out by helping to keep Cascade Road clean. Hungry Hearts and Hand to Hand keep students busy feeding the hungry and helping the elderly take care of their yards and homes.

More than 250 people participated in the **CHURCH MINISTRIES CONVENTION** held at Cohutta Springs December 1-3. Workshops were presented for leaders involved in family life, youth ministries, children's ministries, adult ministries, and stewardship.

Students from Collegedale Academy and Spalding Elementary collected more than 11,000 food items to exceed their goal for **PROJECT 8,000**. Ninety-one families received 280 boxes of food for Thanksgiving. In addition, money was donated to buy fresh produce, rolls and drink. The students made 85 pies that were included in the boxes. Students received a day off from school for their hard work.

Gulf States



For the month of November, Paul Clark, pastor in Brookhaven, Miss., was asked to write a **WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL FOR THE NEWSPAPER**.

A high goal of **300 BAPTISMS** was set for the conference for 1995. With much blessing of the Lord, 334 have been baptized as of the end of November.

Kentucky-Tennessee



Literature evangelists are experiencing **A GAIN OF 9 PERCENT IN LITERATURE SALES** over last year for the same time period.

TITHES INCOME for the first nine months of '95 showed a 7.3 percent gain over the same 39 week period in 1994.

It was voted at the last executive committee to give \$5,000 of the \$80,000 needed to assist the Memphis area churches in securing **A TELEVISION DOWNLINK** in their area for broadcasting 3 ABN and other Adventist programming.

Derek Mustow has been asked to assist in the **TRUST SERVICES DEPARTMENT** on a part-time basis for one year.

By the end of September '95, a 46 percent **GAIN IN BAPTISMS** over the same period a year ago was realized.

Thirty churches have turned in budget requests for **NET '96** meetings.

It was voted at the last executive committee to create a **NEW DISTRICT COMPOSED OF THE GRATZ/SHELBYVILLE/FRANKFORT, KY., CHURCHES;** to place Elizabethtown and Leitchfield churches in a new district, and to move the Madisonville church into a district with Powderly and Ohio County churches.

TWO NEW COMPANIES will be organized in West Liberty, Kentucky, and Clifton, Tennessee.

Southern College



After a couple of guests from Ohio who had attended an Elderhostel made a return visit to the Southern campus, they sent a **THANK YOU NOTE** which reads in part, "Everyone at your school shows the spirit of Christ in their actions and voice." Along with the note came a \$1,000 check.

The Southern College Symphony Orchestra and Judy Glass accompanied a choir for the annual taping of the **GLENN DRAPER CHRISTMAS CONCERT** in early December. It was aired on TV locally and to the armed forces on Christmas eve and Christmas morning.

Southern is inviting prospective students to **VIEW SOUTHERN** this spring. Dates of this spe-

cial opportunity for high school seniors and their sponsors, parents, or pastors to visit the campus are March 31 and April 1, 1996. Call 1-800-SOUTHERN for details.

A MOTHER-DAUGHTER BRUNCH was held in January by Sigma Theta Chi, the Thatcher residence hall organization. Prior to Christmas, residents of both dormitories contributed money, food, and clothes to share with people in need.

A four-week tour offering six hours of academic credit will take students on an **ADVENTURE IN EUROPE 1996**. Tour leader is William Wohlers, vice president for student services and professor of history.

Outreach



BOB RILEY



Joseph, Mary, and Baby Jesus at the "live" manger scene at the Fannin County church.

Live Nativity Attracts Community

Georgia-Cumberland—The members of the Fannin County church wanted their friends and neighbors to know their location in Morganston, Ga. For the second year in a row, the members presented a live drive-through nativity. It was advertised as "a Christmas gift to the community." During the four nights, 705 cars drove through and 2,224 people witnessed the story of Christ's birth.

As people drove around the circular drive and listened to

the music, the first scene depicted was a family camped on their way to Bethlehem. The next scene showed a group of shepherds and sheep by a fire. Following were the wisemen, with their camels, studying a scroll and pointing towards heaven. The Bethlehem Inn had a "No Room" sign on the door with a group inside eating and drinking.

The final scene was a three-room stable. The first stable had shepherds with sheep. In the center were baby goats with Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus at the manger. The third stable also had a shepherd and a white donkey.

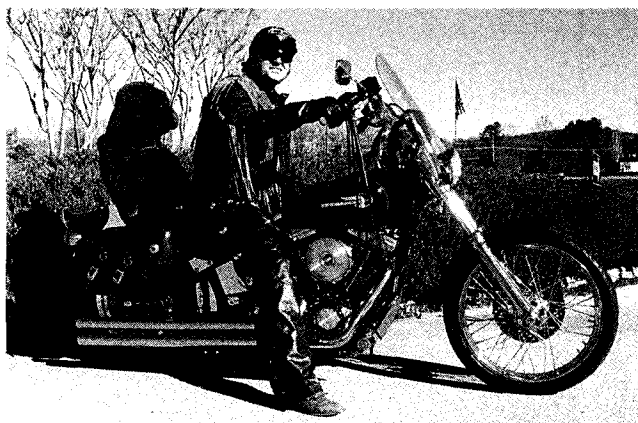
As the cars exited, a member in costume handed them a copy of "About Seventh-day Adventists" rolled and tied with a ribbon. They also received a Christmas card with a welcome and greeting as well as an invitation to visit church services.

One person said, "You folks are doing a

great service for the community. I'm going to give you a check for \$500." More than \$1,100 were given in donations.

The church believes this program will lead some in the community to attend the NET '96 meetings that will be held in October.

Gil Barnett



SHERIE PLATT

Kenny Reynolds with his stuffed gorilla.

Bikers Participate in Toy Run

Georgia-Cumberland—Kenny Reynolds is a HOG (member of Harley Owner Group). He looks like he could be one of the Hell's Angels motorcycle gang wearing his Harley helmet and black leather jacket and pants. However, the big stuffed gorilla he had tied to his bike gives him and the 120 other bikers away.

They participated in the Christmas toy run sponsored by Steel Harley-Davidson to benefit the Chambliss Home for Children in Chattanooga, Tenn. "Most of the people are professionals who enjoy riding motorcycles," said Pat Reynolds, Kenny's wife.

Kenny is the auto body instructor at Southern College. He also spends time recruiting for the college. "Kenny thrives

on entertaining kids. The kids love him. They like being around him. Many don't have anyone to look up to when they come to college and they may end up going in the wrong direction. We would like to become involved in the lives of the kids who need someone to turn to," said Pat.

Along with their ministry to young people, getting involved with bikers has been an outreach ministry for Pat and Kenny. They talk to other bikers about bikes and then give them literature about the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Some people come back and thank them and ask questions. Others never respond, but at least the seed has been planted. Pat said, "We believe our circle of friends don't have to be all Adventists. There are a lot of people out there to reach."

Sherrie Platt

Evangelism Council Hosted at Oakwood

Oakwood College—Ministers, Bible workers, and workers in related fields from regional conferences and several overseas conferences converged on Oakwood College to attend the 16th annual Pastoral/Evangelism Conference, December 3-6.

This year's theme was: "Ministering Toward the 21st Century." The keynote sermon was given by Charles Adams, pastor, Hartford Baptist church in Detroit, Michigan. The title was "The

Lamp, the Light, and the Oil."

Topics for professional growth included Biblical Preaching, Public/Personal Evangelism, Pastoral Ministry, Church Administration, Church Growth, Health Education, Professional Growth, Black Institutions, Christian Education, and Family Life.

The annual program is sponsored by the nine regional conferences plus the Pacific and North Pacific unions. The annual conference helps to fill the varied needs to engage in continuing education, to be equipped more and more for gospel service in the name of Jesus Christ.

Roy E. Malcolm



Dick Davies reads to blind radio listeners at the WJCT studios in Jacksonville.

Adventist Announcer Brings Joy To Blind People

Florida—Blind radio listeners in North Florida are overjoyed when Dick Davies reads to them with his deep, clear, radio voice. The Jacksonville Southpoint member hosts the one-hour *Radio Blind Reading Service* program live every Monday night on WJCT FM 89.9. He's been doing this program for more than two years.

WJCT is part of the National Public Radio network and works closely with the "I" Lab at Florida Community College in Jacksonville. The 100,000 watts station has a special carrier signal which extends out in a 90 mile radius covering not only Jacksonville, but Gainesville, St. Augustine, and up into Georgia.

Davies is one of 50 people who read for the programs which are broadcast 24 hours a day. Items he reads includes classical and

contemporary books, short stories by famous authors, magazines, and newspapers from Jacksonville, Gainesville, and St. Augustine. Information on how to improve the quality of life for them is also addressed. Finally, he tells where services for the visually impaired can be obtained in their communities.

He then spends an additional two hours on Monday nights to record four half-hour programs which are aired at various other time slots.

Also active in his

local church, Davies serves as a Pathfinder counselor, deacon, on the vespers committee, is social committee director, and on the church board.

Because specially designed radios are needed to receive WJCT FM's carrier signal, Davies delivers free radios on Sabbath afternoons. He also makes friends with many blind listeners. He believes (and lives out) a statement made by Jesus, "When you have done it to the least of them, you've done it unto me."

Mei Wall, Cindy Kurtzhals

Lay Pastors Assist Growth

Carolina—The Hispanic ministry in the conference is growing at an exponential rate. With four full-time Hispanic pastors, the 13 churches and companies throughout the Carolinas are benefiting greatly from the dedicated laymen who are helping to carry the load.

On Sabbath, November 18, the Roanoke Rapids Hispanic church welcomed seven new members through baptism. At the baptism itself, five more people made a decision for Christ. The baptisms came as a result of Bible studies given by

several laymen in the church.

Pablo Martinez has been to the lay pastoral assistant seminars with Ron Halvorsen at Nosoca Pines Ranch and is in charge of the group at Roanoke.

In all, there are approximately 12 laymen in the Hispanic churches who had gone through the training with Halvorsen. These men are very active in their churches and are indispensable to the full-time pastor who each have three or four churches they are responsible for. In addition to the lay pastor assistant training, Samuel Romero, director of Hispanic ministries, is also conducting training in the churches on how to give Bible studies



Oscar Hernandez, a lay-assistant pastor, in Charlotte conducts a Revelation Seminar in his home.

and how to make decisions. He also conducts training seminars on how to prepare and present sermons. Romero

reported that if it were not for all the work of the lay-assistants, the Hispanic work would not be growing the way it is. Teri Fowle

Progress



Volunteers working on "House of Healing."

Advent Home Builds New Dorm

Georgia-Cumberland—Construction on the "House of Healing" at the Advent Home in Calhoun, Tenn., is underway. Even though there were not enough funds to complete the preliminary stages of construction, the committee decided to begin.

The building will house 16 students and two couples. It will be a block structure designed to be func-

tional, comfortable, and attractive. Contractors, staff, volunteers, and students had input in the design, layout, and function of the house.

Steve Haley, pastor of the Bowman Hills church, likened the Advent Home to a city of refuge. He said, "It provides safety, security, healing, and comfort to families who are hurting."

Progress seems slow because all work is done by volunteers and the weather has not been favorable for building.

Blondel Senior

Update

Atlanta North Increases Attendance

Georgia-Cumberland—In an endeavor to encourage members to recapture an interest in Sabbath school, the Atlanta North church initiated a new approach to the weekly programs. One Sabbath each month a special "World Sabbath" program replaces the traditional Sabbath school program fol-

lowed by class study. Juniors through adult divisions meet together to learn more about their world church.

The one-hour mission emphasis presentation focuses on the quarter's world mission projects. Programs are varied and may include such things as—musical selections, an Adventist World News report, a junior story, a short devotional prepared especially for the youth, or a church orientation presentation.

Always, there is the prayer for fellow Sabbath school members around the world with special remembrance of those who may be experiencing difficult times. Mission Spotlight is shown and Sabbath school investment promoted. Juniors take up the offering in costumes of the mission being helped.

While juniors through adults are enjoying the "World Sabbath" program, kindergarten and primary divisions meet for "King's Kids." This is a miniature vacation Bible school with stories, songs, special features, and crafts.

The cradle roll has their regular time together.

The other three Sabbaths of the month, the children's divisions have their regular Sabbath school programming. Adults meet and devote the entire time for lesson study. This time provides—time to review the previous lessons and link them with the current study, time to discuss the need to contact missing members, and time for sharing by class members. These activities have promoted more participation and increased attendance.

Conference Sponsors Family Retreat

Georgia-Cumberland—"One of the finest meetings I have ever attended at Cohutta Springs." That's how Conference President Gordon Bietz described the first "Welcome to the Family Retreat" December 8-10.

All adults who were baptized between December, 1994, and the time of the retreat were invited to be guests of the conference. One hundred fifty responded.

New members were participants in programs, sharing their experiences and difficulties encountered regarding Sabbath employment, family reactions, and lifestyle issues such as smoking.

Guests chose two of four workshops: "Effective Witnessing," by evangelist Wendell Stover; "Answering Difficult Bible Questions," by evangelist Pieter Barkhuizen; "SDA Church Structure," by Gordon Bietz; and "Maintaining a Personal Devotional Life," by LeClare Litchfield, chaplain of Collegedale Academy.

"We believe the expense of this meeting is money well spent," said Roy Caughron, vice president for pastoral ministries and evangelism coordinator. "Keeping new members in the Church is just as important as holding a crusade to encourage them to join."

Because of the success of the meeting, another retreat is being planned for 1996.

George Powell

Fletcher Church Features Messiah

Carolina—Saturday, December 9, 1995, the Fletcher Seventh-day Adventist church and the Fletcher Academy music department presented Handel's

Messiah, sung and played by the Fletcher church choir and Chamber Orchestra, under the direction of Joseph Eunkwan Choi, music director of Fletcher Academy, assistant conductor of Asheville Symphony Orchestra and the

church choir.

The soloists for the performance were Tricia Murphy, senior music major at Southern College; Marti Fish, sophomore music major at Southern College; Jack Lee from Cleveland, Tenn., and Kenton Dickerson from Chattanooga, Tenn.

The church has not had a choir for the past six to seven years and with the vision and efforts of the church choir, it was made possible this year. The church leaders were a little worried that there would not be a good attendance due to First

Baptist church in Hendersonville giving three performances of *The Messiah* every year, however, some commented that the Fletcher performance was even better.

From this performance, members of the congregation learned that they have the talent that God has given and have been hiding it. Not until they were interested in working together to create some seemingly impossible task, was the Lord able to bless. This is true also with the Gospel.

Marj Brown



Francis Bush represents high priest.

Sanctuary Model Studied

Gulf States—The Floral Crest church in Bryant, Ala., invited its district members to join for a November week of prayer. Retired minister Francis Bush from North Carolina, presented a study of the "Sanctuary in the Wilderness." Over the years, his in-depth study has produced a scale-model of the sanctuary, which is a part of his presentation.

Each day during the

week, the church school students went to the church where Bush explained to them each section and article of furniture in the sanctuary and how it related to Christ and His ministry. As he dressed to portray the high priest, he explained each piece of clothing.

In addition, each evening of the week, Bush presented a study of Christ in the sanctuary to the adult members.

Sharryn Mahorney

Florida Conference Enters Cyber-Space

Florida—Florida Conference has visibil-

ity on the Internet. It's not an official Seventh-day Adventist presence but it is tucked in as part of employee Lee Bennett's personal page on the World Wide Web (WWW).

Bennett is a production assistant in the communication department and does desktop publishing for several conference publications. His WWW home page, titled *D.T.P.* by Lee (<http://www.oo.com/~bennett/>), has a section devoted to his employer, Florida Conference.

The information about Florida Conference includes a photograph of the conference office, images of several conference publications, and links to WWW pages of the two colleges Bennett attended—Southern College and Andrews University. Other Seventh-day Adventist institutions are also represented, including the SDANet WWW page and the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. All this can be found

in Bennett's category labeled "A Brief History of My Education & Career."

The Adventist WWW pages also received indirect exposure in the January, 1996, issue of *MacUser*, a highly-read, international magazine for Macintosh computer users. When *MacUser* editors learned about Bennett's "MAC-USER" vanity license plate on his truck and a picture of it on his WWW page, they wrote about it in the Open Folder column on page 13.

Many conference employees have already been utilizing Compuserve. Dave Boggess, conference computer network administrator, has made the technology available so they can connect from their office computers.

Cindy Kurtzhals,
A. Lee Bennett, Jr.

Brooksville Church Completes Three-Phase Building Project

Florida—The Brooksville church members celebrated the completion of Phase III of their building program November 4. The final step in the four-year long endeavor was to

turn the former sanctuary into a new kitchen and social hall, and remodel Sabbath school classrooms. Phase I established modern restrooms and Phase II was construction of a new sanctuary.

"What a wonderful church you have established to honor God. You are to be highly commended," said guest speaker



The Brooksville church was recognized by Malcolm and Hazel Gordon for its accomplishments. The Gordons also received a plaque from Mercer for their leadership and inspiration in Florida and the Southern Union. Pictured are: Hazel Gordon (left), Sandra and Hershel Mercer, Doris Siegel, Malcolm Gordon, and local elder Tom Breyan.

Southern Union Conference President Malcolm Gordon. Gordon, also is a past president of the Florida Conference.

The congregation is now posturing itself to provide the most up-to-date seminars for the community which will come to their church via satellite over the Adventist Communication Network (ACN). "We want our modern little church to provide modern services for the Adventist community and the community at large," said an animated Brooksville/Spring Hill pastor Hershel Mercer.

God hasn't led them this far to abandon them now. Remarkable, providential circumstances paved the

financial road to their church's physical plant improvement. (SOUTHERN TIDINGS, August 1994, p. 19-20.) The 126-member congregation's immediate project is to get the downlink equipment for NET '96. They already have the projector.

While declining church school enrollment of years ago caused the closing of their church school, that building is now a large community services center. In addition to all the traditional services these centers provide, members also provide transportation for those unable to attend church, to get to the doctor's office and medical appointments.

Charlene Vogt, Cindy Kurtzhals

church and Pathfinders. During the meetings, the girls showed a growing desire to be baptized. Their two foster care case workers from HRS (Health Rehabilitative Services) were present to witness the event.

This series of Prophecy Seminars was the final evangelistic campaign for the DuBoses. They retired January 1, 1996, after 30 years of ministry in Florida—the past 16

years as full-time evangelists. Together they have conducted more than 100 campaigns, in which many hundreds have found their way into God's remnant church. They also have pastored the Winter Haven, Melbourne, Altamonte Springs, and Avon Park Walker Memorial churches—building new churches in the last two districts they served.

Margaret Taylor-Fisher

Marriage Club Celebrates Anniversary

South Atlantic—The congenial marrieds from Antioch and New Life churches in the Greenville, S.C., district, celebrated their anniversary October 7. "Love Lifted Me" was the theme for the occasion.

The Married Couples Club began ten years ago with an idea from Marian Gray and Russell Williams. Presently, the congenial marrieds have 12 couples who not only serve the church, but also the community. Their services are exhibited by helping needy families at Christmas, or buying hymnals and foundation shrubbery for the new sister churches,

providing financial aid and assistance for Christian education, and sponsoring various family outings.

The club takes two trips together annually—one to Cohutta Springs and another to a great vacation spot of the club's choice. The current president, Lillian Woodward, and past presidents, Marian Gray, Nettie Jones, and Arthur Pine, took part in the anniversary services with choirs from Antioch and New Life churches giving praise to the Lord through song followed by a message by South Atlantic treasurer Eugene Mason, Jr., who, along with his beautiful wife, led a discussion after lunch at Huntington Downs on marriage enrichment and communication.

R. Dawkins



South Orlando pastor Harry Robinson (left center), stands with 18 baptismal candidates at Bob and Joyce DuBose's final campaign.

Evangelists Conclude Career With 18 Baptisms

Florida—Conference evangelists Bob and Joyce DuBose recently joined with Harry Robinson and his wife, Jeanne, at the South Orlando church, to conduct the Prophecy Seminars evangelistic meetings.

Following four weeks of meetings and a week of follow-up, 16 people were baptized, two people were rebaptized, and 30 more now attend the pastor's follow-up seminar held during the Sabbath morning Bible class time. One-third of the Bible students are nonmem-



Evangelistic team, Robert and Joyce DuBose.

ber guests.

The evangelistic South Orlando congregation usually hosts at least two seminars a year. Last year they hosted four. This year, there were four baptisms in April after their first series. For 1995, 22 people were won for the Lord. Two of the recent baptismal candidates were the foster children of members Phil and Joan Bova. The girls have lived with the Bova's for three years and faithfully attended

Charleston Celebrates Homecoming

Carolina—No one knows for certain; it could have been a tract or a book left by a literature evangelist, whatever the source, the seed began to bear fruit in this historical city by the sea in 1915-16. The first church school was

opened in 1922. It did not always run as smoothly as it does today.

In earlier days, a teacher had to resign because the church could not afford the \$99-a-month teacher's salary. Today, however, the church operates a three-teacher, kindergarten-through-eight-grade school.

The Charleston church was a major staging area for relief work for Red



Five former pastors from the Charleston, S.C., church gathered for a picture at the church's 78th anniversary homecoming Sabbath, November 18. Looking to the future are: John Keplinger, left, who pastored the church in the early '40s, Herman Davis was at the helm from '57 to '63, David Prest, Sr., was there from '80 to '84, S. S. Will from '43 to '46, and H. Kenneth Crawley, the present pastor. Also attending, but not available for a picture, was Gene Young who pastored from 1989 to 1994.

Cross and Adventist community services during Hurricane Hugo. People came by the thousands to the church for assistance during this major disaster.

The present church building, which is

highly visible on a major Charleston highway, stands as a monument to the many blessings God has bestowed on His people in this beautiful city by the sea.

Ron Quick

Youth



The first Wauchula, Fla., Pioneer Pathfinder club.

Hardee County Touched By Wauchula's Youth

Florida—Hardee County residents had the opportunity to read about the Wauchula (English) church's first-ever Pathfinder club, and the kindness it plans to extend to the community.

Wauchula Pioneer

Pathfinder Director Joe Colavito wrote a concise, yet comprehensive article for *The Herald Advocate* introducing the Pathfinders to the community, and their request for community participation in the decades-old Pathfinder Halloween Can Collection tradition. The worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Pathfinder organization was also explained.

The Herald Advocate

ran the article on October 19 with the headline "Youth To Collect For Needy This Sunday."

Two Sundays of collections generated lots of beans and soup—386 canned good items to be exact. "This was a first for the club and the children enjoyed working on a project to benefit others," said Jan Meredith, one of the assistant directors. The seven-member Pathfinder/four-member Adventurers club is directed by Colavito along with six other adult staffers. "We hope the Club will grow," said Meredith. In all the decades of the Wauchula church's tenure there has been no Pathfinder club, so local leaders are excited—and growth is off to a good start. The kids recently marched in the annual Hardee County Parade on December 2, and assisted the church with Ingathering.

Utilizing the press is an integral part of local evangelism. With Wauchula being the largest city in Hardee County and having a

population of 5,400, Wauchula's Pathfinders are on target by publicizing their goals and good deeds.

Because of the benefits to evangelism, Victor Cooper, now retired associate communication director for the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, always trained communicators by saying, "It's more important for you to submit articles to the secular press (about the Church) than to the denominational publications." Recently retired North American Division Communication Director Owen Troy agrees, with clarification, "You can reach more nonmembers through the media than in your church pews on Sabbath morning."

The Herald Advocate's circulation is 5,890. Because of the Pathfinder news exposure in it, 5,890 opportunities were created for citizens of that county seat to become more aware of the Church and to be touched by its kindness—Jesus' touch and kindness.

Cindy Kurtzhals, Jan Meredith.

Students Aid Your Story Hour in Cuba

Florida—Port Charlotte Adventist school

students collected and sent nearly 1,000 much-needed writing supplies and other sundry items to Cuban children during a project called "Share



Several Port Charlotte students show writing supplies they collected for students in Cuba.

Jesus in Cuba." The items were used by children enrolled in the *Your Story Hour* children's ministry.

Port Charlotte home and school leader Ana Fuentes, wife of associate pastor Gerald Fuentes, learned of the dire need for such common supplies as pencils and pens for Cuban students of *Your Story Hour*. This was brought to her attention at the Florida Conference Spanish Children's Ministries Workshop at the Orlando Spanish church last summer by guest speaker Andres Garcia, one of *Your Story Hour* leaders in Cuba. He told how *Your Story*

Hour instructors go into the streets of Cuba on foot and invite neighborhood children to participate in informal programs where they sing and listen to Bible story tapes. The Bible lessons are comprised of four courses and have proven to be very successful. A graduation is held after each course, and is considered to be a "big production" by island residents, according to Garcia.

"Pastor Garcia told how many of the instructors have no pencils for the children to use for their lessons. Common, everyday items such as school supplies and even bars of soap are largely unavailable

on the island. He said many doctors are unable to write prescriptions due to the lack of pens and pencils. This made me think that it might be a good mission project for our school," said Fuentes.

During the two-week campaign, students brought in such items as pencils, pens, erasers, crayons, paper, rulers, as well as soap, and toothpaste. The soap will be appreciated, Fuentes learned, as some Cuban-parents did not send their children to the *Your Story Hour* graduation as the children were unable to bathe beforehand. At the end of the two weeks, nearly

1,000 items were collected. The Port Charlotte school children prayed that Garcia would encounter no problems with the donated items at Customs, which he did not. Garcia reported that the *Your Story Hour* team in Cuba was extremely touched that children in the United States would care so much about children they had never met.

Recently in Havana, more than 300 children completed the *Your Bible Story Bible* course, with another 600 children enrolled. "Families are coming to the Lord because of the children," said Fuentes.

Lynn Huff

FLORIDA CONFERENCE MEN'S CONVENTION Camp Kulaqua, March 15-17

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Speakers include: Dan Matthews; Dennis Ross, Jr.; Ron Halvorsen; Des Cummings, Jr.; and Jerry Page

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Chalet—\$84.00 per person (all linens provided)

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you have given me the heritage of those who fear your name." Psalm 61:5

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Applications must be received by March 18, 1996



Evangelist John Bradshaw from Amazing Facts, and Bob Chase, pastor, recently concluded a successful meeting in Columbia, Ky. The meetings ended with a baptismal service.



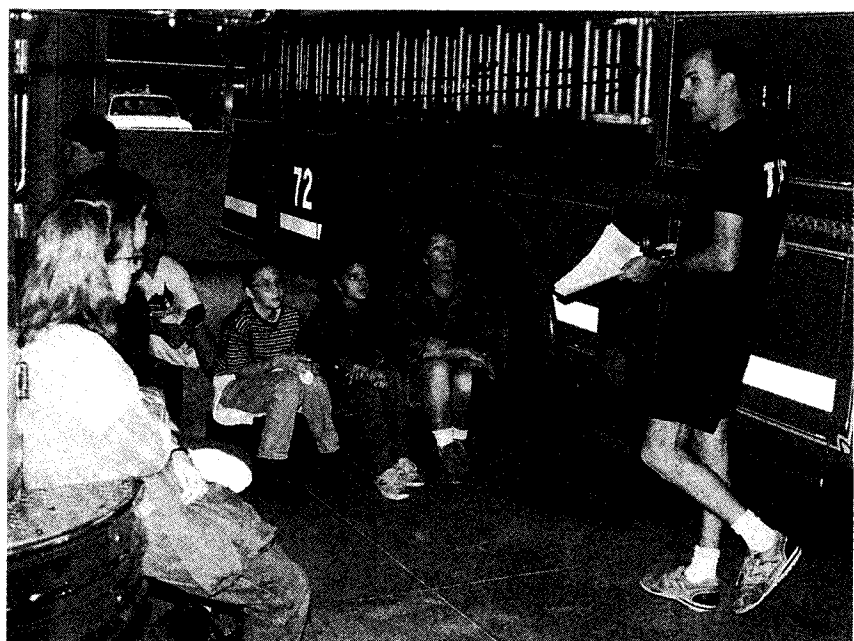
The year-end awards banquet for the Kentucky-Tennessee literature evangelists was held December 16 at the conference office. James Hunt (center), was honored by Bill Beckworth, Southern Union director (left), and David Haugsted, Kentucky-Tennessee director, for highest sales in the conference with sales totaling nearly \$80,000. The literature evangelists experienced a gain in sales in 1995.



Reading in the Adventist Review of the need for help to restore the homes of Adventist pioneers in Battle Creek, Thom Smith of Florida City and D. N. Stewart of Thonotosassa, Fla., volunteered two weeks to the project. They are shown repairing the home of J. N. Loughborough on Champion Street.



More than 500 visitors and friends of the Carolina Conference toured the modern complex on December 10 for the new building open house. Present to cut the ribbon to the new 27,500 square foot building were Les Rilea (left), Southern Union Civilian Chaplain; Linda McCall, Charlotte County Commissioner; Ella Butler-Scarborough, Charlotte City Council; Richard Vinroot, Republican candidate for governor and former Charlotte mayor; Ken Coonley, Carolina Conference president; and Malcolm Gordon, Southern Union president.



Pathfinders in Collegedale work on their Red Alert Honor during a campout.

IMAGES



The Augusta First church was blessed by the evangelistic prophecy seminar conducted by Pieter Barkhuizen recently. A total of 31 members were added following these meetings. These new converts came from Catholic, Baptist, Lutheran, and Holiness backgrounds.



The Jamestown church celebrated its 80th anniversary last year. Three former pastors were present, and of course the current pastor, Bob Chase. Terry Wolfe was the Sabbath morning speaker. David Seymore spoke in the afternoon, and Bruce Kesselring provided special music on his violin.



CONNIE COPELAND

Twenty-six walkers, a baby, and one dog from the Ocala, Fla., church participated in the five-mile CROP Walk (Christian Overseas Rural Program). Many area churches were involved, but the Adventist church raised the most money per person—\$915 total. Funds were donated to several charities, including the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA).



Apopka Highland, Fla., church's day care center invited the community for refreshments and tours at its first open house. The center's mission is to provide quality Christian child care for the greater Apopka area. Thirty-two children are currently registered and enrollment continues to grow. Four-year-old Morgan Anderson did her share preparing "food" for the center's open house.



Despite multiple tragedies, including death of a father, a husband, and another man falling from a tractor and shattering his ankle, the Owensboro church rejoiced over the 14 baptisms at the close of the evangelistic meetings, and four more planning baptism very soon. The meetings were conducted by Amazing Facts evangelist Kim Kjaer and local pastor Bob Korzyniowski.



Gladys and Earl Giles celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary, September 14, 1995, in Orlando, Fla., with family and friends. The Giles were married in Louisville, Ky. They served as faculty of Mount Pisgah Academy in Asheville, N.C. For the past 27 years, Earl has worked in the engineering department of McKee Foods Corporation. The Giles have two sons, Charles Giles of Orlando and Stanley Giles of Greeneville, Tenn.



Atlanta Adventist Academy had their annual student spiritual retreat at Camp Alamisco. All but three of the 115 students attended. During the weekend, five students were baptized and 35 recommitted their lives to Christ.

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR ADVERTISEMENT: (1) Have a local church elder write "Approved" and his signature on the sheet of paper containing the advertisement, (2) write your name and address on the same sheet, (3) specify how many times the ad is to run, (4) send the approved ad to your conference office 6 weeks in advance of the publication date and (5) don't forget to enclose payment in full. Make checks payable to SOUTHERN TIDINGS.

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URGENTLY NEEDED: MISSIONARY VOLUNTEERS IN KOREA. College graduates with bachelor's degree or higher to teach conversational English and Bible for one year or more at the SDA Language Institutes of Korea (teaching experience not necessary—we train). Retirees welcome. Benefits include: airfare, housing, utilities, stipend and severance pay. For more information contact Ray James, 40 Pleasant Drive, Sutter Creek, CA 95685. Phone: (209) 267-0416 or FAX: (209) 267-0342. (C)

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CALENDAR

February

S M T W T F S

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

Carolina

Adventurer Staff Retreat—Feb. 2-4. Nosoca Pines Ranch.

Romance at the Ranch—Feb. 16-18. Nosoca Pines Ranch. Speakers: Phyllis and Larry Tech. Musicians: Oscar and Dianne Kosarin.

Prayer Conference—Feb. 23-25. Nosoca Pines Ranch. Special emphasis for youth and young adults. Speakers: Ruthie Jacobson, Ginny Allen, and Randy Maxwell.

Sabbath School and VBS Workshop—March 15-17. Nosoca Pines Ranch.

Conference-Wide Youth Summit—March 16. Nosoca Pines Ranch.

Pathfinder Workbee—March 22-24. Nosoca Pines Ranch.

1996-1997 Music Scholarship Auditions—April 21. Fletcher Academy. Details: (704) 687-5135. Deadline: April 15.

Florida

Adventist Divorce/Grief Recovery Support Group—Every Thursday Night. Altamonte Springs church. Details: (407) 291-8321.

Christian Edition in Concert—Feb. 23. Forest Lake church.

Evangelistic Meetings

Feb. 23-March 30. St. Augustine. Lester and Zula Pratt and Roy and Amy Pauley.

Feb. 24-March 23. Casselberry Spanish. Jose and Ofelia Fuentes.

March 8-April 6. Lake Placid. Bill and Marilyn Bornstein and Lorraine Bullis.

March 16-May 11. New Smyrna Beach. Art and Margo Swaningson.

March 30-May 11. Jupiter. Robert and Mary Goransson.

March 30-May 18. Clearwater. Bill and Cora Waters. "Encuentro Juvenil" West Coast.

Feb. 24.

GOAL Volleyball Tournament—Feb. 24. Forest Lake Academy.

Singles Event—Feb. 24. St. Petersburg church. Details: (813) 321-8443.

Small School Outdoor Education—Feb. 27-March 2. Camp Kulaqua.

Camp Meeting at Camp Kulaqua (formerly North Florida Spiritual Enrichment Week-end)—Feb. 29-March 3. Speaker: Kenneth Cox.

North Florida Youth Spiritual Retreat—March 1-3. Camp Kulaqua.

Adventist Singles Ministries Fellowship Dinners

March 2. Florida Hospital.

March 9. Forest Lake and West Palm Beach First.

March 16. University.

March 23. Kress Memorial.

Annual Michigan Academies Alumni—March 9. Forest Lake Academy. (813) 626-8760.

Men's Ministries Conference-wide Convention—March 15-17. Camp Kulaqua.

Christian Concert Series—March 23. Markham Woods. Bob Stromberg.

High School Adventist Youth Fellowship (AYF)—March 24-26. Camp Kulaqua.

Yucatan, Mexico High School Mission Trip—March 29-April 5.

Marriage Commitment Seminar—May 3-5. Daytona Beach Hilton Resort. Reservations: (407) 869-8106 or (407) 644-5000.

NET '96—Oct. 5-Nov. 9. Forest Lake Academy. Apopka.

Forest Lake Academy Day/Alumni Week-end—March 17-23.

Forest Lake Golf Tournament—April 8.

Georgia-Cumberland

Pathfinder Teen Honors Weekend—Feb. 16-18. Cohutta Springs. Preregistration.

Pathfinder South Georgia Honors Week-end—Feb. 23-25. Lakeland, Ga. Preregistration.

VBS Satellite Teleconference—March 4. 11:00 a.m. EST.

Adventure Club Staff Training—March 8-10. Cohutta Springs. Preregistration.

Children's Ministries Convention—(VBS) March 15-17. Cohutta Springs. Preregistration.

Adventurer Club Family Fun Day—March 17. Cohutta Springs Camp. Preregistration.

Pathfinder Teen Discovery Weekend—March 22-24. Cohutta Springs Camp. Preregistration.

Pathfinder Orienteering—March 24. Cohutta Springs Camp. Preregistration.

Georgia-Cumberland Academy Alumni—April 6.

Convocations

Feb. 17. South Georgia. Ashburn.

March 2. Cumberland. Dayton.

March 16. Northeast Tennessee. Johnson City.

Gulf States

Church Ministries Convention—Feb. 9-11. Camp Alamisco.

Marriage Enrichment Seminar—Feb. 16, 17. Camp Alamisco.

New Believers' Retreat—Feb. 23-25. Camp Alamisco.

Education Fair (Elem. Schools)—Feb. 26. Bass Memorial Academy.

Women's Coordinators Retreat—March 22-24. Camp Alamisco.

Camp Meeting—May 24-June 1. Bass Memorial Academy.

Pathfinder/Youth Ministry Convention—Aug. 2-4. Camp Alamisco.

Jr. Academy Bible Conference—Sept. 12-14. Camp Alamisco.

Retirees' Retreat—Sept. 15-18. Camp Alamisco.

Secular Campus Bible Retreat—Oct. 4-6. Camp Alamisco.

Women's Retreat—Nov. 1-3.

Elders'/Deacons' Meeting—Dec. 6-8. Camp Alamisco.

Conference Executive Committee

Feb. 6. Montgomery.

March 12. Montgomery.

Southern College

Spring Break—March 1-9.

Vespers

Feb. 2. Thatcher Hall women.

Feb. 9. Black History week.

Feb. 16. Destiny Drama home show.

Feb. 23. Week of Spiritual Emphasis. Mic Thurber.

Church Pulpit Guests

Feb. 24. Mic Thurber.

March 2. Dwight Herod.

Special Events

Feb. 4-7. Southern Union honors music workshop.

Feb. 5-9. Black History week.

Feb. 15. Opportunities career fair.

Feb. 19-24. Week of Spiritual Emphasis. Mic Thurber.

Concerts

Feb. 3. SC Pops concert 8 p.m.

Feb. 4. SC Symphony Concerto Concert 8 p.m.

Feb. 18. Moses Hogan Chorale 8 p.m.

Southern Union

Youth-to-Youth—Feb. 15-18. Camp Kulaqua.

Marriage Encounter Weekend—March 22-24. Details: (615) 863-8268.

Out of Union

ASI Convention—July 31-Aug. 3. Providence, R.I.

Grand Ledge Centennial Celebration—March 23. Details: (517) 627-4208.

Wedding

MCKENNEY - COX

Carol Goodwin-Cox and Joseph Vernon McKenney were married November 12 in Ringgold, Ga. The service was performed by one of the bride's brothers, Austin C. Goodwin. Carol is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Goodwin, Sr., of Ringgold. Joseph is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie McKenney of Laclede, Mo. Carol and Joseph presently reside in Laclede, Mo.



STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

How Would You Feel?

Yes, how would you feel, if God gave us the same amount of time and attention that we devote to Him? If God put as many things ahead of us as we put ahead of Him? If God offered as many excuses as we do, and if the excuses were no more justifiable than ours? If God's promises were no more certain than ours? If God withheld His blessings from us as we withhold our offerings from Him?

Sunset

	Feb. 2	Feb. 9	Feb. 16	Feb. 23	Mar. 1	Mar. 8
Atlanta, Ga.	6:10	6:17	6:23	6:29	6:35	6:41
Charleston, S.C.	5:53	6:00	6:06	6:12	6:18	6:23
Charlotte, N.C.	5:53	6:00	6:06	6:13	6:19	6:26
Collegedale, Tenn.	6:10	6:17	6:24	6:31	6:31	6:42
Huntsville, Ala.	5:16	5:23	5:30	5:36	5:43	5:49
Jackson, Miss.	5:35	5:41	5:48	5:53	5:59	6:04
Louisville, Ky.	6:07	6:15	6:23	6:30	6:37	6:44
Memphis, Tenn.	5:30	5:37	5:43	5:50	5:56	6:03
Miami, Fla.	6:05	6:10	6:15	6:19	6:23	6:27
Montgomery, Ala.	5:20	5:26	5:32	5:38	5:44	5:49
Nashville, Tenn.	5:15	5:22	5:29	5:36	5:43	5:49
Orlando, Fla.	6:05	6:11	6:16	6:21	6:26	6:30
Wilmington, N.C.	5:43	5:50	5:57	6:03	6:09	6:15

Luv Is A Verb

by Yvette Saliba

Luv Is A Verb" is the school theme this year at Forest Lake Academy (FLA) in Forest City, Florida. The Student Esteem Program (StEP), along with several other community endeavors, seem to fit that theme quite well.

In its mission statement, StEP summarizes the reasons for projects such as its Big Brother/Big Sister program by saying: "Students should be taught to reach out to each other, encourage one another, and to pray for each other's well-being. It is through meeting people where their needs are that students can introduce others to a caring Savior—thus become caring Seventh-day Adventist Christians."

The school's Big Brother/Big Sister project started in 1993 with just one little boy and an academy student. In 1995, it has boomed to 90 caring academy students. It started when Stephanie Johnson, FLA StEP director, was called by the local Adventist elementary school, Forest Lake Educational Elementary Center (FLEEC) in Longwood. She was asked if there was anyone at the academy who could spend some time with a little boy who was having trouble in school.

A senior, James Johnson, jumped

at the opportunity to get out of an hour of school and act like a sixth grader again. He went to FLEEC to spend time once a week with the little boy. For a couple of weeks all these two young people did was play basketball and joke around.

In time, there was a tremendous, positive change in that little boy's schoolwork and attitude. The school called Johnson to tell her how this little boy had changed; he was becoming more involved and doing his homework again. When she told the academy senior, he was baffled. "All I do is shoot some hoops with the guy, I don't get it."

Taking time out of a busy day to spend with someone and show them care—makes the difference. The purpose of the program is not to have deep therapy groups with the students or have them tell their life stories. It is a time when a child can hang out and play with another older than himself—play on the computers, read books, see who can swing the highest on the swing set, or climb all over the monkey bars. No matter how trivial the activity, it means the world to the younger children.

Today, 90 academy students trek over to two elementary schools, FLEEC and Orlando Junior Academy. Some of these students had Big Brothers or Big Sisters when they were in elementary school. Now that they are in academy, they want to give something back to their school and do something that had been done for them—show that they care.

Jodie Henderson, a sophomore, and a Big Sister at Orlando Junior Academy said, "I wish that when I was in elementary school that I could have had a Big Sister—that is why I chose to become a part of this program."

It is a wonderful feeling for the academy students when they walk



Big Sister Yvette Saliba, top, a junior at Forest Lake Academy in Forest City is pictured with her "little brother" Jamie Shirley, a third grader at Forest Lake Elementary Educational Center in Longwood.



Yvette and Jamie hang out on the monkey bars. Taking time out of a busy day to spend with someone and show that you care—makes a difference in both lives.

into a classroom and their "little sibling" turns and gives them a big, toothless smile and a big hug. It is even better when it happens outside of the school environment. As a "Big Sister," I remember walking down a hall in the church I attend and seeing my "little brother." He gave me the biggest hug that I've ever had, and told me he missed me, even though he had just seen me the day before.

"Luv Is A Verb," is truly expressed in this program. Just the fact that an academy student takes an hour out of a busy schedule each week to "hang out" with a younger kid—proves that being a brother's keeper, is all that it is cracked up to be. ■

Yvette Saliba is a junior at Forest Lake Academy.

Up on the Rooftop

Practical Christianity Helps Bond Community to Hospital

by Karen Schimp

To have a successful program, a hospital must be community-based," says Henry Scoggins, president for Memorial Hospital in Manchester, Kentucky. The 63-bed Adventist Health System Sunbelt medical facility, nestled in the middle of the Daniel Boone National Forest, serves a rural community where

community project might be beneficial in several ways. First, it might instill a sense of mission in the students, teaching them the joy of service. Second, the project would give the hospital a chance to do mission outreach relating to mountain needs while developing trust in the community towards the hospital.

After expressing an interest to get involved in a similar program, Scoggins was contacted by Scott Christen, Bible teacher at Mt. Vernon Academy (MVA). Christen was organizing a mission trip for students from Mt. Vernon and Spring Valley academies in Ohio and was interested in finding an area of need in Manchester, Kentucky, that the students could fill.

Happy to initiate the program, the hospital combined forces with the local Adventist community services center to organize housing, food, supplies, and job sites for 20 academy students and five adults from Ohio, and student volunteers from the Manchester Adventist school. The projects, which took place the first week of

happy and seemed so thankful."

The mission team appreciated the helpful nature of the staff at Memorial Hospital.

"The hospital staff was very friendly. They fed us really good food. They packed lunches and held the cafeteria open longer than usual when our group came back late," says Tracie Thompson, junior at MVA. "I enjoyed the people and the environment. The appreciation and joy expressed by the people we helped was truly rewarding."

Scoggins hopes that the students experienced the benefits and satisfaction of helping others and will want to make this a yearly event. "I would certainly go again," states Angie Fleischer, freshman at MVA. "I met so many people, made new friends, helped people who were poor, and had fun all at the same time."

"The most enjoyable aspect of a trip, such as this, is that it provides students with an opportunity to physically practice their Christianity," says Christen. "In spite of the cold, the students enjoyed sharing their love of the Lord by way of hammer and shingles. We are grateful to Memorial Hospital for making this trip possible." ■

Karen Schimp is a free-lance writer and graphic designer in Mt. Vernon, Ohio.



Last fall, Memorial Hospital began a new outreach program of sponsoring youth groups for local mission projects in Appalachia. The hospital hopes to serve the community with acts of practical kindness, such as reroofing this house for an elderly gentleman.

coal mining is still the main industry.

"While Adventists have been teaching healthful principles for many years, it takes more than a 'we know what's good for you' approach when dealing with the folks in Appalachia," says Scoggins. "To be respected as a medical authority and accepted as a helpful friend, we must establish a trust relationship with the community."

It was this philosophy that led to the beginning of a new outreach program sponsored in part by Memorial Hospital. While thinking of ways to develop stronger bonds with the community, Scoggins heard of two academies in Tennessee which had organized mission trips into Eastern Kentucky to help the local people. Scoggins realized that sponsoring a group of enthusiastic teenagers in a worthwhile com-

which took place the first week of November, involved two painting sites, two reroofing jobs, and a porch restoration.

"The projects were aimed at helping county residents who did not have the manpower or resources to prepare their homes for the coming winter," says Meredith Snyder, director for the Southeastern Kentucky Adventist Community Services Center in Manchester.

"What I enjoyed the most was helping an elderly lady fix her porch," says Sarah Altrogge, a junior at MVA. "She was so



These members of the mission team from Mt. Vernon and Spring Valley academies learned not only the technique of roofing a house, but also the joy and satisfaction of helping others.

The Touch of Christ Through Women's Ministries

by Sandy Powell

What is the purpose of women's ministries? It's reaching out in love and care to those around us. It's providing avenues for them to experience the fullness of Christian fellowship and the height of God's love.

The women of the Gratz, Kentucky Adventist church reached out recently and touched the life of Pam Smith, a Disciples of Christ minister from Nicholasville, Kentucky.

Two years ago Pam was waging her second battle with cancer. The women's prayer group put her at the top of the prayer list. Group members sent cards, notes, and gifts, including a handmade pot-pourri-filled lace heart. Pam especially treasured the heart, which represented love in action by a group of women who were praying for her even though most of them had not met her. Pam responded to the radiation therapy and praised God for answered prayer.

In the fall of '94, Pam accepted an invitation to attend the women's retreat at Indian Creek Camp with the women from the Gratz church. A special bonding and love developed that weekend between Pam and her friends from Gratz.

In the fall of '95 Pam again joined the Gratz ladies at Indian Creek for the women's retreat. This time she faced a renewed threat of cancer. A growth which had developed on her neck was beginning to block her esophagus and she was having trouble swallowing. She was having a biopsy the week after the retreat; therefore, she cherished this spiritual weekend spent with her Gratz "sisters." It was a time of singing and wonderful presentations, laughter and tears, walks, talks, sharing, and prayers.

Pam's biopsy revealed malignancy.

The doctors started her on very drastic dosages of chemotherapy treatments. Recognizing the seriousness of her condition, Pam asked to be anointed by her friend, Lin Powell, a Seventh-day Adventist minister. She also requested that the women from Gratz church attend. She invited friends from other churches to attend as well.

The anointing was held on Sabbath afternoon at Pam's church in Nicholasville. In addition to the women from Gratz and two elders, about 30 of Pam's friends were present, including a Catholic nun, a seminary professor, a pastor, and individuals from a host of different religious persuasions.

The service was extremely touching and moving. Lin shared Scripture and his own experience with anointing, both for others and for himself. Since most of the participants, including Pam, had never witnessed an anointing, he explained what would happen during the service.

Lin gave opportunity for anyone who wished to share verses of Scripture and their thoughts. Many joined in this sharing time. Before the prayer, Pam gave a beautiful testimony of her trust in the Lord, and her commitment to place herself in God's hands and accept God's will, whatever it might be.

A giant circle was formed around Pam. Friends extended hands to one another and

to Pam. Heartfelt prayers were offered in Pam's behalf. Lin then applied the oil to her forehead as he offered the final prayer of faith. Someone spontaneously led in singing a soft refrain of "A-le-lu-lu-lu" as each personally greeted Pam.

Before leaving the service, the women from the Gratz church showered Pam with tokens of their love, a plant, balloons, basket of breads, and a copy of *The Desire of Ages*.

Only time will tell how God will choose to answer the prayers offered for Pam on that Sabbath of her anointing. However, one thing is certain, Pam's life will never be quite the same again because a group of caring Seventh-day Adventist women in Gratz, Kentucky, reached out to her in love. ■

Sandy Powell is the Gratz church Women's Ministries Director.



Pam Smith (right stooping) and her Gratz friends.

Evangelism Council Convenes in Daytona



Ron Halvorsen and his wife Carol were the coordinators of the Church Growth Institute.

Southern Union evangelists met in the Daytona Hilton December 11-14. The group of approximately 150 met to share ideas, discuss common problems, and receive a shot of "spiritual energy" to last another year.

Georgia Cumberland evangelist Pieter Barkhuizen and his wife Yvonne said they "participate every year to get information, share and receive answers to frustrating challenges, receive spiritual renewal, and examine new products on display for the evangelists."

Workshops this year included "Evangelistic Preaching for the 90's" with Mark Finley, who was also the keynote speaker; "Original Love," presented by Des Cummings, Jr., and "Preparation for Small Churches" by Jac Colon which explored the details involved in planning, coordinating, and implementing a successful evangelistic campaign.

Music was provided by Charles Haugabrooks, Dale Pollett, Fred and Nancy Rimer, Jena Colon, Roy and Amy Pauly and Bill Waters.

The afternoon schedule provided ample opportunity for rest. ■



Jac Colon presented the workshop "Preparation for Small Churches."

Union Departments Plan for '96

During the last quarter of 1995, the Southern Union department directors and their counterparts in the conferences met to report and evaluate the activities of 1995, and plan for 1996. The following is a summary of the recommendations for 1996.

Church Ministries

The continuation of 1-800-SDA Plus—the number any church member can call and get an answer to any question; and its promotion in the SOUTHERN TIDINGS.

Bible schools in as many churches as possible to support the successful mission of NET '96.

The use of the "Hour-A-Week" evangelism concept throughout the Southern Union churches to increase the number of our church members to become active witnesses for Christ.

Continuation of the "Current World News" which comes from the union once a month to the Sabbath school superintendents.

The new concept for the Sabbath school called "World Sabbath" once a month. The Atlanta North church is piloting the development of this new concept at present with good success.

A duplicate report form in the VBS Plan book so that a report goes to the local conference office as well as the NAD Office of Children's Ministry. Two-hundred sixty-three Vacation Bible Schools were conducted in the Southern Union in 1995. Twenty-five young people have been baptized.

Explore resurrecting the old Sabbath School Demonstrators Training Convention so that the current and/or future presenters can be adequately trained for the 21st century.

Continuation of the new Sabbath School Mission program, "Junior Journal on Missions," the sponsoring of special events for the youth such as Bible Conferences and Bible Bowl; and mission projects such as Voice of Youth Evangelism.

A strong Youth/Young Adult Leadership track at the 1997 Southern Union Conference Church Ministries Convention.



Another Southern Union Youth Congress be held in 1998.

Support the United Youth Congress to be held in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1997.

Major emphasis be placed on special ministries such as Pathfinders, Adventurers, Family Life, Singles Ministries, NSO, and Community Services.

Communication

Continuation of the Evangelistic Advertising program.

A study to recommend changes to the SOUTHERN TIDINGS.

Education

The adoption of the proposed 1996 Union Education Budget.

The adoption of the proposed ANGEL budget for 1996.

That the NAD adopt the Scott Foresman math series.

A variety of wage scale and benefits adjustments according to policy.

Health/Temperance

Develop additional materials to support the NEW START program.

Promotion of Better Living videos and materials from Faith For Today.

Conferences continue to promote a strong ministry in their communities through Breathe Free programs, Health Fairs, Wellness programs, and Healthful Cooking classes.

Ministerial

Support and appreciation for the PREACH PROJECT with the ongoing effort to reach clergy of other religious persuasions.

Lay Pastoral Assistants attend the Enrichment Seminar at Cohutta

Springs, March 21-24.

Implement Hispanic training for the M.A. Min., and D. Min. programs.

Plans for pastoral continued education/certification during the next five years. Churches are gearing up to give one million Bible studies before October 5, 1996, opening night of NET '96 crusade in the North American Division. Two thousand churches participating is the goal.

Publishing

Increase the sales requirement in 1996 from \$49,200 to \$51,000 per year and from \$4,100 to \$4,250 per month.

FHES Publishing

A \$2,500 a month qualification in order to receive credentials.

Reactivate Community Crusade Against Drugs campaign.

Established goals for sales and baptisms in '96.

Religious Liberty

To conduct a government liaison training program, with each conference to appoint one capitol city representative for each state capital within their territory.

Trust Services

Produce seminars on video tape designed to reach target audiences.

Continue promotion of services in the SOUTHERN TIDINGS.

Women's Ministries

Change the title of Coordinator for Women's Ministries on the local church level to Director.

Union and Conference Women's Ministries Directors be given Departmental status. ■

Southern Tidings

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Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

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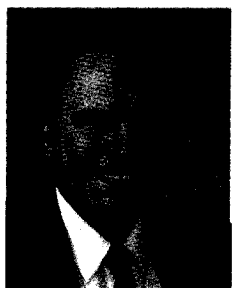


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Dear Fellow Members of the Southern Union Family of God:

The North American Division presented a series of statistics at the recent North American Division Year-End Meeting at Battle Creek that are indicators of church growth. I thought it would be of interest to share with the members (shareholders) of the Southern Union Conference some comparisons on these measures of church growth of our union compared with other unions in the division.

Certainly we can praise our heavenly Father for His abundant blessings on His work in the Southern Union! We realize, of course, that God uses human beings to support and carry on His work. With that in mind, I would like to take this opportunity to express deep



appreciation to each of the denominational employees and each faithful lay person for your liberal support and dedicated service in the proclamation of God's last day message of truth, love, and salvation.

Your brother in Christ,

M. D. Gordon
President, Southern Union Conference

MEASURES OF CHURCH GROWTH

One-Year Membership Comparisons—1993-1994

Union	1993	1994	Gain	%Gain	Excluding Gain	Transfers % Gain
Atlantic	75,498	77,289	1,791	2.37%	1,183	1.57%
Canada	42,990	43,840	850	1.97%	850	1.98%
Columbia	94,752	96,382	1,630	1.72%	1,675	1.77%
Lake	67,371	67,676	305	0.45%	304	0.45%
Mid-America	52,771	52,913	142	0.26%	75	0.14%
North Pacific	74,493	76,529	2,036	2.73%	1,352	1.81%
Pacific	187,630	188,780	1,150	0.61%	1,678	0.89%
Southern	154,171	159,547	5,376	3.48%	4,003	2.60%
Southwestern	57,925	59,194	1,269	2.19%	1,173	2.03%
Division	807,601	822,150	14,549	1.80%	12,293	1.52%

Tithe—1990-1994

Union	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	Change Over 5 Years
Atlantic	\$ 38,753,084	\$ 41,319,403	\$ 43,863,065	\$ 42,631,825	\$ 44,557,167	15.0%
Canada	25,057,757	26,409,558	25,228,136	24,179,206	23,282,753	(7.1)%
Columbia	50,713,688	52,999,012	55,676,154	56,848,609	61,158,118	20.6%
Lake	33,592,603	34,966,858	36,718,676	37,958,017	40,515,242	20.6%
Mid-America	26,408,075	27,247,144	28,190,348	28,676,641	29,806,909	12.9%
North Pacific	42,384,633	44,989,657	47,474,057	49,314,357	52,579,146	24.1%
Pacific	98,789,158	100,958,876	101,501,005	101,966,004	106,736,491	8.0%
Southern	67,351,305	72,065,362	78,822,877	82,541,302	90,072,111	33.7%
Southwestern	25,589,836	27,229,831	29,502,885	30,676,807	32,022,878	25.1%
Division	\$408,640,139	\$428,185,701	\$446,977,203	\$454,792,768	\$480,730,815	17.6%

Enrollment in Grades 1 to 12—1990-1994

Union	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	Change Over 5 Years
Atlantic	4,915	4,640	4,696	4,711	4,705	(210)
Canada	3,555	3,667	3,807	3,741	3,858	303
Columbia	6,874	6,817	6,867	6,740	6,951	77
Lake	5,149	4,952	4,957	4,871	4,880	(269)
Mid-America	3,375	3,571	3,500	3,504	3,477	102
North Pacific	7,708	7,679	7,783	7,914	8,142	434
Pacific	17,292	17,351	16,761	16,598	16,389	(903)
Southern	9,933	9,995	9,842	10,242	10,373	440
Southwestern	3,224	3,258	3,327	3,400	3,501	277
Division	62,025	61,930	61,540	61,721	62,276	251

Undergraduate Enrollment 1990-1991 Through 1994-1995 (Headcount)

School	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	Change Over 5 Years
Andrews University	1,956	1,942	2,088	1,809	1,801	(155)
Atlantic Union College	789	884	906	760	658	(131)
Canadian Union College	269	303	363	367	377	108
Columbia Union College	1,278	1,211	1,121	902	888	(390)
Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences			238	304	271	271
Kettering College of Medical Arts	677	747	724	650	544	(133)
La Sierra University	1,186	1,144	1,225	1,257	1,284	98
Loma Linda University	856	914	1,031	1,059	1,160	304
Oakwood College	1,244	1,229	1,334	1,428	1,400	156
Pacific Union College	1,498	1,434	1,509	1,462	1,469	(29)
Southern College of SDA	1,454	1,473	1,494	1,527	1,652	198
Southwestern Adventist College	784	832	879	875	936	152
Union College	519	557	576	567	575	56
Walla Walla College	1,478	1,523	1,620	1,587	1,470	(8)
Division	13,988	14,193	15,108	14,554	14,485	497

Note—The data for these tables was supplied by the North American Division Data Management Services.

Hands Across the World



R. S. Folkenberg
GC President



A. C. McClure
NAD President



C. E. Bradford
Retired NAD
President

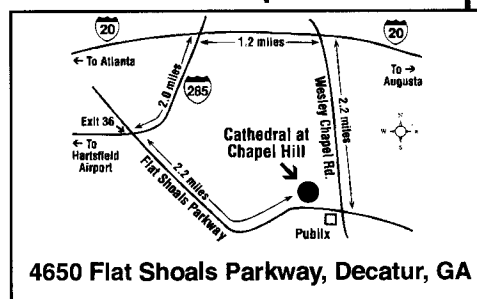


**Don't Miss This Union-wide Rally
Coming to the Atlanta Area
March 23—10 a.m. to 7 p.m.**

Program Participants Include:
Sabbath morning, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.,
Robert Folkenberg, Don Jacobsen,
Alfred McClure, Gary and Rae Patterson,
Mike Ryan.

Sabbath afternoon, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.,
Charles Bradford, Don Folkenberg,
Jose Rojas.

**In the beautiful 7,000-seat
Cathedral at Chapel Hill**



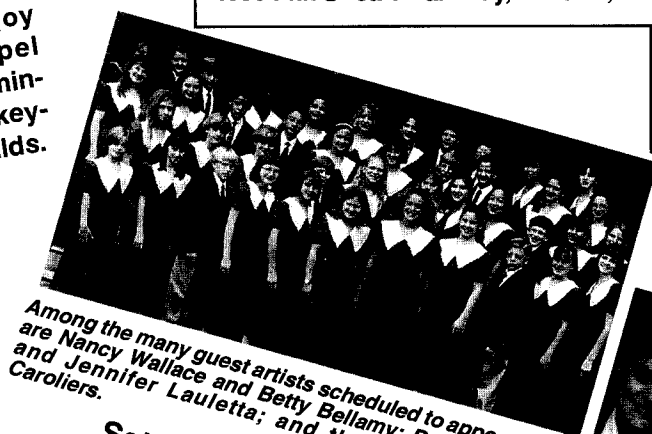
Bring a sack lunch and enjoy
a mid-day "Brownbag Gospel
Concert" hosted by Jim Teel, min-
ister of music, and former key-
boardist with the King's Heralds.

Blessings in store throughout the day include:

- A spiritual feast as speakers testify to God's saving grace and advancing might.
- A global perspective on God's powerful leading in the Advent movement.
- Dynamic musical presentations.
- A special opportunity to share in a Hands Across the World offering for special outreach projects in the Southern Union.
- Participation in a rally seen across North America by satellite over the Adventist Communication Network.

For more information call 404-299-1832

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Among the many guest artists scheduled to appear are Nancy Wallace and Betty Bellamy; David Pitt and Jennifer Lauletta; and the Collegedale Caroliers.

**Saturday Evening Concert
5 p.m.-7 p.m.**
A soul-stirring gospel music program will feature many guest artists who performed during the day. This is one concert that people of all ages won't want to miss!

