

Southern **Tidings**

September 1996



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We Are the Southern Union

1991-1995 Quinquennium Report



Malcolm Gordon, Southern Union president.

... And what a Union we are! Millions of people, millions of square miles, millions who do not know Christ, and thousands who know Him and His last-day message. That's us, The Southern Union. And who are the 165,000 plus Seventh-day Adventists of the Southern Union who live in our eight local conferences?

We are young and old, newly baptized—some just last Sabbath and some baptized as long as 80 years ago. We are first generation and even 7th generation members. We are attorneys and homemakers, teachers and taxi drivers, preschoolers (yes, they are Adventists too, just not baptized yet) and high schoolers. We are married and single, divorced and widowed, male and female. We are African-Americans and Anglo, Hispanic and Asian, native American, and . . . we are all children of the heavenly Father.

We worship in 883 churches: small ones like the 26 member Prestonsburg, Kentucky church in Appalachia, and large ones like the 2,502 member church located on the Oakwood College campus in Huntsville, Alabama.

We are the Southern Union, called by a God who loves us more than we can imagine and who promises that in spite of our failures and shortcomings, we are on the winning

side. It is through the benevolent hand of our Heavenly Father that the work of His church advances.

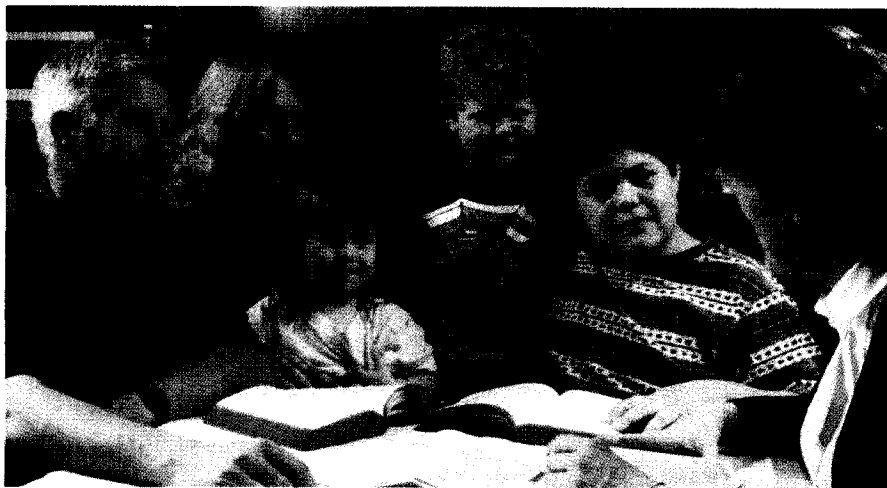
Our Southern Union operates as a gospel team on the church, conference, and union levels of the organization, working closely as we coordinate and nurture the evangelistic thrust in our territory. Every November the local and union conference administrators and departmental leaders spend several days together to review the past year, and to develop a strategy for the upcoming year. This yearly meeting is a prime example of a vitally important foundation of the union level as we help coordinate and direct training programs for our eight local conferences.

The Union's primary area of service is not generally the local congregation or the individual member. The Union interacts with its local conferences and institutions, providing administrative and departmental coordination, training, development of strategies, policies and materials, counsel, personal involvement at workshops and other group functions, and other services too numerous to mention. The Union

also provides for cooperative ventures that no single conference could sustain, for example the oversight of Southern College and the Adventist Health System Sunbelt. The Union also provides the organizational link between the North American Division of the General Conference and the local conferences.

Our Southern Union administrative and departmental staff represents the needs and challenges of our local conferences to the NAD and in turn brings the concerns and needs of the world field to the local conferences. The unions have often been called the glue that holds the world church together. As an example, union presidents from all around the world make up the majority of the General Conference committee. This team works under the blessing of the Spirit in bringing results. Please note in the graph how our Southern Union compares with the growth of the other eight North American Division unions during the past five years.

As you read the following summaries that have been prepared by our office staff, catch a glimpse of the life and ministry in our



Evangelism is the buzz word in the Southern Union. Personal witnessing is a vital part of the evangelism program.

Southern Union. God has blessed His people but He is not done with us yet. Praise His name!

Administrative Team

Throughout this quinquennium Ward D. Sumpter and Richard P. Center have directed the Secretariat and Treasury respectively. Their leadership is greatly appreciated by me and the thousands they have served. Giving strong support through the period has been Lee D. Beers, the undertreasurer.

Finances

The members of our church family in the Southern Union have generously provided financial support for the work of the church. Tithe during the quinquennium increased by almost 41 percent during the previous five years. This is the largest tithe increase of all the unions in NAD. World mission offerings were more than \$18 million, representing a 14 percent increase. This does not include hundreds of thousands of dollars that were donated directly to the General Conference for special mission projects. Systematic support continued for conference evangelism such as NET '95, education, and local church operating needs.

The Southern Union Revolving Fund continued to grow at a remarkable rate from \$26 million five years ago to more than \$43 million today. Members place funds with the Revolving Fund at five percent currently which are then loaned at seven percent for church, school, and camp development. Larry Davis is treasurer of the Southern Union Conference Association which manages the Revolving Fund.

Adventist-Laymen's Services and Industries (ASI)

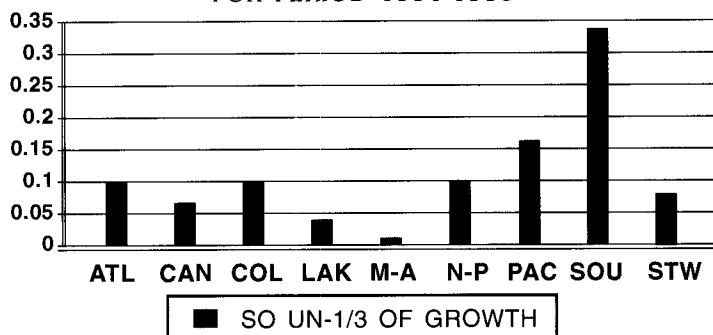
In 1978 the Southern Union Conference of Adventist Laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) was organized with 25 members. Today this chapter has two-hundred plus in membership. Membership consists of leaders of self-supporting institutions, business persons, and professionals.

The Southern Union chapter has taken on many special projects: building a church in Thailand, a new 26 passenger bus for the Barquisimeto Clinic in Barquisimeto, Venezuela, and the latest project, the building of 10 churches in Cuba.

W. Maurice Abbott, Jr., is the director and executive secretary treasurer of the chapter; L. L. Dickman of Hurbert Hills Academy, Savannah, Tennessee, is the chapter president.

UNION % OF NAD MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

FOR PERIOD 1990-1995



Church Ministries

The Church Ministries Department is the "heart" of the local church and is committed to providing valuable services to train our leaders in being more effective workers for Christ.

Church Ministries serves all the members in our churches: adult, children, youth, and young adult through such special services as community services, disaster response, Adventist singles, Adventurer Club, camping, Pathfinders, National Service Organization, and Campus Ministries.

In May of 1994, a Southern Union Church Ministries Convention was held in Atlanta, Georgia, and seminars were held in each of the above ministries. More than 1500 local church leaders attended this special training event. Another convention is planned for February of 1997 in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

The Southern Union Church Ministries department is a tremendous resource and consulting ministry for the conferences and the local churches. The department is directed by W. Maurice Abbott, Jr., with associates Oliver McKinney and Allan Williamson.

Communication

The Department of Communication serves a broad area, including the Church and the public, conferences, and institutions, and is designed to assist administration and other departments in reaching their objectives.

Now in its seventh year, the Southern Society of Adventist Communicators continues to attract communication professionals who work in the secular market, thus bridging the gap between the Church and those who mingle daily in a jaded, cynical environment.

Following a recent request of the North American Division, a renewed marketing plan will once again promote "The Fascinating World of



Personal witnessing, through door-to-door evangelism such as the "Great Controversy Giveaway" is encouraged.



Women's retreats have recorded record numbers during the quinquennium. Hazel Gordon addresses more than 2,500 women at a retreat during divine service.

Cover: The final Seventh-day Adventist Olympic torch bearers to bring the flame to Atlanta were Melissa Blosser of Georgia Cumberland Academy (Georgia-Cumberland Conference) and Annie Richardson of the Maranatha Church (South Atlantic Conference). Photo credit: Olson Perry.



Atlanta Hispanic youth participated in the first Hispanic Bible Bowl sponsored by the North American Division. Team members were: Yamil Widdi (left), Edgar Castillo, Thania Cabrera, Joel Mayen, and Joel Rosich.

Communication." This eight-lesson video course was produced by the Southern Union Communication Department as a training tool for church communication leaders.

Close to half million "A Quick Look at Seventh-day Adventists" have been distributed from literature racks in dining and lodging facilities along major thoroughfares throughout the Union, and by church members in communities. The brochure is currently being redesigned and updated for publication next year.

Another outreach project is the Highway Sign Program which currently features nearly 2,200 church directional signs and billboards.

The department publishes the SOUTHERN TIDINGS, whose circulation is approaching 65,000. Design plans are in the works for a "new" TIDINGS look for 1997 which will also address the needs of the conferences.

The department has handled the advertising for more than 500 evangelistic crusades. The responsibilities include demographic research, selection of target populations, media selection and purchasing, data collection, test marketing, and development of new advertising materials. By combining brochure orders, nearly \$100,000 was saved over the last five years.

The directors of the department are Martin Butler, Marketing, and Olson Perry, Publications.

Computer Services

It has been a busy quinquennium for the Computer Services Department. Expertise include programming, trouble-shooting, and customizing by our own Southern Union in-house specialists. Despite staff changes, the department has standardized equipment and software, pooled purchasing, and programmed operating systems to efficiently address the needs of the conferences.

Services provided during the quinquennium included revised accounting procedures, and training of Union staff.

Education

The Southern Union is recognized world-wide as a leader of educa-

tion in the Church. Led by the Office of Education, the eight conferences operate 210 elementary schools and 12 secondary schools—not including home and self-supporting schools. A total of 11,829 youth are benefited each year by more than 800 educators.

Launching the school system into the age of high technology has been a priority during the last quinquennium. This task has included promoting the purchase and use of computers, educating teachers and students in the use of classroom technology, and developing curriculum tools to assist instruction.

As a result, union-wide scores on national achievement tests show that students in Seventh-day Adventist schools in the Southern Union grow considerably more each year academically than their counterparts in the public system.

Under the direction of Jim Epperson, EdD, and associates Norwida Marshall, EdD, and Don Weatherall, PhD, the highlights of this growth effort have included five computer literacy workshops to enhance educators' skills; a workshop in computer software authoring; and bi-annual computer and communication workshops for conference education departments.

Evangelism

The Department of Evangelism was formed in 1990 to emphasize the importance of public evangelism throughout the Southern Union. Since the establishment of this department with Dennis Ross, Jr., as coordinator, meetings have

Malcolm Gordon, president, confers with Rose Beavers of Florida, one of only four women on the nominating committee of 220 at the 56th Quinquennial World Business Session of the Seventh-day Adventist Church held during the '91-'95 quinquennium.



been conducted in the following cities: Louisville, Augusta, Orlando, Daytona Beach, Tallahassee, Jacksonville, Memphis, and Atlanta. The total baptisms from these meetings have been 825 with still another city-wide meeting in Orlando prior to the NET '96 meetings.

Other highlights include the annual awards dinner for pastors and evangelists throughout the Southern Union who have been engaged in evangelism during the year, and the training of interns who have graduated from Oakwood College in the art of public evangelism, as well as providing evangelistic help for pastors who are engaged in public evangelism.



Through trusts, and the Revolving Fund, monuments to the truth have been supported in hundreds of locations throughout the Southern Union.

Public evangelism is alive and well within the Southern Union. It is still the life blood of our Union, which is the reason we are the fastest growing Union in the North American Division.

Evangelism\Church Growth Institute

One of the most effective soul winning departments in North America is the Southern Union Evangelism\Church Growth Institute. This unique institute for the training of lay persons and ministerial students has been a strong factor for church growth in the Southern Union. These services are conducted in the field, touching the conferences at the grass roots. They consist of: ministerial training, discipling seminars, lay pastoral assistant training, and prayer warrior seminars.

Fifty-seven students have been trained in the past five years in the most comprehensive ministerial training program in the North American Division. From our* field schools alone over 457 precious souls have been baptized. More than 800 souls have been baptized during the past five

years by Ron Halvorsen, director.

Seventy-five Lay Pastoral Assistant Training programs have been conducted in the Southern Union Conference. More than 1,000 elders throughout the Southern Union have been trained to assist the pastors in pastoral duties. This intensive two-year program of discipleship is the premier program in the North American division and has become a model throughout the field.

Two thousand people have gone through our Prayer Warrior Seminar. Our goal is to train 10,000 prayer warriors in the Southern Union.

The Church Growth/Evangelism Institute is committed to quality training of lay-persons and ministers. We are committed to a hands on training of people in ministry. We are committed to the local conferences and local churches to train disciples of Christ in effective soul winning techniques.

Health/Temperance

Health/Temperance Ministries in the Southern Union sponsors the Health Professionals' Conference every two years in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. This conference provides continuing health education for nurses, nurse practitioners, physicians, physician assistants, occupational therapists and assistants, social workers, CRNA's, physical therapists, pastors, and health/temperance leaders in the local churches.

The Southern Union Youth to Youth Conference is a very popular program among our academy, high school, and college students. Student delegates are divided into family groups where they have a chance to get better acquainted through many activities that promote positive peer influence, student leadership, and drug awareness information.

The Southern Union Health/Temperance Department, directed by Allan Williamson, is committed to being a resource center to the conferences and the local churches for videos, films, seminars, brochures, banners, and other materials to enhance a church's health ministry.

Inner City

The Southern Union Inner City department has made enormous strides in assisting the conferences in inner city ministry.

Where is our brother or our sister who is unemployed, stricken with poverty, hungry, homeless, drugs and/or alcohol addicted, or abused by a spouse or someone else. Where are they?

The Southern Union has demonstrated making a difference in lives by sharing more than a half mil-

lion dollars through our conferences and churches during the past five years in inner city appropriations. The department is directed by Ward Sumpter.

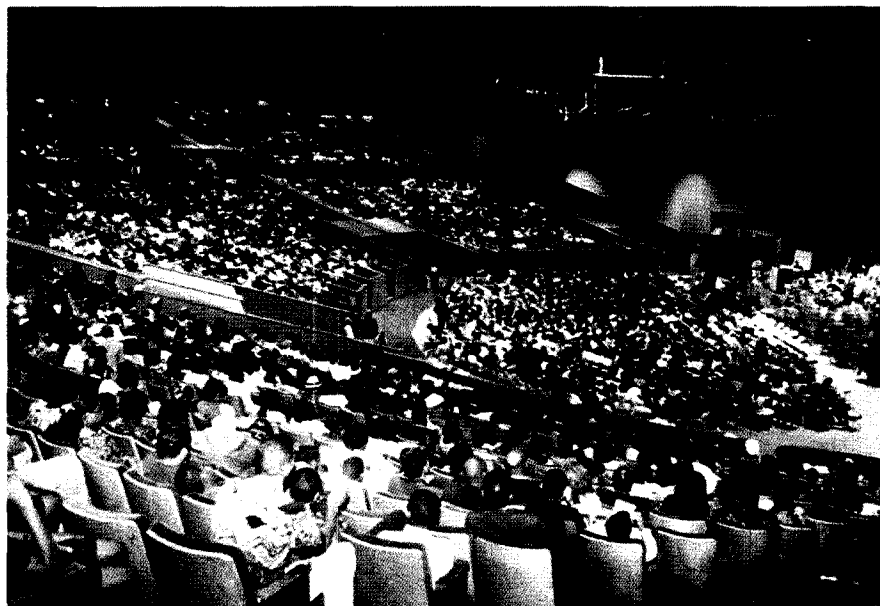
Medical/Dental

In 1970 the Medical/Dental family of physicians, dentists, and optometrists numbered about 450. Today that figure has grown to be 1,091 members. Without the volunteer efforts of our physician and dental secretaries, their associates, and recruiters, this medical/dental family would not be possible.

This group makes approximately seven recruiting trips per year. They assist in health career days at Southern College. They also participate in local conference medical/dental retreats.

These same individuals give leadership to two of the largest meetings of Adventist health professionals in the world held in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. These meetings are the Medical/Dental Congress - for Physicians and Dentists, and the Health Professionals convention for allied Health Professionals.

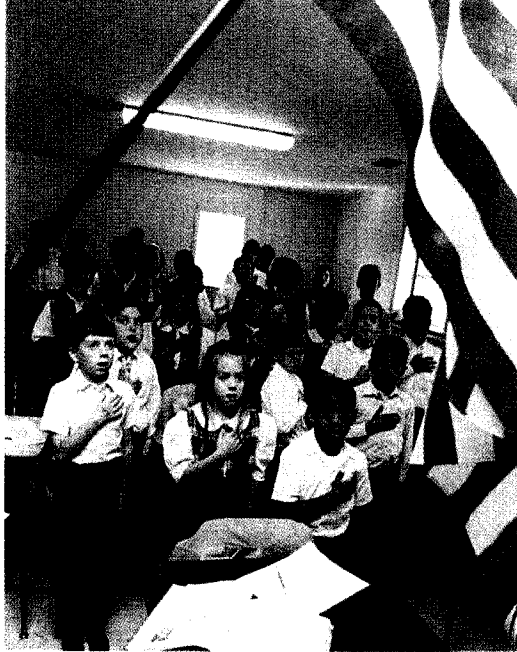
W. Maurice Abbott, Jr., is the Medical/Dental director; Harold F. Roll is the chairman of the Medical/Dental Council; Joe S. Cruise, MD, is the medical secretary; Harold W. Moody, MD, Edward W. Pelote, MD, and Monica P. Reed, MD, are associate medical secretaries; J. Glen Linebarger, DDS, is dental secretary; Robert W. Addison, DDS, Gary M. Edgmon, DDS, and Dween Muse, DMD, are associate dental secretaries.



Nearly 4,000 attended the Breath of Life rally at the J.L. Knight Center in Miami.



Youth to Youth delegates were treated to a police dog demonstration by the Alachua County Sheriff's department.



New Bern school children pledge allegiance to the flag as many think of their fathers who were serving in the Persian Gulf during the '91-'95 quinquennium.

Ministerial

The Southern Union Ministerial Association, along with its local associations, takes the mandate to carry the gospel to all the world seriously. We seek to serve the church through ministry to its ministers and their families. The ultimate objective is to promote the global spread of the gospel in the context of the three angel's message by reviving and strengthening the ministry.

Under the leadership of Oliver McKinney, 37,478 people were accepted in Adventist churches in the Southern Union during

the past five years.

One of the most exciting thrusts during this period was NET '95, up-linked from Chattanooga, Tennessee, and then downlinked via satellite to sites in our Union. The Lord added thousands to the Church with this new approach of evangelism. Plans are well on the way for NET '96.

Through Missing Member Evangelism to close the gap between the book membership and regular attendees, continuing education programs in English and Spanish for ministers, intern meetings, and ministerial convocations, the Southern Union through its Ministerial Department, is meeting the needs of the clergy as well as the lay person.

Publishing

The publishing ministry is unique to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. It is a vital part of our outreach through Home Health Education Service, Family Health Education Services, and seven Adventist Book Centers as well as several Bookmobiles. The ABCs also play a role in outreach but their main ministry is to nurture our church members and assist with training tools.

While approximately 85 percent of HHES's business is time sales, all major credit cards are accepted, and we have a growing cash work through our summer student sales. This past summer, we employed

55 academy and college students. We reached over 225,000 doors with our students, and sold books at approximately 35,000 of these homes. HHES literature evangelists maintain advertising in about 50,000 professional and business waiting rooms throughout the Southern Union. Most of these waiting rooms have a display copy of volume one of the *Bible Story*. This volume presents the Sabbath, Creation, Flood, and God's Plan of Salvation. This has helped us enter thousands of homes that would otherwise be closed. HHES sales for the quinquennium is \$19,142,177. Literature evangelist Michael Courey set a record with sales of \$125,000. Fausto Rodriguez was our champion in baptisms averaging 12 per year.

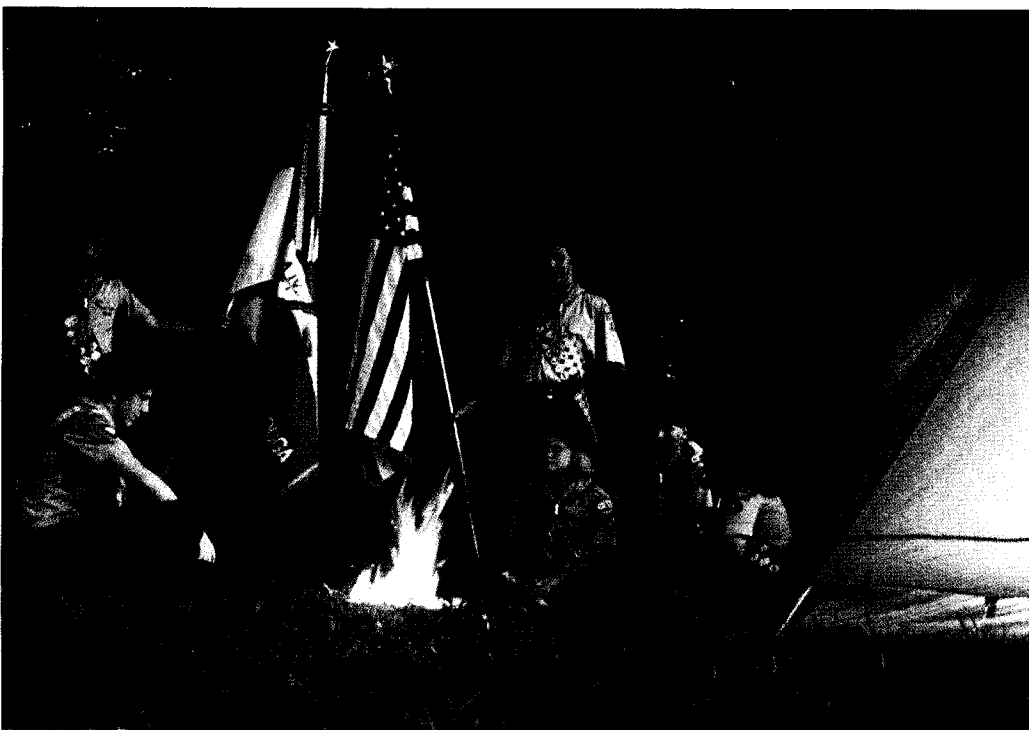
Guided by Ted Smith, associate director of publishing, the three FHESs under the leadership of Robert T. Smith, South Atlantic, William S. Smith, South Central, and William Golson, Southeastern, along with their core of leaders and literature evangelists, have reached thousands.

Ruth Robinson, the wife of Stanley Robinson, district director for Georgia, was the top LE in sales for FHES each year. She averaged more than \$100,000 in sales for the last five years. The end of the quinquennium, 1995, was her top year with more than \$136,000.

Total sales for this quinquennium is \$5,362,723. These foot soldiers do more than sell books, they win souls.

The goal of the ABC is to become visible and available as often as possible even to those members who do not live in close proximity to our stores. ABC workers believe that nurturing must take place on a more timely basis than just once or twice a week in a church building. Through our books, periodicals, and other materials, many members are growing in their spiritual experience and finding new ways to share in Sabbath school and with neighbors and friends.

In the past five years sales totals for the seven ABCs and their branches, reached \$36,565,065, an increase of about \$9.5 million over the previous quinquennium. Baptisms totaled 1,906. Pieces of literature distributed reached 1,561,676. Bible correspondence school enrollment is 86,847, and the number of former Seventh-day Adventists contacted surpassed 8,000. Bill Beckworth is the director.



Pathfinders pose during a Caring Discovery service project.

Southern Union Conference and Association of Seventh-day Adventists
Combined Statements of Financial Position
Dec. 31, 1995, 1994, 1993, 1992, 1991

	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991
ASSETS					
Current Assets	14,255,358	13,614,498	11,562,60	11,698,000	10,514,839
Plant Assets	923,304	912,946	931,895	883,594	937,942
Other Assets	8,005,288	7,835,421	7,608,940	6,759,400	6,204,975
	<u>23,183,950</u>	<u>22,362,865</u>	<u>20,103,435</u>	<u>19,340,994</u>	<u>17,657,756</u>
Liabilities					
Current Liabilities	6,080,160	5,828,478	4,763,741	4,671,748	4,265,563
Other Liabilities	410,936	1,381,275	1,243,844	1,215,404	1,198,873
Total Liabilities	<u>6,491,096</u>	<u>7,209,753</u>	<u>6,007,585</u>	<u>5,887,152</u>	<u>5,464,436</u>
Net Assets					
Unrestricted Assets	13,633,027	13,280,401	12,433,511	11,874,496	10,845,340
Temporarily Restricted	109,123	198,343	153,277	234,852	154,520
Permanently Restricted	2,950,704	1,674,368	1,509,062	1,344,494	1,193,460
Total Net Assets	<u>16,692,854</u>	<u>15,153,112</u>	<u>14,095,850</u>	<u>13,453,842</u>	<u>12,193,320</u>
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	<u>23,183,950</u>	<u>22,362,865</u>	<u>20,103,435</u>	<u>19,340,994</u>	<u>17,657,756</u>

Public Affairs and Religious Liberty

The Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department, directed by Lewis Stout, was established to assist church members with their personal religious liberty problems such as Sabbath related work situations; see to the mass distribution of *Liberty* magazine; be alert to religious liberty issues affecting the church in general; and provide counsel to officers and committees. With the assistance of Amireh Al-Haddad, assistant director/paralegal, the department also keeps the constituency informed; keeps

an eye on the state legislatures, and rally support for or against bills with serious religious liberty implications; provide liaison with the officers of the Southern Society of Adventist Attorneys, and assist in the Society's activities.

In pursuit of these objectives over the past five years, we have assisted 352 Adventists with their religious liberty problems, raised \$1,009,878 for the Religious Liberty Offering, and have created a list of state and local officials, 19,892 of whom were receiving *Liberty* in 1995.

We have established Government Liaison Representatives in all our

state capitals whose job it is to watch for issues the Church needs to be aware of in each state.

We have increased membership in the Southern Society of Adventist Attorneys from 91 to 125.

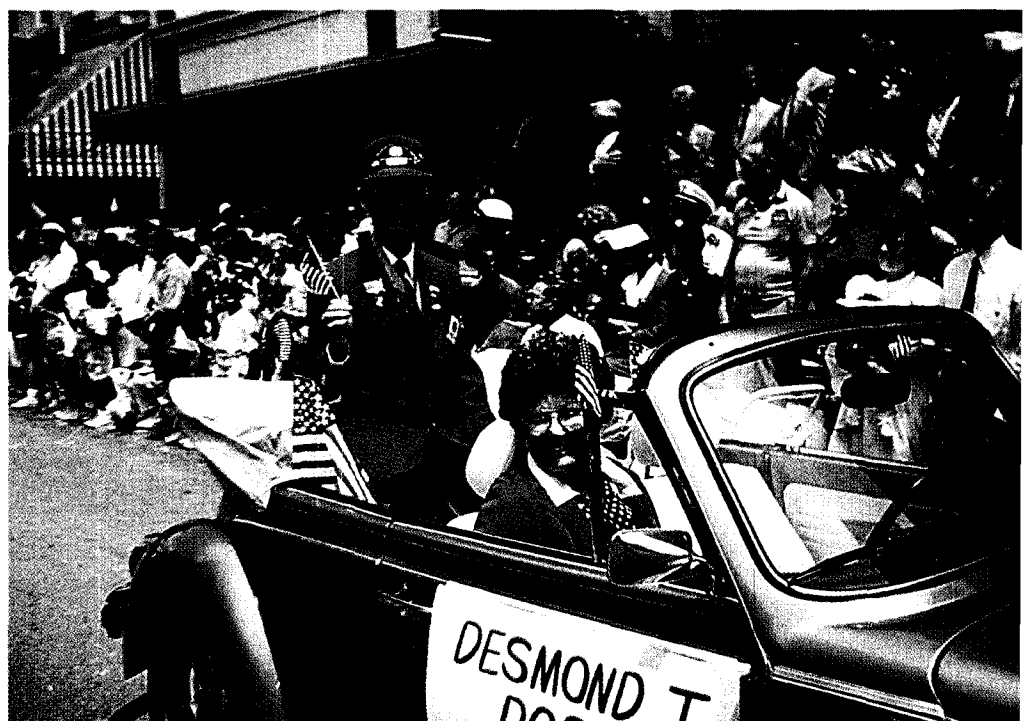
A newsletter, *Waymarks*, published by the Southern Union is now going to all pastors and church religious liberty leaders, emphasizing current religious liberty events.

We are sure that religious liberty is in serious jeopardy today. Nevertheless we recognize the loss of freedom to be an evidence that

(Continued page 17)



Disasters in the last five years have given the Church's community services departments opportunities to minister to others.



Armed Forces Day Parade in Chattanooga—one of the many events which honored Desmond Doss, one of the great patriots of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, during the quinquennium.

CAROLINA

Two Conference staff members have obtained their doctoral degrees.

Ron Schmidt, Conference secretary, was awarded a Doctor of Ministry degree in May this year. **Rita Henriquez-Roark**, associate superintendent of education, was awarded the Doctor of Education degree in May of 1995.



Christine Motola came into the Seventh-day Adventist church because a friend invited her to evangelistic meetings held in the Hendersonville church. She first came reluctantly, but after the first meeting, she was the one to say, "Come on, let's go!" Later she attended the NET '95 meetings and was baptized March 25. At the time, she was working a ten-hour rotating shift at DuPont. Several jobs were cut, and Christine was moved to a 12-hour shift with alternating weekend work required. She was told she must work at least one Friday and one Saturday night each month. Christine decided to take vacation days on those Sabbaths. Meanwhile, the Wednesday evening prayer group prayed that the Lord would intervene, for this job was Christine's only source of income.

Eventually, all her vacation days were used. She was faced with the decision of whether to work, or stay home and risk losing her job. She decided to stay home. The prayers of Christine and her faithful friends were answered. Abruptly, two ten-hour shift positions opened up. Christine applied for one and was given the job. She now works Monday-Thursday. True, her vacation time for this year is gone, but her faith in God's promises is strong and she knows that He does indeed answer prayers.



A Faithful Soldier

Willmonte Doniphan Frazee, co-founder of Wildwood Lifestyle Center and Hospital, was born February 15, 1906, and passed away March 19. Mark Finley officiated a memorial service at the Wildwood chapel.

Frazee began at an early age working for the Lord. At nine, he sold church publications, started a missionary society called "Faithful Soldiers of the Lord," and printed a newsletter called the *FSL Reporter*. He also wrote songs and poetry and memorized large portions of the Bible under the tutelage of his father.

At 17, he applied to the Medical Missionary Course at the College of Medical Evangelists, as Loma Linda University was originally called. The faculty members were reluctant to allow him entrance because he had only completed the tenth grade through home schooling. However, at the end of the first year he scored 100 percent on his physiology final and led the chemistry class. The following year he was accepted in both the Medical Missionary Course and Medical Course.

After working with the Tindall field school of evangelism for five years, Frazee began holding evangelistic meetings. He received a call to the Utah Conference in 1931 and built his evangelistic team with doctors, nurses, literature evangelists, nutritionists, and Bible instructors.

While a guest lecturer at Madison College, he met Neil Martin and George McClure with whom he established Wildwood Sanitarium and Medical Missionary Institute in 1942. He was instrumental in establishing several churches in the Chattanooga, Tennessee, area. He spoke at camp meetings and conference workers' meetings across North America and authored several books.

Derinda Day Walker

FLORIDA



Dan Pabon, chaplain of Hialeah Hospital, was invited by Senator Robert Casas to serve as Chaplain of the Day for the Florida Senate, on

National Day of Prayer. Pabon met the senator three years ago when the senator's father became very ill and asked to see the hospital chaplain. Pabon prayed with the family that God's will for the senator's father would be done. Before Pabon got back to his office, the senator's father passed away. The senator believes the prayer became a miracle because the family had suddenly been faced with the decision of whether to place him on life support or not. Pabon's second meeting with the senator came two years later when the senator's mother was ill and in the hospital. It was during one of Pabon's daily visits with the senator's mother that senator Casas invited Pabon to be Chaplain of the Day for the Florida Senate.

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND



Jessica Parker, a 1996 eighth-grade graduate of the Murphy Adventist School, is a recipient of the President's Award for Educational Excellence. To obtain such an

award, a student must have a grade point average of 90 or above and place at the 85th percentile or higher in math or reading on a standardized achievement test. A student must also demonstrate high motivation, initiative, integrity, intellectual depth, leadership qualities, and/or exceptional judgment. In addition to the President's Award, Jessica received a \$1,000 Scholastic Achievement Award from Georgia-Cumberland Academy.

Jessica lives in Murphy, N.C., and is the daughter of Wallace and Vicki Parker.

Aaron Haluska has been awarded the John Philip Sousa Award at Mount Pisgah Academy. The award is given to the outstanding senior band member at each school and is not necessarily given every year. Aaron began playing trombone in the Spalding Elementary Band in Collegedale, Tenn. He was a student of Pat Silver, Southern College band director, and played for three years in the Collegedale Academy Band under the direction of Bob Bolton before transferring to Mount Pisgah Academy. Aaron plays the same trombone his father, Jan Haluska, a professor at Southern College, played when he won the Sousa Award during his high school days.



KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

Because **Faye Campbell** has decided to "slow down a little," the Conference administration honored her during past camp meeting for her 35+ years of active community service, both in this Conference, and the world field. A plaque of recognition and thanks was presented to Faye by Elders Hallock and Fowler at a dinner held annually during camp meeting for the community service leaders.

Faye Campbell, a nurse who has worked virtually full-time most of her life while raising three children, amazes all who know her with her vital enthusiasm and energy. Faye and Tom, her physician husband, are foster parents of foreign exchange students and always have their home filled with young people from various countries of the world.

In her home church of Jackson, Tenn., Faye established one of the first community service centers



PATRICIA FOSTER

Eagle Eye

Horace R. Beckner was honored by Al Sines, D.D.S. and inducted into the Georgia-Cumberland Hall of Fame May 25, at the annual Collegedale camp meeting.

After graduating from Atlantic Union College in 1933, Beckner began pastoring as a self-supporting minister for two churches for the Southern New England Conference. Due to lack of finances, the conference was unable to hire him. However, he was given one cent per mile for travel. For 21 months he drove an old truck to support himself and his bride, Vida Tomlins, and to continue his ministry to the two churches. He officially began conference employment in 1935.

In 1947 Beckner came to the Georgia-Cumberland Conference as the first pastor of the Southern Missionary College church. The membership was 750 but surpassed 1,400 during the 14 years he pastored, making it the largest church family in the Southern Union.

Beckner served as camp meeting superintendent in charge of plant operations, which included tent erection. Pastors working with him called him "eagle eye" because of his insistence in getting the 150 family tents and four large meeting tents in straight lines. He was known for his persistence and dedication in getting a job accomplished. Beckner was also appreciated for his compassion and listening skills.

Beckner loves his God, his church, and especially the youth. He was instrumental in helping raise \$1.5 million for Georgia-Cumberland Academy in the early 1960s. Today, his offering appeals at his home church in Knoxville are legendary. With the new \$2.5 million capital campaign, he has expressed his desire to help raise funds for needed campus improvements.

After serving as president of Madison College, he went to the Southern California and Pennsylvania conferences until his retirement in 1975.

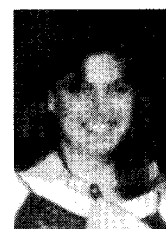
He and his wife moved to Knoxville, Tennessee, and for 15 years he served as field representative for the Georgia-Cumberland Association for northeastern Tennessee.

Beckner illustrated the work ethic of Ecclesiastes 9:10. "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might . . ." His ministry has been an inspiration to those he associated with and served.

Al Sines and Patricia Foster

in the Conference. It soon became a model for other centers throughout the U.S. As a result Faye was asked to become the first statewide community services leader in the Conference. Also, she soon became a consultant for disaster relief services in the North American Division, and for the disaster relief branch of the American Council of Church World Services. Under Faye's leadership, the Conference developed one of the most aggressive and successful disaster relief programs in North America. Because of her urging and leadership, the Conference bought and furnished a 16-wheel tractor trailer, built an 89,700 sq. ft. warehouse, and developed the package plan for disbursement during disasters. This package plan has become the standard approach to helping disaster victims throughout North America.

At a recent weekend of Christian fellowship at Fall Creek Falls State Park, 58 children and adults were enjoying a wonderful time together. During the Sabbath afternoon hike the group passed through an area of the park where a barrier had been erected to prevent anyone from falling off the cliff 268 feet to the falls below. **Nikki Haddock**, a nine-year-old girl, slipped and fell under the railing, catching the bottom rail as she fell. The children watched Nikki freeze in horror. One quick-thinking young lady, 13 years of age, quickly stepped forward and pulled Nikki back from certain death or serious injury. She states that the Lord used her as an angel and gave her courage to think and act quickly. **Kandy Artrip**,



the young heroine, was awarded a "Valor Award for Bravery" plaque in a recent Investiture program at the White House, Tenn. church.

Carolina

As a result of an unidentified J.B. Hunt truck driver leaving **AN AMAZING FACTS BROCHURE** at a loading dock in South Carolina, Wallace Sellers, a warehouse manager, was prompted to call the Adventist church. Sellers and his wife were recently baptized.

The Whiteville church recently held its first **ADVENTIST HEALTH FAIR**, featuring health screening plus a series of lectures. Following the fair, the church held a successful 30-day program featuring the Hans Diehl video tapes.

STEPS TO CHRIST ALONG WITH DISCOVER BIBLE ENROLLMENT CARDS were distributed at the White Lake Water Festival. The church's "Discover Bible School" is now operational. One hundred eighty-two individuals have requested Bible studies.

Morganton church member and businessman Ted Brakett and his **GOSPEL WORKER TRAINING TEAM** have completed Bible training classes at Arden, Statesville, and Spartanburg churches.

THE FOSTER MEMORIAL CHURCH MEMBERS HAVE LAUNCHED A BUILDING PROGRAM to provide space for community services, staff offices, classrooms, exercise rooms, and storage space. In addition, they will add air-conditioning to the gym and current classrooms, renovate and expand food service, and develop an atrium food court.

Ivan Christen, pastor of the Lenoir and Table Rock district, recently conducted **A SERIES OF MEETINGS** in the small church at Table Rock. Of the 40 who attended, five requested baptism.

The Erwin Hills **ADVENTURER CLUB** was one of 13 clubs in the Conference named **CLUB OF THE YEAR**. They received their Club of the Year trophy at a camp meeting program for Adventurer and Pathfinder clubs.

Fifty women met at Pisgah Villa recently for a **PRAYER BREAKFAST TO REVIVE WOMEN'S MINISTRIES** in Asheville's Foster church and plan goals for the year.

Florida

In conjunction with **FRIENDSHIP EVANGELISM**, the Lady Lake church held a Friend Day. Handwritten invitations were given to members who wanted to invite a friend. When the big day arrived, church members were outnumbered two-to-one. All will be invited to attend *Net '96* in October.

The Gainesville church is getting ready for **NET '96** by sending thousands of Bible study cards all over the city. Of the 50 cards that have been returned, 10 asked for Bible studies. Communication director Ingrid Struble has also been trying to reach out to the community through the local paper, but had difficulty getting the religion department of the *Gainesville Sun* to print any information about the church. As a result of prayer, a change has taken place and the church is now in the paper.

St. Petersburg church members are using their satellite downlink equipment to tape **A VARIETY OF SEMINAR AND TRAINING EVENTS AVAILABLE ON THE ADVENTIST COMMUNICATION NETWORK (ACN)**. Currently, the tapes are being used on Sabbath afternoons, special occasions, vespers, and small group meetings.

THIRTY-FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS WAS GIVEN BY THE MEMBERS OF THE DAYTONA BEACH CHURCH for church budget, building fund, and the church school, as a result of a series William Barrett preached on the Pentecost. To symbolically re-enact the custom, members brought "monetary baskets" that were representative of the Jew's offerings of grain.

The South Orlando church has started a **SOUP AND SALVATION PROGRAM**. Volunteers enjoy a meal every Wednesday, then they send out invitations to the *Discover Bible School* lessons. It's a program designed by the *Voice of Prophecy* to prepare the public for *Net '96*. So far, more than 150 people have requested lessons.

MEN'S MEETINGS have been scheduled after vespers on the first Saturday evening of each month. The goal of this ministry is to encourage

men to be better Christians, better husbands, and better fathers. A men's choir has also been started.

The East Pasco youth department recently held a **YOUTH FRIENDSHIP DAY**. The church's youth were encouraged to bring their friends to a special day that would be festive in nature, exciting, and fun-filled. Using the Good Samaritan story as a backdrop, the youth were told that friends are important, regardless of race, religion, sex, or financial situation. The youth were challenged to evaluate what kind of friend they were and what were their motives. The Youth Friendship Day ended with a concert from Higher Power, a Christian contemporary musical group from Miami.

Jaime Jorge, a professional Seventh-day Adventist violinist, recently won his **FOURTH SILVER ANGEL AWARD** from Excellence in Media. Jorge has earned an award for each of his four CD's. The award is based on excellence, and achievement of the project's purpose of inspiring mankind to greater heights. Jorge gave concerts recently at the Miami Springs church and Walker Memorial Junior Academy.

Of the 157 churches and 22 companies located in the Florida Conference, **THREE CHURCHES AND TWO COMPANIES WERE ORGANIZED THIS YEAR**. The new churches include the Brazilian Temple, pastored by Edemilson Cardoso, the Spring Hill Spanish church, pastored by Osvaldo Olivencia, and the Venice Yugoslavian church, pastored by Pavle Borovic. The two new companies are DeBary, pastored by Ernest Stevenson, and Plymouth/Sorrento, pastored by Ernest Steed.

The Cocoa church's **EAGLE ADVENTURE CLUB RAISED \$285.80 IN PLEDGES FOR PICKING UP TRASH** in their community. On Sunday morning, eight youngsters spent four hours collecting 820 lbs. of trash along the roadside, and learned the importance of keeping God's Earth clean. The money raised will be used for a camping trip.

Georgia-Cumberland

ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-SIX ACADEMY SENIORS GRADUATED from five academies in the Georgia-Cumberland Conference. Atlanta Adventist, 24; Collegedale, 57; Georgia-Cumberland, 48; Heritage, 11; and Laurelbrook, 16.

The Conference has received \$80,665 from the **HANDS ACROSS THE WORLD CAMPAIGN**. Money is being used for Hispanic ministries and outreach programs at the Olympics.

Brandon Clark, a student from Spalding Elementary school in Collegedale, Tenn., was awarded the **ZANER-BLOSER STATE HANDWRITING AWARD** for the fourth grade. More than 90,000 students competed in the contest nationwide, so being chosen as a state champion is an honor well earned. TV Channel 3 interviewed Brandon and featured him on the evening news.

Last year more than 6,000 hours of volun-

teer time was given to **THE SAMARITAN CENTER** in Ooltewah, Tenn. Members of the Ooltewah and McDonald Road churches gave more than 3,520 hours of community service. Adrian Boyer and Janice Parker, members of the McDonald Road church, were spokespersons on the Marcia Kling segment of the midday report on television Channel 9 in Chattanooga. An article featuring the areas volunteers in the *Chattanooga Free Press* included Ed Allen, McDonald Road church member.

ELEVEN STUDENTS ARE SPENDING FIVE WEEKS CANVASSING Gwinnett County outside Atlanta, Georgia, and five weeks in Johnson City, Kingsport, and Bristol, Tenn. Their goal is to knock on 100,000 doors, leave a Voice of Prophecy Bible enrollment card in each home, and make contact with former Seventh-day Adventists. The literature they are selling is Maga Books, a new format of *The Great Con-*

trovery, Steps to Christ, Desire of Ages, plus cookbooks and children's stories.

A FENTON FOREST PARABLE authored by Gordon Bietz, president, will run each Saturday in the *Chattanooga Free Press* in the Faith and Family section. The first edition was June 15. While pastoring the Collegedale church, Bietz used these parables to reinforce the message of his sermon. The purpose of these parables is to bring a character-building thought to the attention of children in a way that will help them remember it.

THE CONFERENCE HOSTED THE ANNUAL ADVENTIST RETIRED WORKERS' RETREAT. Approximately 1,500 workers were in attendance June 19-23 at Southern College.

TWENTY-FIVE BIKERS FROM THE COLLEGE DALE CHURCH RAISED \$700 IN A BIKE-A-THON to raise money for St. Jude Hospital, a treatment and research hospital in Memphis, Tenn.

The youth of the Ft. Walton Beach church led the **OUTDOOR CHURCH SERVICE** recently. Seven teens and young adults performed a skit about rejoicing in the Lord.

A very successful **VBS** was held in the Floral Crest School June 9-14 under the direction of Jane Adkins with support from the church. Sixty children attended with 40 percent of these from nonmember homes.

SOUL-WINNING HOUR AT CAMPMEETING WAS POWERFUL. Featured experiences were from a

THE OLYMPIC TORCH was carried through Nashville, Thursday, June 27, by two Adventist young people, Justin Galling and Katie Owen, members of the Madison Campus church. They were chosen as community heroes and were among the 97 youth chosen in the Middle Tennessee area out of hundreds of applicants.

EVANGELISTIC MEETINGS were conducted by John Bradshaw in Shelbyville, Ky., and Jack Pefley in Ashland City during August and September. Jack and John are evangelists for

Superintendent of education Conrad Gill spoke for the **GRADUATION CEREMONY** at Shepherd Drive Jr. Academy of Columbus, Georgia. In

The Ukraine, Hong Kong, and Australia were among destinations for **SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS SERVICE FOR FACULTY MEMBERS THIS SPRING.** Donn Leatherman taught classes in Old Testament Studies and Studies in Daniel in the former Soviet Union, while in Hong Kong Derek Morris recorded "College of the Air" programs for broadcast into China. Ken Rogers conducted weeks of prayer at three schools in Australia.

An article in the August 1 issue of the *Adventist Review* on **THE COST OF HIGHER EDUCATION** included the experience of Southern Union parents Brenda and Harry Patterson and son Travis, of Woodruff, S.C. A Southern College ad, "Hello, Good buy," is also in the issue. Tuition and other costs at Southern continue to be among the lowest in the North American Division, at \$9,156 (16 hours per semester). Four out of five students receive financial aid to help offset these costs. Work is also available on and off the campus.

The Southern College Symphony Orchestra

public crusade in Prattville, Ala.; a lay effort in Mobile, Ala.; new churches of Oneonta, Ala., Lynn Haven, Fla., and Pensacola Westside, Fla.; and two Hispanic groups of Albertville, Ala., and Forest, Miss.

A WOMEN'S BANQUET decorated as an outdoor garden was sponsored by the Montgomery First women's ministries. Ladies wore hats decorated in original motifs for which awards were given.

Roy Gane of Andrews University was the featured speaker the weekend of April 12-13 in the **MONTGOMERY FIRST CHURCH'S HOMECOMING.**

Gulf States



Kentucky-Tennessee



Amazing Facts. John Fowler, Conference executive secretary, began a six-week Field School of Evangelism for Southern College/Evangelistic Meeting in Murfreesboro July 12.

A BANQUET ORGANIZED BY WOMEN'S MINISTRIES LEADERS from four Nashville area churches was attended by 120 individuals. The banquet was all-inclusive bringing couples, singles, the elderly, and the young together in fellowship. The youth of the churches served the food and helped with babysitting.

South Atlantic



his address he charged the youth to make their dreams for the future a reality through Christ.

Southern College



returned from a successful **1996 SPRING CONCERT TOUR TO THE BRITISH ISLES.**

More than \$40,000 has been given to the **PAVE THE WAY CAMPAIGN** for the walkway and landscaping of Southern's new Hickman Science Center. Building construction is nearing completion.

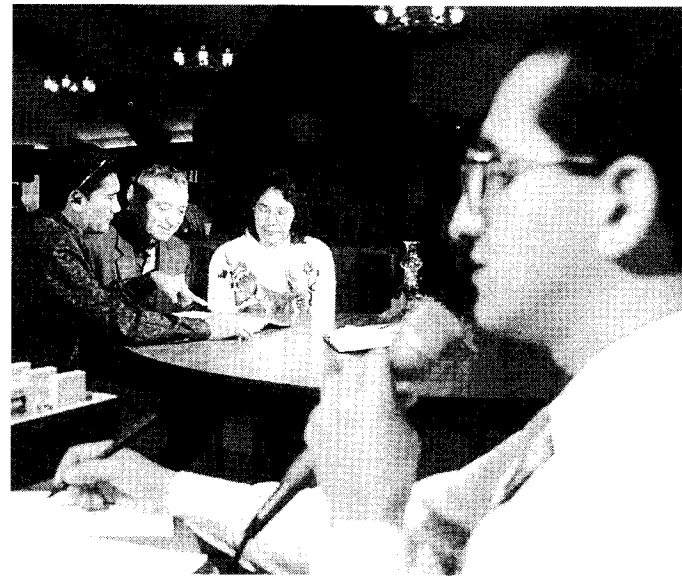
An affiliation with ADRA (Adventist Development and Relief Agency International) took Linda Erwin, a graduating senior, to Chile this past summer for a 400-hour **SOCIAL WORK PRACTICUM.**

The Downtown Chattanooga Lions Club presented \$1,200 **SCHOLARSHIPS TO TWO NURSING STUDENTS**, Julie Bowen Aldridge and Jonathan Malloch. Club members have funded an endowment, the interest of which has provided nursing scholarships for several years.

The campus is ready to welcome **VIEW SOUTHERN** guests on October 13 and 14. ViewSouthern is a campus event especially for academy seniors and students considering college transfer. Reservations can be made by calling 1-800-SOUTHERN.



One of the special highlights of the recent Kentucky-Tennessee camp meeting was the commissioning of teacher and Zaphrah awards which took place Sabbath morning prior to the 11 o'clock worship service. Presentations and awards were presented by educational superintendent Vern Biloff, associate Ann Steiner, and Conference president Richard Hallock. This year's Zaphrah award went to Ileona Espinosa, a teacher at Madison Academy.



More and more these days, you can hear the sound of the Hispanic translator in the background at Conference events. Under the watchful direction of Samuel Romero, pictured with headphones, Carolina has seen the Hispanic work grow by more than tenfold.



Georgia and Earl Oxberger of Manchester, Ky., were surprised and honored recently for the celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary. Derek Mustow, ADRA retiree, performed a renewal of vows ceremony, and helped make honorable presentations and gifts. Mustow was assisted by his wife, Audrey, and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bland from United Prison Ministries. The Oxbergers have dedicated their lives and finances in service to God with special emphasis to ADRA and United Prison Ministries.



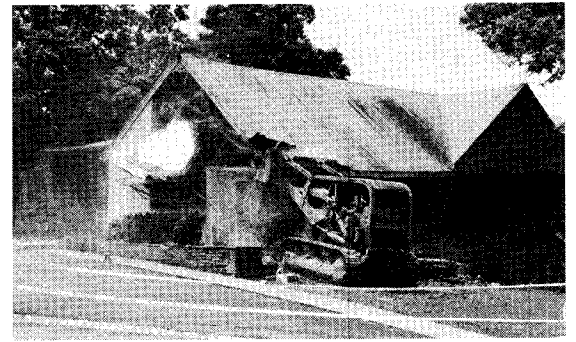
As Carolina Conference officials look on, Martin Lee, pastor of the Charlotte Korean church, addresses the mostly Korean congregation at the church's recent ground breaking ceremony. The Charlotte Korean church will be the second Korean church built in the Carolinas. The first one was built in Columbia, S.C., in 1993.

Children from the Corinth school joined with the Kentucky-Tennessee literature evangelists, home schoolers, and ASI member Palmer Handrails to help with the "streams of light." They entered their Bible Story float in the annual Strawberry Parade in May and along the way invited people to sign up for the Family Bible that was given away. Several sales were made and Bible correspondence courses were given out to a number of people.





Members of the Immanuel Temple church in Durham, N.C., who reached their goal or more during the church's Plank-It-Down Crusade Drive for 1995. Funds collected in this annual drive are used to support various conference and church goals. Kathryn Crump, who in spite of major surgery, raised the highest amount (\$1,395.00). A plaque and a gift was presented to her. Certificates were presented to all who reached their goal.



Working crews tore down a big chunk of Highland history recently as they destroyed the building that had housed the former Highland Adventist church, Highland Elementary School, and Highland Academy. The original structure was built in 1909. The founders moved the building in 1913. It was initially used as a school and church. A new auditorium was added in 1940. The original structure was replaced in the 50s with a new wing. Church met upstairs and school downstairs for many years. The elementary school grew and eventually took over the entire building before moving into new quarters in 1993.



Kindergartners from Becker Adventist School in Decatur, Ga., presented the musical "We Like Sheep" at the Belvedere church under the direction of their teacher, Lovenia Greer. Albert Ellis, Belvedere pastor, commented, "The play incorporated so many important lessons about Jesus, the Good Shepherd, and about the characteristics of the sheep in His flock. As the children practiced during the past several months for this outstanding performance, they also placed the life-changing message of Jesus' love in their hearts."



The faces of Russian ladies beamed when the Carolina women's ministries delegation handed out books and pens to those who attended the women's ministries meetings in St. Petersburg, Russia.

It's a new day when you can sell Adventist literature in Red Square. Alla Yakubckik, a Mt. Pisgah Academy exchange student from Moscow, translates for Southern Union publishing director, Bill Beckworth, as he makes a sale in Red Square.



One hundred participants recently gathered for a church ministries workshop at Nosoca Pines Ranch in South Carolina. According to Mike and Lynn Ortel, workshop planners, the weekend was for educating and training Sabbath school, prison ministries, and health temperance leaders to be even more effective leaders. Workshop presenters were Jim Wetmore, Mike and Lynn Ortel, Auldwin Humphrey, Donna Williams, Priscilla Jester, Debra Brill, Frank Shirley, Maurice Abbott, David Moore, Ginger Church, and Pat Kaufmann.

—Education—

Juliaette Phillips Appointed Interim VP for Academic Affairs

Oakwood College— Juliaette Phillips has been appointed interim vice president for academic affairs, effective July 1, 1996.

Since joining the faculty in the department of behavioral sciences 22 years ago, Phillips has moved progressively upward from assistant professor to associate professor, to chair of the department of social work, and to assistant vice president for academic affairs.

Under her leadership, the social work department has received



Juliaette Phillips

accreditation by the Council on Social Work Education. In 1980-81, she was the co-director of SACS Mandated Institutional Self-Study Program.

Phillips received her bachelor's from Alabama State College and her MSW from the University of Pennsylvania.

Roy E. Malcolm

Adventist College Enrollment Reaches 15-Year High

NAD—Enrollment reached the highest level in 15 years this past year at Seventh-day Adventist colleges and universities in North America, according to a report issued from the North American Division of the church.

The fall 1995 enrollment reached 19,205 students, up 14 percent from the 16,902 students who had enrolled just six years earlier. It is the highest enrollment since 1981, when 19,384 students enrolled.

"Graduate education has grown sharply in recent years, and that probably accounts for a lot of the growth," said Richard Osborn, vice president for education of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America.

"But the schools also have developed better recruiting plans, both in communicating with students and in giving scholarship funds," he added.

Enrollment grew most sharply in the past six years at three schools: Southwestern Adventist College in Keene, Texas; Oakwood College in Huntsville, Alabama; and at Loma Linda University in Loma Linda, California.

Kermit Netteburg

—Outreach—

Connect-5 Witnesses During Summer

Oakwood College— Connect-5 is a group of Oakwood College

students from the Southeastern Conference. Dedicated, serious, and committed to the principles of the Church, these young men are gaining national attention for their unique style of

singing to the glory of God. They are managed by Steve King of Florida.

During the summer, Connect-5 has assisted the office of college relations in taking the Centennial on the road to the various regional conference camp

meetings where they have received very flattering reviews.

In Huntsville, Connect-5 is fast becoming a favorite musical performing group at luncheons, and dinners, for many civic organizations.

Roy E. Malcolm



Connect-5: Paul Bodie (left), Duran Carrington, Jovan Times, Robert Wells, and Dean Dennis.

Evangelism Works When Everyone Helps

Florida—Lucy Petterson, of Jensen Beach, received a brochure in the mail advertising the *Prophecy 2000 Seminar* that was to be held at the Jensen Beach church. She was interested in the meetings, and asked her friends if they would go with her. No one could go, so she set the brochure aside.

Meanwhile, Barbara Feak, a member of the Jensen Beach church, volunteered to design, paint, and place the directional signs to the seminar around town. While posting the signs, Feak prayed that at least one person would spiritually benefit from the time she spent getting things ready for the seminar.

The night the meetings started, Petterson was driving to a friend's house and kept seeing signs that said "*Prophecy 2000.*" Deciding



Lucy Petterson is baptized by Wayne Gosling, pastor.

the Lord must really want her to attend the meetings, Petterson drove to the church. After attending the seminar and church for a few months, she accepted the Seventh-day Adventist message.

At the fellowship luncheon following her baptism, Conference evangelists Bill and "Sunshine" Waters, who conducted the seminar, introduced Lucy Petterson to Barbara Feak, the woman who's time and prayer did make a difference.

Donna Kostrub

Transcription and Truth Lead to Baptism

Carolina—God will utilize any avenue to

bring His children in a relationship to Himself. He used transcription of evangelistic presentations to bring Frannie and Evelyn Groves into a relationship with Him.

George Garrick lives in the Carolina mountains near Jefferson, N.C., and owns a medical equipment business. He asked Evelyn if she would be willing to transcribe the evangelistic sermon presentations of Bill Waters, an evangelist friend of George and Charlotte Garrick. She agreed and as she began to type these presentations, questions about the material began to form in her heart and mind. She discussed these questions with her family. Her father became one of her proofreaders and added his affirmation as he read by saying, "I didn't know that was in the Bible."

In addition to the typing and Bible consultations, Michael, her son, is a salesman for George Garrick in the medical equipment company. Upon returning from business trips with George, Michael began telling his mother additional truths that he and George had discussed

while away.

As Evelyn typed the presentations, she faithfully studied her Bible. She has also enjoyed looking at various video lessons. Consequently, the day arrived when Evelyn had to come face to face with following Jesus all the way. She made her decision and joined the Warrensville church on profession of faith.

Evelyn's husband, Frannie, had listened to much discussion, but he did not seem interested in learning new truths. However, the Lord was impressing his heart and he felt convicted to make a decision about the new truths he had learned. He eventually made his decision and was baptized.

Frannie and Evelyn anxiously await the day when their entire family can be united in the faith. Evelyn embarked on a typing journey that word-by-word led her and Frannie to the blessed Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Charlotte Garrick

Prison Ministry Develops in Perry, Florida

Florida—Five members of the Perry church were apprehensive, yet thrilled, as they watched 80 inmates from the Taylor County Correctional Institute (TCCI) make their way to chapel call March 4. It was a first-time prison

ministry experience for the church members who had recently received instruction from Conference prison ministry coordinator Frank Barton, as well as for the fairly new TCCI facility which had never had an Adventist prison ministry group.

The Perry members tried for six months to schedule services in the prison. The door was finally opened for them when an inmate

requested Seventh-day Adventist literature and group study.

At the March 4 service, the group was overwhelmed as each inmate shook their hands and told them how much they enjoyed the services and that they wanted to participate in future services. Many inmates read scripture and described what it meant to them.

The group held services at TCCI every Monday evening in April and May. They now meet with inmates every other month. During the July 2 service, when Madison/Perry district pastor Wayne Niemeyer made an altar call, six inmates requested baptism. The group expects 90-100 inmates to attend the service this month, and there are plans to enter the Mayo Correctional Institute in Mayo sometime in the near future.

Perry member Marie Litchfield's motivation to prompt the group for prison ministry was the story of Harry Williams, who spent 20 years in prison for drug

trafficking. He said he had done "everything in the book" that could be done wrong—even cutting and shooting people with his apparently unaffected conscience.

Williams once decided to go to a prison chapel simply because he was told there would be "girls" there. The youngest "girl" was 67 years old, but one of them put her arms around him and said, "Honey, God loves you." It was the first time anyone had ever told Williams God loved him. It touched him and he began studying the Bible—learning to read as he studied.

After his 20 years in prison, he showed up at Oakwood College, a Seventh-day Adventist college in Huntsville, Ala. He said God sent him there, but he had no transcripts since he had never attended secondary school. Eventually, Williams was accepted, and struggled through his studies for eight years. Today, he is a widely sought-after evangelist and speaker from South Carolina.

Marie Litchfield, Cindy Kurtzhals



Prison ministries group: Paul Turner, Maggie Jones, Edwin Rema, Jane Litchfield, Delbert Thomas, and Marie Litchfield.



Nine adults and two children picked corn for a program to help feed the homeless and hungry.

AMS Volunteers Glean for Homeless

Florida—Volunteers representing Adventist

Singles Ministries (ASM) gleaned, packaged, and distributed corn and green beans for the homeless and hungry earlier this year. This nondenominational gleaning

venture stemmed from the PATH Program (Presbyterian Answer To Hunger), based on Deuteronomy 24:19 and Matthew 25:37.

Nine adults and two children from the Forest Lake, Deltona, Florida Hospital church, and the DeBary company, picked approximately two tons of corn in a three-hour period. The corn came from a field owned by an anonymous farmer in Canal Point, near Okeechobee, who donates 10 acres of his

field (a tenth of his crop) to mission work to help feed the hungry.

Corn was also donated to the community services programs of the Forest Lake and Florida Hospital churches, Forest Lake Academy, and to Filipino-American church member John Gade. Gade is involved in Orlando Street Ministries—a long-time ministry to feed the homeless hungry in the Orlando area.

Sydell Hermanson

ADRA to Help Rebuild Burned Churches in the South

Southern Union—The North American office of the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is mobilizing assistance to help communities in the south rebuild their burned churches. As a result, ADRA North America is setting up a warehouse for donated building supplies for organizations rebuilding burned churches.

"Adventists deplore the burning and defacing of churches or any other house of worship," says Alfred McClure, president of the North American Division. "We also deplore the attitudes that generates violence. We want to help."

The Adventist Youth

Services Network is also helping by organizing volunteers to rebuild one of the churches in September. Church and schools youth groups are collecting donations and donated building materials, and are sending volunteers to help.

Individuals and groups that want to donate building materials or set up a collection center for donations may call 1-800-253-3000 to offer their help. Lumber, roofing felt, and nails are the material needed. Please remember that disorganized and unexpected arrivals of donated items that are not needed only creates a problem.

Beth Schaefer

Beth Schaefer is the news and information officer at Frontline News for Adventist Network.

Progress

Florida Adventists Recognized Internationally

Florida—Florida Conference earned a Silver Angel in the 19th annual International Angel Awards sponsored by Excel-

lence in Media of Pasadena, Calif. The prestigious Silver Angel was awarded for *Florida Focus*, the Conference's quarterly newsletter.

The Silver Angel comes after meriting success deemed by three panels of judges. It reflects excellence in



Opening the box from California's Southern Trophy Company during worship is Conference president Obed Graham (second from left), and communication director Cindy Kurtzhals. Sharing in the excitement is the communication team: Lee Bennett, production assistant; and Bettie Gilliam-Jordan, secretary.

media work from around the world: film, radio, television, magazines, albums, and more.

Judges for the category in which *Florida Focus* was submitted included columnists, writers, and best-selling authors, journalism professors, English teachers—those in the communications field with journalism specialties.

"The Silver Angel is given because of the great message of the entry and how memorable it is to the judges," says Mary Dorr, executive director. "What the entry communicates to the heart—is unforgettable."

The Angel Awards were started nearly 20 years ago by professionals in the media, entertainment, and music businesses who wanted to produce excellence in moral quality media. Their goal was to provide wholesome, spiritual,

and positive programs, music, and printed work as an alternative to the violence, sex, and degrading work the public was being exposed to.

The concept of *Florida Focus* was brought to Florida by then president, Malcolm Gordon, now Southern Union Conference president. The prototype was the *Carolina Action* produced by Herb Crawley, then communication director of the Carolina Conference under Gordon's leadership.

The first edition of *Florida Focus* was published 11 years ago in April-May 1985.

Fifteen Seventh-day Adventists or Adventist organizations received awards this year.

One of this year's Gold Angels was awarded to *ABT-TV's* news magazine, *Prime Time Live* with Diane Sawyer and Sam Donaldson.

Cindy Kurtzhals

Rome Church Now Debt-Free

Georgia-Cumberland—It was July 24, 1924, when the Rome church was organized and met at the corner of Park and Highland Avenue. Although it

was a small congregation, the church had an active community service program. The October 24, 1959, edition of the local paper, *The Rome News-Tribune*, reported how the church assisted victims of hurricane Camille by



Thousands of youth have made their decisions for Christ through the summer camp programs. Pictured here are participants of the River Oaks program in '91.

Report (Continued from page 7)

we are living in the last days. So we are not negative about what is happening around us. Like Jesus told us about these last days: "When these things begin to come to pass, then look up and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."

Trust Services

The gifts of God's people to the work of the Church often provide evangelistic advances, educational opportunities, and church development available in no other way. During the quinquennium Southern Union entities realized more than \$16 million in direct gifts and the maturities of trusts and wills.

Trust Services personnel were instrumental in encouraging members to participate in the Southern Union Revolving Fund, which amounts, at present, to \$38 million. These funds do "Double Duty" by providing a safe investment and financial return to our members (presently five percent) and saving church entities many thousands of dollars in bank fees and higher interest payments (SURF charges seven percent).

Those involved with Trust Services must satisfactorily complete 30 hours of continuing education annually. Presently 39 individuals in the Southern Union are certified.

Giving direction to Trust Services is Stewart J. Crook.



Samuel Romero translates for Gail Skilton's evangelistic crusade in Charlotte. Translations are becoming common with the increase in Hispanic membership.

Women's Ministries

In 1984 Women's Ministries began in the Southern Union. Nine years later, the Southern Union Conference voted departmental status to Women's Ministries.

Every conference in the Southern Union now has a women's ministries director and most

churches have a local director.

According to a recent survey of directors of women's ministries in Southern Union's eight conferences, a director on the Union level was seen "as a valuable resource for programming and speakers," a liaison and direct link to the North American Division. Having eight conferences to relate to gives an adequate number for support and keeps (directors) abreast of the most current developments in women's ministries.

During this quinquennium, under the leadership of Evelyn VandeVere, women's ministries made a positive difference in the lives of more than 17,000 women, motivating them to a closer walk with their Lord.

We are now in the training phase of the continuum that includes nurturing our female membership, but also encourages women to reach out to their communities and participate in appropriate volunteerism and social events.

Already we are reaping souls for Christ in reclaimed members and new baptisms; and with these we begin again the circle of nurturing, training, reaching out, and reaping.

Adventist Health System Sunbelt Healthcare Corporation

During these times of unprecedented change, the Lord has continued to bless Adventist Health System Sunbelt and we have grown and prospered. To stay abreast of the changing healthcare market, we have made several alterations in our operations, such as enhancing our outpatient and home care services. In addition, we have implemented attractive and equitable arrangements in the managed care markets of most of our healthcare facilities. This decreases the risk of our smaller hospitals being frozen out of the market due to lack of access to insurance companies.

We now manage 24 hospital campuses and 21 nursing homes, totaling more than 6,000 beds. Our home health division, Sunbelt Home Health Care, has grown to 35 agencies and estimates more than a million visits in 1996.

Our flagship organization, Florida Hospital, represents a significant part of our business. The Hospital is also expanding the Walt Disney Memorial Cancer Institute and enhancing its capabilities with the addition of the Gamma Knife Center, which will bring leading edge radiosurgery to central Florida. In addition, the Hospital is expanding its surgical unit by more than

133,400 square feet, and in 1992 started Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences in Orlando. It is the most recent college opening in 30 years.

Two new healthcare facilities are currently under construction in Florida—Florida Hospital Heartland and Celebration Health. Both hospitals are designed to provide efficient and quality-oriented healthcare to meet the needs of these rapidly changing times. Florida Hospital Heartland will serve as the replacement facility for Florida Hospital Walker, formerly known as Walker Memorial Medical Center. Celebration Health, located near Walt Disney World, will provide state-of-the-art healthcare for Disney employees, visitors to central Florida and eventually the 20,000 residents of the city of Celebration. This innovative healthcare facility will be strategically positioned with a surrounding population of nearly 400,000 within a 20-mile radius.

Oakwood College

Generally, the year 1996 culminates a century of progress which we now celebrate. Specifically, 1996 culminates a quinquennium of sustained growth for Oakwood College. In all measurable categories, Oakwood, over the past five years, has exceeded its projected goals.

Adopted from our Centennial theme, the words "Preserving, Possessing, Positioning" portrays the proactive posture of the college in the midst of our 100th anniversary celebration, and just strides away from the 21st century.

The academic reputation of the college continues to grow and to be recognized across higher education as a result of a first-class curriculum, quality resource centers, an excellent faculty, and an outstanding environment for achieving personal and professional goals.

There are 14 academic departments offering 40 majors and 30 minors. Available degrees include Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Social Work, and Bachelor of Vocal Performance.

The faculty represents more than 40 leading universities and colleges worldwide with 58 percent holding earned doctorates.

With our 1,626 students today, the college has the potential to reach 2,000 plus before the year 2000.

Fund-raising has reached unprecedented levels at Oakwood.



In a sermon he developed along the theme of Endangered Species, David Banks points out that the majority of members are more disturbed by things such as egg on a church carpet than they are over the fact that the youth and young adults are leaving the church in overwhelming numbers. Plans are being developed to reverse this trend.

During the quinquennium, there has been a steady progress from private sources totaling close to \$3.5 million. Prior to 1990, there were no trust documents or wills. During the past five years, we have acquired 300 documents valued

at almost \$4 million. In the meantime, the *Shields of Gold Campaign* has achieved, thus far, better than expected success in pledges and gifts toward its \$20 million goal.

Southern College

With Southern's centennial in 1992, and the 21st century arriving before another five years pass, this quinquennium has found us alternately looking back and looking forward. Here we focus particularly on the half-decade just gone, the launching pad for some significant plans you will soon be reading more about.

This is a sample of what's new in the past five years at Southern: 1700 new students, 317 student missionaries departing to serve all over the world, 75 religion students participating in seven field schools of evangelism in the Southern Union, student head counts of 1532, 1591, and 1652, more than 21,000 new books accessioned by McKee Library, \$10.6 million in gifts to the college for scholarships, construction, and other projects.

Some things can be counted and quantified. Others are more difficult to directly measure. Enthusiasm for learning, for example, may be hinted at by last year's library book circulation of 47,378 volumes. Dedication to Christian values is seen in strong participation in the Student Association's Community Service Day inaugurated in 1994 and in voluntary Bible study groups in the residence halls. As many as



The Southern Union's "Unto These Hills" camporee attracted 4,600 youth.

Southern Union Session Delegates

CAROLINA

David Beamish *
Ted Brackett *
Robert Burchard
Beverly Gottfried *
John Lorntz
Nathan R. Mungin, Sr. *
John Nafie
Rande Reynolds
Jim Rochester
Jim Sawtell
Ron Schmidt
Lionel Simmons *
Claude Steen *
Lewis Stubbs *

FLORIDA

Glen Altermatt
John Appel
Gloria Becker
Eugene Brewer
Mark Buhler *
Quinton Burks
Shirley Canther *
Eric Cantillo *
Dorothy Carey *
Rafael Chervoni *
Bill Crofton
Dale Erickson *
Sharon Fulford *
Noel Graham *
Lewis Hendershot
Joseph Holloway
Douglas Jacobs
Cindy Kurtzhals
Nilza Machado *
Andy McDonald
Nathan McLaughlin *
Earl Oliphant
Richard O'Fill
Daniel Pabon
Donald E. Pervis, Sr. *
Ray Pichette
Terry Pooler
Floyd Powell
Rolando de los Rios
Corinne Russ *
Noel Shanko
R. H. Shepard
William Stout *
Percival Tamayo *
Jesus Uriarte *
Thomas L. Werner
H. Haskell Williams
Stephan Wilson
Phil Younts

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

Delmar G. Anderson *
Kelly B. Bock
Joseph W. Breyer *
David Buckman *

Roy Caughron
David Cress
Errol L. Eder
Gary Edgmon *
Albert M. Ellis
LaVona Gillham
Steve Haley
Warren Johnson *
Harold J. Lance *
John Mathews
George Mercurius *
Julie Mittleider *
Cheryl Olson *
George Pangman
Becky Perry *
Mike Pettengill
George Powell
Warren Ruf
Obdulio Segui
Charles Wilson *

GULF STATES

Don Eckenroth
Donald Harvey
Barry Mahorney
Dennis Millborn
Fred Rimer
Robin Roberts *
Gail Wade *
John Watkins

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

Bill Cook
Dave Cook *
John W. Fowler
Douglas Hilliard
Lynn Schlisner
Christa Schmidt *
Milton Siepmann
Chris Tucker *
John van Zyl
Irene Walper *
Martha Walwyn *

SOUTH ATLANTIC

L. Anderson *
D. S. Duncombe *
Ralph Franklin
Delphine C. Gibson *
Conrad Gill
Mark Golson
Carolyn Hinson
Nathaniel Hollis
Marcellus P. Howard
Sammie Johnson *
Richard H. Long
Horace Malone
Eugene M. Mason, Jr.
V. J. Mendinghall
G. Milton *
Earl W. Moore
Marshall W. Ogburn
Fred Parker, Jr.

Calvin B. Preston
Melvin Preston
Leonora Ruff *
Oscar Sherrod
Robert Smith
Esther J. Thomas *
Robert L. Thorpe *
Frank B. Wade *
Bill Winston

SOUTH CENTRAL

Seth T. Bardu
Veronica B. Bass
Benjamin P. Browne
George Byars
Roland Carter
Dana Edmond
Joseph I. Grider
Samuel Hutchins
Willie Knight *
Isaac Lester
John Lockley *
Robert L. Mann
Famous Murray
R. S. Norman, III
Bernard Parham *
George I. Pearson
Lynn Ross *
Lorenzo B. Shepherd
Laura Smith *
William Smith
Randolph Stafford
Henry Tinsley *
Marilyn Wallace *
Eula Washington
Irene Williams
J. P. Willis

SOUTHEASTERN

Wallace R. Battle *
Jimmie Lee Brown *
Carol Byrd
Fontley R. Corrodus *
Everard Daley *
Herman L. Davis, Sr.
R. Dobson *
G. Fontil
Sylister J. Jackson
G. Mack
T. A. McNealy
H. Morel
Roy C. Parham, Sr.
Robert Patterson
Oster H. Paul
Eileen Pilliner
M. W. Sterling
W. L. Taylor
Diane Tramel *
C. Vento
Patrick Vincent
Brent Waldon, Sr.

* Laypersons

Delegates-at-Large

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Richard P. Center
Lee D. Beers

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Roy R. Brown
Kenneth R. Coonley
Melvin Eisele
Obed O. Graham
Richard Hallock
Joseph W. McCoy
Ralph P. Peay

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Thelma Anderson *
Rose Beavers *
Robert Bennett *
Mardian J. Blair
Paul R. Boling
Helen Boskind
Ruby I. Boyd *
Dennis Campbell *
Ruth S. Cheshire *
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Frankyann G. Dawkins
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Alvin Ringer *
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Richard Stevenson, Sr. *
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Clarence Wright
Ed Wright

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Dennis Ross, Jr.
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Lewis Stout
Evelyn VandeVere
Allan R. Williamson

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Don Bohannon
Don Jernigan

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George Babcock
Dale J. Bidwell

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David E. Greenlaw

OAKWOOD COLLEGE

Benjamin F. Reaves
James Doggette
Prudence Pollard

NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

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George H. Crumley
Harold W. Baptiste
Don Jacobsen
Eduardo Rosano

GENERAL CONFERENCE

G. Ralph Thompson

* Laypersons



NET '95 organizers Lonnie Melashenko, Mark Finley, and Ernestine Finley presented the largest evangelistic event during the quinquennium.



Samuel and Mary Romero, Hispanic coordinators for the Carolina Conference, have been partially responsible for the Hispanic growth in membership.

40 students were baptized in a single school year.

People are more important than anything else on our campus. But its buildings stay still long enough for a good look at them. In the past five years, major renovations of the student residence halls and apartments, and of the education/behavioral science facilities in Summerour Hall were completed. The cafeteria and Campus Kitchen have both been renovated, as well as the Conference Center and health service. The Iles PE Center has a new hardwood floor and better lighting. Improvements have been made in Brock Hall (our largest classroom building), and Mabel Wood Hall (the music building). Renovations at Fleming Plaza give it a contemporary look. The biggest plant undertaking, however, is the new Hickman Science Center.

Ground was broken on October 29, 1993, with actual construction beginning last September on the 62,500-square-foot \$6 million classroom and laboratory building which will be in use next year.

Though changes will come in the days ahead of us—many of which we envision and will help to produce—our goal remains the same as when the school was founded in 1892—to recreate in God's image,



Danny McDonald, Southern Union sign engineer, is often asked by church boards to make a presentation explaining the benefits and costs of participating in the sign program.

to cause students and teachers to interact with a value system as unique as the kingdom of God.

Education, however logically reasoned or brilliantly expressed, is empty and valueless without Jesus Christ. All achievements of today come from and belong to God and God alone. To Him we must dedicate our future.

YES, WE ARE THE SOUTHERN UNION! I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your important participation and faithful support of God's last day message in our Union, and most of all we praise our loving Heavenly Father for His abundant blessings.

Southern Society of Adventist Communicators

1996 Conference:
"Go for the Gold!"

September 20-22:
Jekyll Island, Georgia

- Stimulating seminars and work sessions
- Compelling personal stories from Christian communicators
- Networking with Adventist communication professionals

Presenters:

Brenda Wood, News anchor, WAGA-TV, Atlanta

Jeannie Edwardsen, Public relations and media consultant

Ray Dabrowski, General Conference Communication Director

Paul Moore, President, LifeTalk Radio

Sheree Parris Nudd, marketing and fund-raising consultant

Steve Timm, Ph.D., founder of SDANet

Leslie Warner, Warner, Birchell & Hall Advertising, Spokane, Wash.

For further information, contact your local conference communication department.

Southern Union Conference & Association of Seventh-day Adventists Combined Statements of Changes in Net Assets For Years Ended Dec. 31, 1995, 1994, 1993, 1992, 1991

	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991
Changes in Unrestricted Net Assets					
Unrestricted Revenues and Gains					
Net Tithe Income	8,519,076	8,099,326	7,422,248	7,087,924	6,480,337
Other Unrestricted Income	1,436,197	1,416,564	1,373,151	1,442,368	1,645,293
Total Unrestricted Revenues & Gains	9,955,273	9,515,890	8,795,399	8,530,292	8,125,630
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	10,815,827	9,310,798	8,639,862	8,363,341	7,742,841
Total Unrestricted Rev., Gains & Support	20,771,100	18,826,688	17,435,261	16,893,633	15,868,471
Expenses & Losses					
Program Services					
Church	2,593,495	2,342,318	2,247,202	2,263,480	2,136,926
Education	6,025,051	5,740,383	5,279,005	4,802,787	4,670,398
Publishing	406,695	372,386	360,155	352,121	324,931
Special Services	2,000,293	1,919,814	1,952,250	1,765,674	1,900,743
Other	7,448,697	5,969,768	5,488,109	5,303,057	4,516,472
Support	1,945,413	1,537,393	1,547,459	1,506,343	1,545,290
Total Expenses & Losses	20,419,644	17,882,062	16,874,180	15,993,462	15,094,760
Increase Unrestricted Net Assets	351,456	944,626	561,081	900,171	773,711
Capital Additions (Deductions)	1,168	4,256	(2,066)	128,985	646
Increase Unrestricted Net Assets	352,624	948,882	559,015	1,029,156	774,357
Changes in Temporarily Restricted Net Assets					
Income	10,726,607	9,355,864	8,558,287	8,443,674	7,751,763
Net Assets Released From Restrictions	(10,815,827)	(9,310,798)	(8,639,862)	(8,363,341)	(7,742,841)
Incr. (Decr.) Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	(89,220)	45,066	(81,575)	80,333	8,922
Changes in Permanently Restricted Net Assets					
Incr. (Decr.) Permanently Restricted Net Assets	1,208,298	165,306	164,568	151,034	200,798
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	1,471,702	1,159,254	642,008	1,260,523	984,077
Net Assets Beginning Of Year	15,153,113	14,095,851	13,453,843	12,193,320	10,070,983
Prior Period Adjustment		(101,992)			1,138,260
Net Assets at End of Year	16,624,815	15,153,113	14,095,851	13,453,843	12,193,320

sending clothing, bedding, food and monetary gifts to Biloxi, Miss. Today this tradition is carried on in helping those in need.

The congregation worshiped in that church until 1973. Under the pastorate of David Van Denburg, the church began the process of relocating to 1246 Cartersville Highway. On July 25, 1975, the new church was opened.

While at the Cartersville Highway address, the church spearheaded two significant ministries to its members and community. In 1980 it began a church school with Charles Mills as the teacher. The other ministry was to the

deaf in the community under the direction of David Conti and Will Radke.

Members began looking to expand the school and church in 1987. A committee was appointed and the search began. Eight acres were secured on Cedartown Highway and plans were made to begin the new building. On June 8, 1991, the Rome church celebrated its first Sabbath. Five years later on June 1, the congregation celebrated being debt free. Conference president Gordon Bietz was the guest speaker. Also participating were former pastors Walter Earle, Les Speer, and Joel Neil.

Frances Roe

Miami Springs ABC Opens

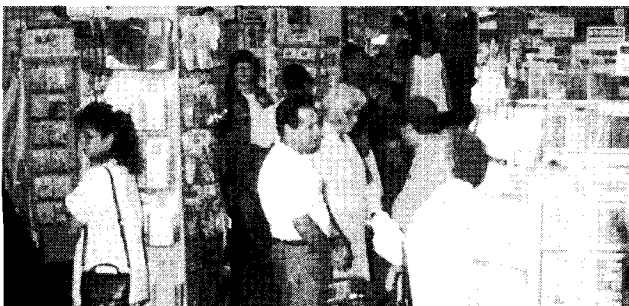
Florida—The Miami Springs Adventist Book Center (ABC) opened its doors Sunday, July 7, to a group of 30 waiting customers. Dozens of customers visited the store throughout the day.

The ABC is located on South Royal Poinciana Boulevard, less than one mile from the Miami Springs church. Miami Springs mayor John Cavalier performed the ribbon-cutting.

The 6,000-square-foot ABC is triple the size of the former Hialeah store. It houses

one of the largest displays of Bibles and Bible reference materials in Miami, along with a wide variety of Christian books, videos, CD's, cassettes, and other gifts. Many of the Bibles and books are available in Spanish, French, and Portuguese translations. A special feature is the store's nutrition center which stocks health foods, vitamins, and other nutritional aids.

Pablo Ayala is branch manager of the Miami Springs ABC. Before he became manager of the Hialeah branch in November, 1993, Ayala was an accountant at the West Puerto Rico Conference ABC.



ABC shoppers eagerly browse the new facility.

The opportunity of a real purchase bargain on the Miami Springs ABC facility presented itself when ABC managers chose to purchase an entire 15,000-square-foot strip mall for \$675,000. The ABC is located in the mall. Subtracting the rent payments from the six other businesses, the Miami Springs ABC's monthly payment translates to approximately \$2,200. "We were paying \$2,300 a month for less than

2,000 square feet at our old location," said Conference ABC manager Gerald Bond. "It makes this (ABC facility) a steal."

South Florida constituents had reason to be anxious for the new store to open. During the interim, the Adventist Bookmobile serviced the area for extended periods of time, but couldn't cater to its customers as a fully-stocked store.

A. Lee Bennett, Jr., Terry Hall, Cindy Kurtzhals

First Portuguese Church Organized

Southeastern—On April 20, Southeastern organized its 106th congregation, but there was something else worth noting: this was the first Portuguese-speaking congregation in Southeastern's history. Forty members seemed ready to work in their community as many were talking of missionary work and evangelism after the organization service.

Orlando Gonzalez and local leader Sebastian Amarante, directed and prepared the company for organization. Roy Brown, president, gave the sermonic charge, Willie L. Taylor, execu-



Roy Brown preaches as J. M. Bertoluci translates during the organization of Southeastern's first Portuguese-speaking church.

tive secretary, led in the act of organization. Robert Patterson, treasurer, led in the ordination of elders Haroldo da Cruz and Natalino Vieira. Friends and relatives from Kissimmee to Palm Coast and south Florida to the northeast were on hand for the service.

W. L. Taylor

Update

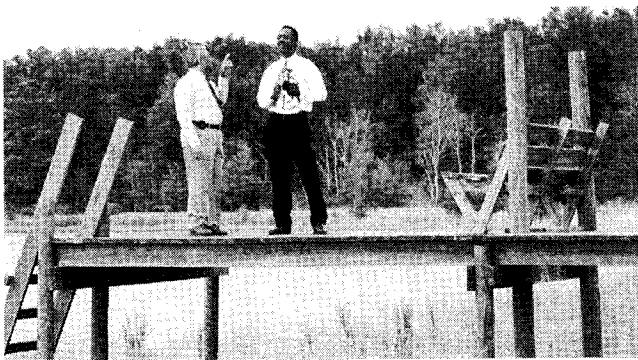
Conference Purchases and Improves Campground

Southeastern—It was not that large, but it was significant. What's more, it was right on time.

At Camp Meeting '95, the Conference introduced a plan to purchase five much-needed acres adjacent to the campground.

The Conference's men and women challenged each other to see which group would raise the most so the property could be bought for cash. Members, including youth and young adults, were asked to bring forward just \$10. Pastors were asked to take special offerings from members who did not attend camp meeting.

The campaign did not yield the desired



Conference president and secretary on dock of additional camp property purchased.

financial results, but the administration, believing God had sent this timely blessing, borrowed the necessary funds and purchased the property.

The property which also includes two houses and a trailer home, is across from the fence behind the cafeteria and the yellow motel. It has 600 feet of lake front access adjacent

to the area where the youth currently swim. There is a deck and easy access for boating activities.

The Campground Improvement Committee, the Camp Rangers, pastors and laypersons labored to prepare the grounds for use. At Camp Meeting '96 the new property was ready for use.

W. L. Taylor

Church Member Recognized for Helping Impaired

Florida—Melbourne church member Mary McLeod has a knack for recognizing a need in her community and finding a viable way for solving it. Her most recent project is heading up the Sonar District Three Advisory Board of the Florida Dog Guides For The Deaf, Inc., headquartered in Bradenton. McLeod, who has been hearing impaired since age 13, has served as president for this group for the past three years.

It seemed only natural, then, that when the March of Dimes set out to recognize a few good women who have gone beyond the call of duty for their communities, McLeod was among the top ten. She recently received the commendation at the White Rose Luncheon at the

Rockledge Country Club as part of the March of Dimes' Salute to Women of Achievement. The March of Dimes award reads in part, "She single-handedly organized, funded, and began the first hearing guide dog training program in 1983."

McLeod was recognized for her outstanding efforts to provide the gift of sound to those who don't have it. This service allows the hearing impaired to enjoy more independent living. The dogs assist the hearing impaired by acting as their ears, much the same way that a seeing guide dog assists the visually impaired.

This is not the first time that McLeod has been recognized for her outstanding leadership abilities. In 1985, The Space Coast Association for the Physically Handicapped gave her The Pioneer Award for leadership by a person with a disability.

McLeod acted out of a response to the local hearing dog program being phased out in her area in 1990. She combined her efforts with Florida Dog Guides for the Deaf, Inc. Since that time,

Sonar District Three has been successful in raising the \$1,800 necessary to train each of the hearing guide dogs that passes through its program.

Michele Solomon

Wauchula Church Breaks Ground For Multi-Purpose Building

Florida—After more than five years of planning, construction of the Wauchula church's multi-purpose building is becoming a reality. A ground-breaking ceremony was held May 5, and construction began the following week.

Conference president Obed Graham spoke of how the Wauchula church has grown over the past few years and was encouraged with the building program. He remembered a time when the Conference considered closing the church because of lack of attendance. Plans are to use the new classroom to show the NET '96 satellite series in October.

Organized in 1922, Wauchula's membership

is 39 and weekly attendance is between 40-50. The church has an active Pathfinder club with 11 children, a very active personal ministries program, and ambitious plans for NET '96.

At the ground-breaking, Wauchula mayor Henry Graham remarked that it was gratifying to have the continued growth of religious organizations in the county instead of drugs and crime. Joe Colavito, an elder at Wauchula and a former Sunday minister for the Wauchula Revival Center, commented that he has watched the church for several years in his travels through the city. He was baptized into the Wauchula church nearly three years ago and is thrilled with the new direction it is taking.

Jan Meredith



Breaking ground for a multi-purpose building at Wauchula, are church, conference, and local leaders.

Ephesus Church Adds Annex

Southeastern—It was a dream come true in Jacksonville with the addition of a new

school annex.

Husband and wife team, W.C. Byrd and Carol A. Byrd, principal of Ephesus Junior Academy set the tone for the day's celebration. Because of the need

for Christian education in the 90's, it was 30 years ago that the members of Ephesus church made plans to add to their school. However, the cost of paying the new church note at that time made it impossible to get further in debt. So all they were able to afford was to lay a foundation for the addition.

On May 18, that dream came true.

Charles Bradford, retired North American Division president, spoke for the baccalaureate service; Roy R. Brown, president of Southeastern Conference, gave the challenge at the dedication service; O.H. Paul, superintendent of education of Southeast-



Carol Byrd, principal of Ephesus Junior Academy, gives greetings during the grand opening.

ern gave the prayer of dedication. Kimberly Brown, professor at Clark-Atlanta University gave the commencement address.

Music was provided by the Ephesus Sanctuary choir, Ephesus Heavenly voices, and Carla R. Byrd of Huntsville.

Carol Byrd

Oakwood Centennial to Feature Astronaut

Oakwood College—

The Oakwood College year-long Centennial Celebration continues until November 17, 1996. Among the many outstanding events listed for the fall is a motivational lecture by the famous Mae C. Jemison, MD, the first Afro-American female in space exploration. Jemison will speak at the Oakwood College church on Thursday, October 24, at 8:00 p.m.

Jemison is a product of the Chicago Public School System, and her credentials are impressive. She earned a BS in chemical engineering and has an AB in African-American and African history from Stanford University where she attended on a scholarship at the age of 26. She then went to Cornell University where she received her medical degree in 1981.

Prior to joining NASA, Jemison practiced medi-



Mae C. Jemison, MD

cine in Los Angeles with INA/Ross Loos Medical Group and with GIGNA Health Plans of Calif.

Jemison has studied Swahili, Japanese, and Russian. Some of her areas of expertise include computer programming, nuclear magnetic resonance, spectroscopy, computer disc production, reproductive biology, and tropical medicine.

While at Oakwood, Jemison will have the opportunity to visit her birthplace, Decatur, Ala., which is just about 20-25 miles from Oakwood.

Roy E. Malcolm



Ground-breaking ceremony with Michael Lay, pastor (left); Lou Kotcko, charter member; Melvin Eisele, conference president; and Ernie Sylvester, building committee chairman.

Ft. Walton Beach Builds Again

Gulf States—Ft. Walton Beach is experiencing growth and therefore an overflowing facility. Ground breaking took place June 9, 1996, for the commencement of a larger church building on the same property. Conference president Melvin Eisele was present for the ground breaking as well as a charter member, Lou

Kotcko, who also participated.

In 1953 a group of Adventists launched a work in Ft. Walton Beach under the direction of Hugh Leggett, Pensacola pastor. Within five years, they were able to move into their new church building. Now, 40 years later, seating is very crowded and the members eagerly look forward to the completion of their new building this fall.

Sharryn Mahorney

Carolina Mission Team Visits Mexico

Gulf States—Several people from the Fletcher area traveled to Playa del Carmen to build a church, hold evangelistic meetings, and to provide medical assistance for the people in the area.

Several surgeons, gynecologists, anesthesiologists, general practitioners, nurses, dentists, and dental hygienists made up the medical mission team.

The trip was highlighted with a special

Sabbath service in the newly-painted Colosio church. The church was sparkling and the children came from every direction. There was standing-room only. In the afternoon, the local Conference president thanked the Fletcher team for their sacrifice, and challenged the church members to grow and fill the pews. The church was dedicated by Fletcher pastor John Lorntz in the loving memory of William Clarence "Brownie" Brown, who passed away suddenly January 13, 1996.

Marj Brown

Women's Retreats Offered Something for All

Florida—Nearly 1,500 women, each with a

story to tell, attended one of the four 1996 Florida Conference women's ministries retreats at Camp Kulaqua. Fiaza Saeed, 19, is of the Muslim faith, and was invited



Patricia Shanko, women's ministries director, and guest Fiaza Saeed.

by Janet Kirk all the way from Chattanooga, Tenn., to attend Florida's event. Fiaza recently lost her mother in death, and found the camp's atmosphere to be exactly what she needed. "I really felt the spirit of God. I could stay at Camp Kulaqua forever."

Another one of Janet's friends, Rose, was blessed by the total retreat experience. She described Camp Kulaqua as "healing ground." The three women, plus another friend, all packed up and came to Florida in the same car.

And so they came from around the states of Florida, Texas, Massachusetts, the Virgin Islands, and Canada to attend what veteran speaker and General Conference director of women's ministries Rose Otis calls "one of the best women's ministries weekends anywhere." Held for four weekends

in February, an additional weekend was scheduled this time to accommodate the record-high number of attendees. The last weekend was specifically for Spanish-speaking women.

In addition to providing the women with spiritual and educational nourishment through worship services and specialized seminars, social needs were fed during Saturday evening's English Tea. Each woman was asked to wear a decorative hat to show-off during the Hat Parade following the Tea, which proved to be a festive time. Several women remarked on the beauty of the floral hand-made hats.

The 1997 women's retreats are already scheduled. They will be February 14-16, 21-23, 28-March 2, and the Spanish-speaking retreat, March 7-9.

Lynn Huff, Cindy Kurtzhals

Publishing Department Bible Studies Net Graduates

Florida—Thanks to the work of Florida Conference literature evangelists, two students have now completed the new *Amazing Facts Bible Study Guides* program—John Dennewitz of New Port Richey and Oicer Solomon of Sarasota. Approximately 100 people are currently enrolled and the number increases everyday. *Amazing Facts* is an Adventist-owned international radio and television supporting ministry in Frederick, Md.

In this new program, each of the 38 literature evangelists is equipped with the *Amazing Facts Bible* lessons and Bible school information to distribute. Each month, literature evangelists receive a list showing the names and addresses of each enrollee and the lesson number completed. This way the literature evangelists can chart their students' progress. When the

student has graduated, the literature evangelist visits again and offers the evangelistic video series of *Dimensions of Prophecy* by Kenneth Cox or *Discoveries in Prophecy* by Mark Finley. Upon viewing completion, the local pastor visits the student and invites him or her to church.

Joe Holloway, Conference publishing director, is excited about the ability to track the students. "We welcome this new opportunity to follow-up on all the contacts that literature evangelists find. Previously, we never knew what happened to people because their Bible studies were processed elsewhere. Sandi Holloway, Joe's wife, is the volunteer Bible school director. She grades the lessons, answers questions, and handles prayer requests.

The *Amazing Facts* program began last fall and typically takes five months to complete. A Spanish *Amazing Facts* Bible study course will soon be offered. When that happens, Holloway expects the number of enrollees to double.

Lynn Huff

El Centinela Enhances Its Appeal

Florida—Spanish leaders from all over the North American Division (NAD) gathered at the Florida Conference office in Orlando this past spring for a seminar that would mark 100 years of successful operation for the publication, *El Centinela*. About 40 Spanish leaders at the NAD, union, and conference levels met to present circulation, financial, editorial, and marketing reports per-

taining to the magazine.

This annual networking effort is geared towards improving the quality of *El Centinela*. By identifying marketing strategies and circulation goals that can strengthen the magazine, leaders hope to improve the effectiveness of *El Centinela* as a spiritually enriching publication.

"The main purpose of *El Centinela* is for witnessing," said *El Centinela* editor Tulio Peverini, who has served as editor of the magazine for the past 25 years. "We hope, naturally, that the

members, when they receive the magazine, first will read the articles and receive a benefit, but the basic purpose of the magazine is to share it with their friends and non-Adventists, in general."

For an entire century, *El Centinela* has been the Adventist witnessing voice of the Spanish-speaking community. The magazine has a circulation of more than 220,000, which covers the North American and Inter-American Divisions. Adding a French edition of the magazine, known as *La Sentinelle*, has increased circulation by about 45,000. Together, both editions have a total circulation of more than 265,000.

Input from those who attended the seminar for *El Centinela* will be used to improve the content of that magazine and to decide how to make the best possible use of materials designed specifically for Spanish readers by the Pacific Press Publishing Association in Boise, Idaho.

Plans have been made to organize a newsletter that would inform Spanish church leaders and lay people of new developments, plans, and missionary tools available to them through *El Centinela*. The first issue is expected to hit the press later this summer. Michele Solomon, Cindy Kurtzhals

The program has helped the tuition to be kept at the lowest level in all the Southern Union for Adventist schools—and the school has three full-time paid teachers.

The school also celebrated with three

students who graduated from the Silver Creek school. The commencement took place May 21 with the address given by Robin Jester. The motto for the 1996 graduation was "Find a Path or Make One."

Helen Self

NAD Baptisms Soar

NAD—North American Division baptisms increased last year more than 2,000 (2,043 over 1994) to reach the highest total in the last 12 years. Baptisms totaled 36,122 in 1995. "We really praise God for His blessing," said Harold Baptiste, secretary of the North American Division.

Baptiste attributed the dramatic increase to NET '95, the satellite evangelistic crusade uplinked live

from Chattanooga and downlinked simultaneously in almost 700 churches throughout the Division. "Baptisms increased almost 20 percent during the reporting periods of NET '95," he said.

Prospects are outstanding for even greater growth in 1996. About 2,000 churches will downlink the event this year. The NET '96 evangelistic program will originate from Orlando, starting October 5. Because of that increase, the number of baptisms could reach 40,000 for 1996.

Kermit Netteburg



Position Available

Del E. Webb Memorial Library Information Services and Education Librarian

The Del E. Webb Memorial Library is seeking a dynamic, motivated and service-oriented individual to be a part of the Public Services team to deliver information in a highly computerized environment to the campus of Loma Linda University, a Seventh-day Adventist Health Science University. The library operates in a computer intensive environment (Internet, electronic databases, integrated library system, and various computer applications). Innovative Interfaces integrated library system will be installed during the coming months.

Responsibilities: provide general reference services; perform mediated literature searches; provide instruction in information retrieval and management, including formal classes and informal instruction at the reference desk for faculty, students, and staff; serve as library liaison to the School of Dentistry, interacting with the faculty, staff and students in providing for their information needs and working with faculty as they revise and innovate the curriculum; to participate in collection development; participate in library and campus committees.

Qualifications: ALA-accredited MLS; member, Academy Health Information Professions, MLAs; excellent oral and written communication skills; experience in a health sciences library; strong commitment to service; ability to function effectively as member of a team; ability to provide large and small group instruction and training; ability to conduct reference interviews; experience in providing mediated literature searches using remote databases via Dialog and NLM; experience with computers, including knowledge of the Internet and WWW, Windows, DOS, word processing software, presentation software and spreadsheets; knowledge of integrated library systems; knowledge of established and emerging instructional technologies; experience working in electronic classrooms.

Rank: Commensurate with experience. Salary Range: \$32,634-\$41,920.

Applications received by July 31, 1996 will be given first consideration. However, applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Please submit a letter of application, resume, and names of three professional references to:

Chair, Search Committee
Library Administration Office
Del E. Webb Memorial Library
Loma Linda University
11072 Anderson Street
Loma Linda, CA 92350-0001

webblibrary@dwebb.llu.edu
(909) 824-4581

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Silver Creek Sponsors Concert

Carolina—The Silver Creek school sponsored a musical concert for the supporters of the "Save the Children" program. This program is a method the school uses to bring financial assistance into the school.



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ADVENTIST HEALTH SYSTEM SUNBELT has the following opportunities in the Blue Ridge Mountains: Cardiology, Family Practice, FP/Occ Med, Emergency Medicine, General Surgery, Geriatrics, Internal Medicine, Neurology, Orthopedics, Otolaryngology, Pediatrics, Psychiatry. Positions are also available for Physical and Occupational Therapists. These opportunities are in the Adventist Health System Sunbelt operated hospitals in Jellico, Greeneville, Tenn., Manchester, Ky., and Fletcher, N.C. Call Marian Hughes, Director of Professional Resources, at (800) 737-2647 or send CV via fax to (704) 687-5296 for more information on these practices. (9)

NON-MEDICAL POSITIONS AVAILABLE

MISSIONARIES NEEDED in Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Thailand. Asia Pacific Division English Language Schools; volunteers to teach conversational English and Bible (teaching experience not needed—we train). Requirements: SDA; native English speaker; degreed and non-degreed positions; dedicate one or more years serving Christ. Contact: Ray James (209) 267-0416; Fax: (209) 267-0342; E-mail: Jamegr@cdepot-net. (C)

MISSIONARIES NEEDED IN KOREA: SDA native English speaking volunteers; singles or couples (without children) who are college graduates with bachelor's degrees 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 you). Benefits include: round-trip ticket, housing, utilities, insurance and stipend. 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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ATTENTION SOCIAL WORKERS. A meeting to discuss the reformation of the Adventist Social Workers Association (ASWA) is called for November 16 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in Cleveland, Ohio, at the close of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) annual convention. For more information or to register contact: John Gavin M.S.W. Director of Social Services for ADRA North America, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904. Phone (301) 680-6438—Fax (301) 680-6464. Internet: 74617.461 @ compuserve.com. (9,10,11)

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CALENDAR September

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	30					

Florida

Visions ... Divorce/Grief Recovery Support Group—Every Thursday night. Altamonte Springs church, Fla. Details: (407) 291-8321.

Evangelistic Meetings

In progress—Sept. 21. South Brevard. Rainey Hooper.

In progress—Sept. 21. Miami Central Spanish. Jose Ofelia Fuentes.

In progress—Sept. 28. Starke. Art and Margo Swainson.

In progress—Sept. 29. Northwest Dade. Bill and Marily Bornstein and Lorraine Bullis.

In progress—Sept. 28. North Port. Lester and Zula Pratt and Roy and Amy Pauley.

In progress—Oct. 5. Wilmauma Spanish. Robert and Mary Goransson.

Oct. 5–Nov. 10. DeLand. Rick Swainson.

Spanish Language Men's Congress—Sept. 6–7. Greater Miami Academy.

Adventist Singles Ministries Fellowship Dinners

Sept. 7. Florida Hospital.

Sept. 14. Forest Lake.

Sept. 14. West Palm Beach First.

Sept. 21. Apopka Highlands.

Sept. 28. Kress Memorial.

Tenth Annual Community Services Retreat—Sept. 13–15. Camp Kulaqua.

Pathfinder Reveille (Friend)—Sept. 13–15. Camp Kulaqua.

Pathfinder-Island Navigator—Sept. 13–15. Marathon Key.

Singles Conference—Sept. 13–15. Camp Kulaqua. Pre-registration and payment required. Details: (407) 644-5000, ext. 123.

Women's Ministries Directors' Workshop—Sept. 20–22. Pine Lake Retreat Center, Groveland.

REV '96 Youth Leadership Convention—Sept. 20–22. Camp Kulaqua.

Adventist-Laymen's Services and Industries (A.S.I.) Rally—Sept. 28. Ft. Lauderdale. Details: (407) 644-5000, ext. 133.

Marriage Commitment Seminar—Oct. 11–13. Camp Kulaqua. Pre-registration and payment required. Details: (407) 869-8106 or (407) 644-5000, ext. 123.

Pathfinder Reveille-North (Companion)—Oct. 18–20. Camp Kulaqua.

Pathfinder-Island Navigator—Oct. 18–20. Marathon Key.

Adventist Singles Ministries International Mission Outreach Project—Oct. 21–Nov. 8. Mindo, Ecuador. Details: Contact Lorraine Hansen, (704) 697-2409.

Pathfinder C.I.T. Retreat—Nov. 8–10. Camp Kulaqua.

Hispanic Family Camp—Nov. 27–Dec. 1. Camp Kulaqua.

Gulf States

Junior Academy Bible Conference—Sept. 12–14. Camp Alamisco.

N. Mississippi Camp Meeting—Sept. 20, 21. Water Valley.

School Management and School/Church Treasures Mtg.—Sept. 22. Jackson, Miss.

Retirees' Retreat—Sept. 22–25. Camp Alamisco.

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

N. Alabama Camp Meeting—Oct. 18, 19. Floral Crest.

Kentucky-Tennessee

Women's Retreat—Sept. 27–29. Indian Creek Camp.

BPF Retreat—Aug. 30–Sept. 2. Indian Creek Camp.

Young Adult Retreat—Sept. 13–15. Indian Creek Camp.

South Atlantic

Grand Opening of South Atlantic's Philadelphia Church School in Clarkton, N.C.—Registration details: (910) 640-2227.

Southern College

Fall Academic Schedule begins—Aug. 28. Vespers

Sept. 6. Tony Mavrakos.

Sept. 13. David Smith.

Sept. 20. Ron Clouzet.

Sept. 27. Steve Jaacks.

Church Pulpit Guests

Sept. 7. Tony Mavrakos.

Sept. 21. Ken Rogers.

Concerts

Sept. 7. CARE lawn concert.

Sept. 23. Neal Ramsay, saxophone/piano, 8 p.m.

Oct. 5. Organ/Orchestra.

Out of Union

Great Boston Academy Alumni Weekend—Oct. 4–6. Former New England Memorial Hospital.

All Former Students, Friends and Teachers of Parkside School, (formerly Faribault Church School)—Parkside School, located in Faribault, Minnesota, will be hosting an all school reunion homecoming in the summer of 1997. If you, or any of your family members or friends have ever attended the school, have taught or know the whereabouts of a previous teacher, please forward your (or their) address to: Laurie Decoux (Senne), 724 2nd Street, NW, Faribault, MN 55021. We will keep everyone informed as to the plans for this special event as they develop.

Union College Academy/College View Academy Alumni Weekend—Oct. 11–13. Details: (402) 488-6751.

Campion Academy Homecoming—Oct. 18, 19. Details: (970) 667-5592.

Service Station, International Children's Care Family Mission Trip—Nov. 24–30. Baja, Mexico. Volunteers needed to build orphanage. Details: (208) 459-8522.

Sunnydale Academy 50th Alumni Reunion—Oct. 18–20. Centralia, Mo. Details: (573) 682-2164.

On the Move

Florida

Ernest Roy, who has pastored the Clermont church, has returned to retirement. **James King** now serves at Clermont coming from the Ft. Pierce church, and Ft. Pierce associate pastor Robert Hayes is now the pastor at that church. **Thomas Kopko** has filled the Ft. Myers Shores vacancy, coming from a teaching position in the DeLand/Deltona public school system. **Art Stagg** has filled the Sarasota vacancy, coming from the Carolina Conference. **Gordon T. Blandford** has returned to retirement from pastoring the Belleview church. **Mike Chappell** has filled the Carrollwood church/Tampa Bay company vacancy, coming from the Jacksonville Mandarin church, and **Ronaldo Da Cunha** now serves as Miami Temple associate pastor, coming from the Miami Portuguese company and a teaching position at Greater Miami Academy. **Tom Hall** now serves as Pine Lake Retreat Center manager, coming from the Georgia Cumberland Conference. Hall replaces **Harry Hulsey** who has returned to retirement.

Sunset

	Sept. 6	Sept. 13	Sept. 20	Sept. 27	Oct. 4	Oct. 11
Atlanta, Ga.	7:56	7:46	7:37	7:27	7:17	7:08
Charleston, S.C.	7:38	7:28	7:19	7:09	7:00	6:51
Charlotte, N.C.	7:42	7:32	7:22	7:12	7:02	6:52
Collegedale, Tenn.	8:01	7:51	7:41	7:31	7:21	7:12
Huntsville, Ala.	7:05	6:55	6:45	6:35	6:25	6:15
Jackson, Miss.	7:18	7:09	6:59	6:50	6:41	6:32
Louisville, Ky.	8:04	7:53	7:42	7:31	7:21	7:10
Memphis, Tenn.	7:19	7:09	6:59	6:49	6:39	6:29
Miami, Fla.	7:34	7:26	7:19	7:11	7:03	6:56
Montgomery, Ala.	7:03	6:53	6:44	6:35	6:26	6:17
Nashville, Tenn.	7:07	6:56	6:46	6:36	6:25	6:16
Orlando, Fla.	7:39	7:31	7:23	7:15	7:07	6:59
Wilmington, N.C.	7:30	7:20	7:11	7:01	6:51	6:42

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NET '96

RE-IGNITES EVANGELISM!

October 5, the opening night of NET '96, is almost here.



It's time to visit and invite.

The Apostle Paul, great missionary of the New Testament, believed in visitation. In Acts 15:36, we read that Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us go back and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord and see how they are doing."

We can follow the example of Paul and visit our Bible school students as well as relatives, friends, neighbors and co-workers. Experience has proven that one's interest in the Bible lessons is greatly enhanced by a personal, non-threatening visit.

Make the visit brief. Offer to pray for them. Invite them to come to the NET '96 meetings.

Be a part of the biggest satellite event in Adventism.

More Than Hopes or Daydreams—at BMA

by Karen Clark



Students prepared balloons carrying invitations for Bible studies.

PHOTOS BY KAREN CLARK

Picture an academy where students spend a few minutes each evening opening their hearts to each other and to God—sharing personal testimonies, asking for prayers, or sharing Bible promises and thank yous to God for answered prayers.

Imagine a high school class which decides to meet each week—not to party or watch television, but to study the Bible, pray for each other, and discuss spiritual matters.

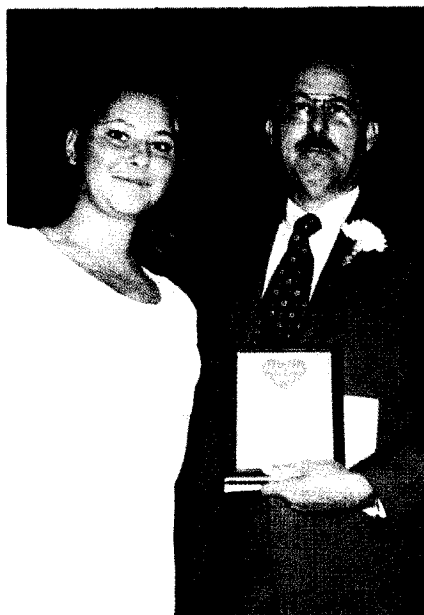
Envision student-led prayer groups meeting each evening to plead with God for the salvation of their friends. These are not just hopes or daydreams, but actual happenings on the campus of Bass Memorial Academy.

Although faculty and staff provided opportunity for these activities, the amazing fact is that the students actually initiated and led out in most of the events. Giovanna Gonzales, student association spiritual vice president, initiated the junior class Bible study that met faithfully every Friday evening after vespers. Most of the class participated.

Dean John Nolfé began a weekly Bible study group as well as a prayer group that met three or four times a week in the boys' dorm. According to Nolfé, there were times when a busy schedule tempted him to cancel one of the groups, but the guys convinced him that they really needed to meet. Concern for the spiritual welfare of their friends prompted several small all-student groups to meet regularly for special prayer and study sessions. When Nolfé placed an announcement for a special dorm day of prayer on CompuServe's Seventh-day Adventist Forum, he received several enthusiastic messages from both friends and strangers who promised to pray for the students.

Five students responded to John Watkins' calls in religion class for students to be baptized. According to Watkins, students always feel a tremendous impact from a campus baptism. As students see their friends take a public stand for the Lord, many rethink their own commitments to the Lord, while others are encouraged to be baptized.

When Christians experience a change in their own lives, they can't



Jonnice Towsley received the Caring Heart Award for Bass Memorial Academy, sponsored by the General Conference. The award was presented to Jonnice by academy principal Tui Pitman.



Praying and studying the Bible together bring friends closer.

help wanting to share this "secret" with others. Several BMA students started regular Sabbath visits to residents of the Adventist Health Center, a nursing home located across from the school. The active Youth-to-Youth group organized a student week of prayer last year and is planning to help with part of the NET '96 outreach of the local church. They will be attending and ushering at meetings, helping with a Bible school, and making follow-up visits to interested guests.

Three students decided to literally obey Christ's command to "go ye into all the world" to witness. Through a series of miracles, Jonnice Towsley, Corey Turnage, and Drew Rester were able to join an Amazing Facts-sponsored mission trip to Romania, Bulgaria, and Turkey this past summer. There they helped conduct a vacation Bible school and assisted with an evangelistic series in Galatia.

At Bass Memorial Academy, students receive a well-rounded education. All are encouraged to excel mentally, physically, and spiritually. Their talents and youthful enthusiasm are widely solicited by church and community groups.

For example, last year, the gymnastics team was asked to perform at two University of Southern Mississippi basketball games, one to an audience of 8,500 fans. Their performances brought standing ovations and requests to perform at other schools. They also received donations to purchase \$7,700 worth of new gymnastics mats. And by helping coach Joe Perrone teach a community gymnastics class, gym team members have made a positive impact on many young lives.

Celesta, BMA's 17-member touring choir, performed at many churches throughout the Conference this past year and produced an album of their most popular songs. They also received donations for a Yamaha electric piano, music sequencer and a sound shell, which were used during their performances.

The academy band, directed by David Haynes, was invited to perform at Florida's Disney World and Busch Gardens. They also received money to purchase a silver-plated tuba.

Fifty-two percent of the students finished second semester on the honor roll, attaining at least a B average.

Picture yourself surrounded by all these praying, studying, witnessing students. Picture yourself at BMA!

Karen Clark is a teacher at Bass Memorial Academy.



Several friends congratulated Kasey Rainwater (third from left) after her lake baptism during a church-academy retreat. Friends Idonia Pinder (left), and Roxi Tillerson, next to Idonia, decided to be baptized later in the year.



Jason Perry and Nikki Fillman enjoyed the songs during the annual church retreat. A resident assistant in the dorm, Jason shares his love of Christian music to the campus.

Corey Turnage, Jonnice Towsley, and Drew Rester responded to Christ's message to "Go ye into all the world." These students spent part of their summer vacation on a mission trip to Romania, Bulgaria, and Turkey.



Men Moved By Florida's First Men's Convention

by Cindy Kurtzhals

Male. Gentleman. Husband. Employee. Businessman. Father. Human being. Filipino, Anglo, West Indian, African-American, Hispanic. Four hundred six men either flew in by personal plane, drove together in vans, came for the weekend, or the day, to the First Florida Men's Convention at Camp Kulaqua, this spring.

I was uniquely out of place at the convention in my blue suit and pumps, but it was my job to cover this historic event and I was moved. With correspondents Merrill Wall and David Lopez, we interviewed several men. They were moved by the power of what they heard, learned, felt, and experienced at the convention that some could barely speak. It stirs an emotional response in my own heart as I remember them sharing their thoughts and emotions.

In participatory seminars, they stifled tears. Others let those tears roll down their cheeks. They'd lived lives where they wished they'd done more or better by their kids or wives. They purposed to be better businessmen and employees. Estranged from fathers, they were going to call up and say, "I love you, Dad."

They'd experienced the Lord opening financial and weekend-scheduling doors for them to attend this much-in-demand conference. Camp Kulaqua in High Springs, where the convention was held, even had to turn men away—from as far as Atlanta, Georgia. And, make no mistake, these were *real men*—not wimps. The Lord was speaking to their heads and hearts and they heard Him. These men were here to learn of God, learn to be better men, parents, husbands, church laity. And, they learned it—406 men.

Brief History

Florida Conference administrators were hearing from members, "The Conference is doing something for women, why isn't it doing something for us (men)?" In response to these needs, local after-

noon regional men's conventions dotted the Conference for two years.

"They were successful because they began to sensitize the churches and the men to the possibilities of men's ministries," says Richard O'Fall, Conference men's ministries director. "With the national men's organization Promise Keepers having stadium events with 50-70,000 men coming together for revival and for spiritual instruction and inspiration, we felt the need to have a weekend conference. The purpose of the conference was to

inspire, to affirm, and fortify us men so as we go back into our churches, we can foster spirituality in men."

Coming Up—

September 6 and 7, 1996, a Spanish Language Men's Congress will be held at Greater Miami Academy, 500 NW 122nd Ave. in Miami. Five hundred men are expected to attend. Next year's Men's Convention dates are March 14-16, 1997, at Camp Kulaqua with the theme "Doers of the Word."



PHOTOS BY CINDY KURTZHALS

"Four years ago I prayed that if I, as one man, needed other men to be accountable to and to be able to share my faith experience, my struggles, my temptations with, I needed to know I could find some of these other men and that I wasn't alone. But how could I find that and find the security and safe place to be vulnerable?" asked Randy Day, Kress Memorial church. "This weekend is an answer to that prayer."



The "Think Correctly, Treat Them Correctly" seminar was taught by Dan Matthews, executive producer/speaker of *Lifestyle Magazine Television*, Simi Valley, California. Additional seminars included: "Getting Along," "Prayer and Devotional Life," "Families and Singles in the '90's," and "How To Start A Men's Ministry."

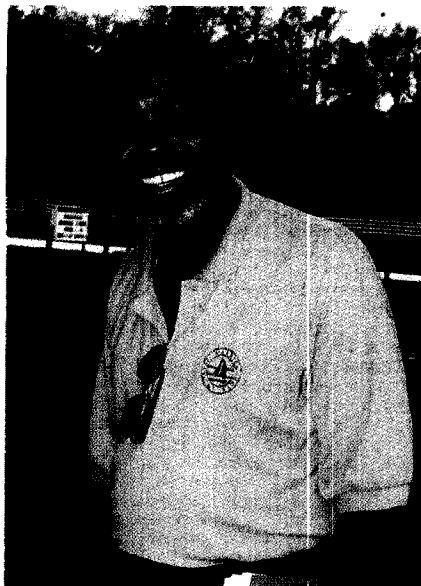
Reactions



Alfredo Perez (center), Plantation church. "I feel an awakening of feelings and a nearness of God I haven't felt in my life before." New to his sales job and wanting to attend this convention, his boss asked, "What is a Seventh-day Adventist and how do you expect to make a living not working on the busiest day of the week?" Perez explained and added, "God will take care of me." Subsequently in his work he ranked #4 out of 20 salesmen. "Every man in our conference, maybe the whole United States, cannot miss this opportunity next year," says Perez. "It will change them forever."



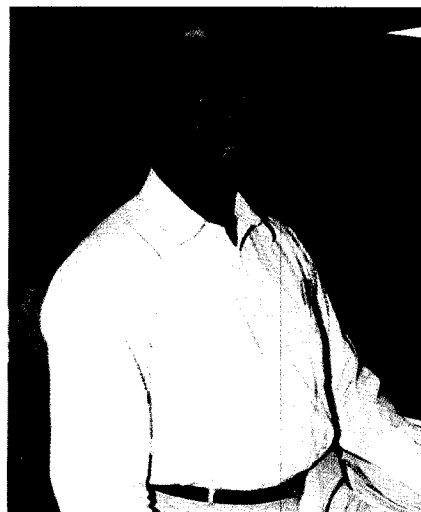
Porfirio Figueroa (left), Miami Springs church. "I didn't think it (the convention) would turn out this well. It's wonderful and I completely recommend it to any man. I am planning to come back. **Luis Ferrer** (right), Miami Springs church. "This men's retreat has been a tremendous blessing. It tells me a lot—to renew all my vows and always to focus on the main issue which is always putting Christ in first place. With men gathering together, without women and children, they can be more focused and concentrate more on the Lord, paying closer and more full attention to His message."



Eric Allen, Maranatha church. The Maranatha church was the Conference's pilot program for men's ministries with Allen as director. His team prayerfully and carefully put together programs which appealed to men. Breakfast forum topics included: a neurologist on prostate problems; encouragement to finish school, get a GED, and become trained in a technical field; an attorney explained how to set up a corporation; a government staffer explained federal funding for minority development; plus, a mentoring program was established for boys. "To have an effective men's ministry," stresses Allen, "you must have the support of the pastor. We pray for their support and connectedness to the Holy Spirit."



Steve Adessa (standing left), Miami Springs church. Adessa met colleague **Creaton Francis** (right), pastor of the Royal Palm church, two years ago at the area Adventist ministerial advisory. After getting to know each other they met weekly for prayer, fellowship, and Bible study. When Francis was called to pastor the Ocala church in north central Florida, they promised to stay in touch. "He's one of the reasons I'm here (at the convention) this weekend," says Adessa. Also pictured is **Noel Ashley** (left), Silver Springs Shores church and **Ed Dawes**, North Miami church.



David Campbell, Norland church. A private duty nurse and licensed massage therapist, the Lord provided Campbell with additional clients whose payment for services covered both the convention fees and lost pay from being away from his responsibilities for the weekend. "Coming here has reinforced my feelings about my pastor. He is a human being just as we are and has the weighty responsibility to minister to a congregation of more than 200. He needs my help and I want to make men's ministry my priority at Norland church. We need to bolster our pastor and see that he takes time out to rest, even if we have to put funds together to send him and his wife on a vacation and we'll care for his children."



Since this year's convention, men's ministries leaders from across the North American Division (NAD) met at Florida Conference on May 14 to discuss men's ministries on a national level. A Men's Advisory Council was formed which will meet at the NAD Ministries Convention in Birmingham, Alabama, in January 1997. Pictured are men's ministries leaders, from left, Allan Williamson, Southern Union Conference, Decatur, Georgia; Willie Oliver, North American Division, Silver Spring, Maryland; and Richard O'Fallon, Florida Conference. ■

BAIZE, Kenneth, was born June 2, 1922, in South Carolina and died Feb. 12 in Nashville, Tenn. He served the church faithfully in many capacities, the most recent as auditor for the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference. He is survived by his wife, Pearl; one daughter, Cheri Hay; two granddaughters; two brothers; and one step-sister.

BARGFREDE, Elsie Vestina, 86, died April 22 in Moore, S.C. She was a member of the Walker Memorial church in Avon Park, Fla. She worked for 12 years as ward clerk at Florida Hospital Walker. She is survived by two sons: Ray Brandt of Moore, S.C., and Fred Brandt of Hagerstown, Md.; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

BARROW, Gregory, 28, was born Jan. 5, 1968, in Chattanooga, Tenn., and died May 12 in Ooltewah, Tenn. He was a member of the Collegedale church. He is survived by his father and mother, Dr. and Mrs. Ron Barrow; and three brothers: Ron, Brent, and Doug.

BLAIR, Wallace (Buddy), 65, was born Dec. 19, 1930, in Madison, Tenn., and died April 20 in Collegedale, Tenn. He was a member of the Collegedale church and served on the Samaritan Center and Advent Home for Boys boards. He is survived by his wife, Elsie; one daughter, Lisa Peterson of Lemont, Ill.; one son, Kenneth Blair of Andrews, N.C.; one sister; one grandson; and several nieces and nephews.

BOLEY, Violet Watts, was born July 6, 1907, in Newport, Tenn., and died March 22 in Nashville, Tenn. She was a member of the Collegedale church. She is survived by two daughters: Sylvia Daniel of Chattanooga, and Mary Ann Clements of Nashville.

BOTTSFORD, Elmer E., M.D., was born June 27, 1936, in Wisconsin and died April 1 in Madison, Tenn. He was a member of the Ridgetop church. He and his wife Grace, were medical missionaries in South America for many years. He was in family practice in Ridgetop for 30 years. His wife predeceased him by three months. He is survived by one son, Ronald Bottsford; one daughter, Donna Wheeler; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

BURGESS, Fred C., 87, died June 10 in Shelby, N.C. He was a member of the Shelby church. He is survived by one son, Bob Burgess of Belwood; five daughters: Agnes Beason, Nancy Dennis, Denise Burgess, all of Shelby, Donnie Ellis of Lenoir, and Linda Burgess of Belwood; 14 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren.

CALDWELL, Glen W., 87, died April 16 in Jacksonville, Fla. He was a member of the Jacksonville Mandarin church. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy N. Caldwell; one son, Russell M. Caldwell; and one sister.

CARTER, Glenmore R., was born June 11, 1907, in Dallas, Tex., and died Feb. 12 in Douglasville, Ga. He was a member of the Douglasville church. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Sarah Elizabeth; two sons: Lee Edwin Carter of Douglasville and Glenn Thomas Carter of Silver Spring, Md.; one niece; five granddaughters; and four great-grandchildren.

CHANDLER, Nelson C., was born June 11, 1919, and died Dec. 14, 1995. He was a member of the Dalton, Ga., church. He is survived by his wife, Cora; and two daughters: Carol Chandler of Chattanooga, Tenn., and Gail Davis of Memphis, Tenn.

COWDRICK, Jesse Stanton, 92, was born Aug. 16, 1903, in Napoleon, Ohio, and died May 23 in Collegedale, Tenn. He was a member of the Collegedale church. He is survived by his daughter, Eleanor Banks of Utah; one sister; four grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; one niece; and one nephew.

CRAWFORD, Charles Morris, 87, was born July 17, 1908, and died June 17. He began his denominational work in 1927 at the Pacific Press. He was the first book and Bible manager at the Florida Conference, secretary-treasurer of the Caribbean Union, manager of the Signs of the Times publishing house, administrator at the Rest Haven Hospital in Sidney, British Columbia, Canada, administrator-treasurer of the Pisgah Hospital and Academy, Candler, N.C., the Highland Hospital at Portland, Tenn., and the Watkins

and Louis Smith Hospitals in Georgia, church auditor for the Michigan Conference for 10 years, and an S.O.S. worker for the General Conference to the Far Eastern Division for two years. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Maybelle; one daughter, Aletha Christiansen; four grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; and one sister.

CRAWFORD, Leona Annabell, 84, died April 20 in Jacksonville, Fla. She was a member of the Orange Cove church in Orange Park, Fla. She is survived by three sons: John, Ray, and Mike, all of Jacksonville, Fla.

DAVIS, Osborne, was born Jan. 26, 1914, in Whitley, Ky., and died April 30. He was a member of the Covington, Ky., church. He is survived by his wife, Jo; one son, Jeff; twin daughters: Joy Welch and Jan Martin; two half-brothers; and four grandchildren.

DRURY, Velma, 85, died May 23 in Altamonte Springs, Fla. She was a member of the Kress Memorial church in Winter Park, Fla.

EISEMAN, Loraine, 62, died May 7 in Orlando, Fla. She was a member of the South Orlando church. She is survived by her husband, Stanley; and one daughter, Felecia of Atlanta, Ga.

FLANAGAN, Thelma E., was born Aug. 25, 1896, and died Feb. 28 at the age of 99. She was a member of the Fletcher church. She worked with students in several conference church schools, academies, and colleges.

FOGG, Albert Sidney, 80, was born Sept. 19, 1915, in Limestone County, Ala., and died April 9 in Ardmore, Ala. He was a member of the Athens church. He is survived by his wife, Avis; one daughter, Gloria Fogg; one son, Sidney Fogg; two brothers; and five sisters.

FRINK, Carolyn D. Elnor, 75, was born Sept. 4, 1920, in Cambridge, Mass., and died Nov. 28, 1995, in Leesburg, Fla. She was a member of the Leesburg church since 1956 and served for many years as church treasurer. Her husband, Everett E. Frink and son, Robert Leon Frink, predeceased her in 1976 and 1973 respectively. She is survived by her daughter, Noreen Frink Huffman; her grandsons: Bryan Robert Huffman and James Everett Huffman; two sisters; and one brother.

FUNGAROLI, Vera Inkeri, 84, died May 26 in Palm Coast, Fla. She was a member of the Palm Coast church.

GRAY, Stewart, 75, was born Oct. 22, 1920, and died June 8 in Kingsport, Tenn. He was a member of the Greenville church. He is survived by his wife, Grace; two sons: Glenn of Kingsport, Tenn., and Ken of Downers Grove, Ill.; and five grandchildren.

GRIFFIN, Kenneth W., 82, died June 6 in Dade City, Fla. He was a member of the East Pasco church in Dade City, Fla. He is survived by his wife, Hildur Carlson Griffin; one son, Kenneth W. Griffin, Jr., of Dade City; one daughter-in-law, Bobbie Dauns Griffin; and two grandchildren.

HALL, Rebecca Lynn, 22, died April 26 in Orlando, Fla. She was a member of the Forest Lake church. She is survived by her parents, Jon and Gail Hall; her fiancé, William Chen of Avon Park; and one sister, Tess Hawkins.

HANDLEY, George J., 69, was born in Indiana and died Feb. 22 in Fulton, Miss. He was a member of the Tupelo, Miss. church. He is survived by his wife, Phyllis.

HARRISON, A. Lucile, 94, died Feb. 26 in Tampa, Fla. She was a member of the Tampa First church. She is survived by one daughter, Bobette Pestana of Tampa; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

JANSEN, Harold, 91, died May 25 in Lehigh, Fla. He was a member of the Bonita Springs, Fla., church. He is survived by one son, Donald Jansen of Ft. Myers; and one daughter, Ruby of Harrisonburg, Va.

KEPLINGER, Nellie Lee, 74, died Feb. 25. She was a member of the Burkesville, Ky., church. She is survived by her husband of 52 years, John E. Keplinger, retired Adventist pastor; two daughters: Bennie Sue Roessel of Cleveland, Tenn., and Jeannine Moore of Keene, Tex.; one son, Edgar of Flint, Mich.; one sister; and seven grandchildren. Service was conducted by her

son-in-law, L. R. Moore, Secretary of the Texas Conference.

KNOCH, Chester Norton, 81, died April 7 in Nashville, Tenn. He was a World War II veteran and a member of the Apison, Tenn., church. He is survived by his wife, Violet; two daughters: Patricia Bebee of Apison and Judith Anderson of Collegedale, Tenn.; five sons: John Scott of Campbell, Calif., Fred and Dan, both of Collegedale, Rolland of Red Bank, Tenn., and Darrell of East Brainerd, Tenn.; four sisters; four brothers; 19 grandchildren; and 23 great-grandchildren.

KRAUSE, Linda D., 40, died April 28 in Collegedale, Tenn. She was a member of the Collegedale church. She is survived by her husband, Reed; and three sons: Philip, Raymond, and Reed.

KRISHNASAMI, Mano, 68, was born in India and died May 13 in Huntsville, Ala. She was a member of the Athens church. She is survived by her husband, Chinnasami of Madison, Ala.

LANDIS, Orpha, was born in 1898 in Sugarcreek, Ohio, and died Nov. 7, 1994, in Huntsville, Ala. She was a member of the Huntsville Central church. She is survived by her daughter, Jayne Silva of Laurel, Md.; two sons: Lowell of Laurel, Md., and Merle of Huntsville, Ala.; and one brother, Claude Mutschelknaus of Canton, Ohio.

LAWTER, Charles, 63, was born May 10, 1932, and died April 15. He resided in Russell Springs, Ky. He was a member of the Jamestown church. He is survived by two daughters: Tammie McElfrish and Sharon Brown; two sons: Charles and Ronny; and six grandchildren.

LEE, Kenneth L., 74, was born Dec. 21, 1921, and died April 14. He was a member of the Fletcher church. He is survived by his wife; one brother; and three sisters.

LEE, Mildred, 69, was born in Lewis County, Tenn., and died April 28 in Florence, Ala. She was a member of the Shoals church. She is survived by her husband, Ben, Jr. of Florence; one son, Ben Lee III of Killen, Ala.; and two daughters: Jennifer Gamble of Killen, Ala., and Jane Hodges of Soddy-Daisy, Tenn.

LEIBACHER, Joseph H., 68, was born in Walken Chapel, Ala., and died May 8 in Huntsville, Ala. He was a member of the Huntsville Central church. He is survived by his wife, Patricia; one son, Joseph of Nashville, Tenn.; three daughters: Leighann Freeman of Murfreesboro, Tenn., Celia Leibacher of Nashville, and Christy Ackerman of Deland, Fla.; six granddaughters; and two great-granddaughters.

LITTELL, Karley Kay, 59, was born Sept. 12 in Knoxville, Tenn., and died at her home in Lebanon, Tenn., April 12. She is survived by her husband, Ned Littell, M.D.; her parents, Karl and Deloris Fisher; one sister, Rosina; four sons: Larry, Michael, Ned, Jr., and Glenn; one daughter, Bonnie Durocher; and nine grandchildren.

LUCE, Jean Matilda, 89, died April 24 in Inverness, Fla. She was a member of the Hernando, Fla. church.

MAIER, Albert, 91, died May 10 in Winter Park, Fla. He was a member of the Kress Memorial church in Winter Park, Fla. He is survived by his wife, Anna; one son, Walter of Winter Haven, Fla.; and one daughter, Marlene Loucks of Orlando; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

MCDOWELL, Robert L., M.D., died Dec. 1, 1995. He was a member of the Fayette church in Fayetteville, Ga. His practice was in Union City, Ga. He is survived by his wife, Frances; one daughter, Elizabeth; and one son, Trevor.

MCPHERSON, Lucille, of Collegedale, Tenn., died Feb. 10 in Chattanooga, Tenn. She was a member of the Standifer Gap church. She is survived by her husband, James H.; one son, Jimmy of Cleveland, Tenn.; two daughters: Janice Edmon of Calhoun, Ga., and Joyce McPherson of Collegedale; two sisters; and six grandchildren.

MILLER, Walter Robert, 79, died June 2 in Sun City, Fla. He was a member of the Riverview church in Brandon, Fla. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Mary Kobolak Miller.

OBITUARIES

MITCHELL, Carolyn Barrett, was born Aug. 25, 1938, and died June 30. She was married June 22, 1956, to Denny B. Mitchell who is pastor of the Douglasville, Ga., church. She is also survived by one son, Stephen Mark of Atlanta, Ga.; one daughter, Carolyn Denise Heavener, of Buena Vista, Va.; and one brother, McDonald Barrett of Atlanta, Ga.

MITCHELL, Fredrick Levi, was born Feb. 26, 1905, in St. Louis, Mo., and died June 11 in Panama City, Fla., where he was a member. He is survived by his wife, Wilma; four sons: Darrell of Weiser, Idaho, Duane of Thousand Palms, Calif., David of New, Md., and Mitch of Katy, Tex.; and two daughters: Dana Richard and Deberah Parker, both of Houston, Tex.

MUSSELWHITE, Gordon, 63, died Feb. 20 in Altamonte Springs, Fla. He was a member of the Forest Lake church. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy; two sons: Gary and Leslie Musselwhite; one stepson, Jim Closser; one daughter, Teressa Carmichael; four grandchildren; and one step-grandchild.

MUTSCHELKNAUS, Iva, was born in Sugarcreek, Ohio, in 1902 and died May 10, 1995, in Huntsville, Ala. She was a member of the Huntsville Central church. She is survived by her son, Stanley Weiss of Loma Linda, Calif.; one brother, Claude Mutschelknaus of Canton, Ohio; four nephews; and one niece.

NEILL, Carl R., was born July 20, 1914, and died April 23 in Altamonte Springs, Fla. He was a member of the Forest Lake church. He served in denominational work for nearly 30 years, first as a literature evangelist, then colporteur leader. He was a theology graduate of Canadian Union College and later received a masters degree from Andrews University. He served many years as a pastor in the Maritimes and in Ontario, Canada, as well as Indiana and Florida. He was also a chaplain at Florida Hospital, Orlando, and served the church S.O.S. in the Far Eastern Division (now Asia Pacific). He is survived by his wife, Mary Jane (Janie); one son, Glenn; two daughters: Glenda Loggins and Gaylene deWeijer; four grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; one brother; and three sisters of Prince Edward Island, Canada.

NORMAN, Eleanor, 100, died Sept. 17, 1995, in Avon Park, Fla. She was a member of the Walker Memorial church.

OFFENBACK, Fred, 64, died Feb. 9 in Berrien Springs, Mich. He was a member of the Forest Lake church in Forest City, Fla. He was a retired pastor who served in Illinois and Florida. He was a chaplain at Florida Hospital Altamonte. He is survived by his wife, Gwen; and two sons: Greg of Berrien Springs, Mich., and Mark of Apopka, Fla.

OGILVIE, Nerissa, 77, died March 9 in Palm Coast, Fla. She was a member of the Palm Coast church. She is survived by six daughters; 19 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

PARK, Bernice, 100, died March 7 in Miami, Fla. She was a member of the Miami Springs church. She is survived by three sons: William, Horath and Thomas; and one daughter, Betty Park.

PATTERSON, Dwight, 86, died May 14 in Bonita Springs, Fla. He was a member of the Bonita Springs church. He is survived by one son, David Patterson of Toledo, Ohio; and one daughter, Patricia Ott of Bonita Springs.

PORTER, Mary A., 86, died April 27 at her home in Nashville, Tenn. She was a member of the Bordeaux church. She is survived by one son, Charles, Jr.; two daughters: Linda Lloyd and Wanda McMullin; two sisters; seven grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

PRICE, Lillie Fern, died March 12 in Zephyrills, Fla. She was a member of the East Pasco church. She is survived by her husband, Victor; one son, Charles; one daughter, Elizabeth Speise; seven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

ROCCATO, Lillian "Ann" Bird, 43, was born in Killeen, Tex., and died April 28. She was a member of the Shoals church. She is survived by her husband, John; one son, John, Jr.; and one daughter, Christina, all of Florence, Ala.; her parents, Hubert and Mary Bird; brothers: Hubert Bird of South Carolina, and Stanley Vaden; and sisters: Linda Ballard of Marble Falls, Tex., and Elaine Monroe of Florence, Ala.



SALHANY, Phalze J., was born in Montreal, Canada, March 18, 1922, and died June 6 in Lawrenceburg, Tenn. P.J., as he was called by many, served as a minister in the Adventist church for more than 37 years. After graduating from Southern College in 1950, he pastored in Florida and New York. He served 15 years in Malawi and Zimbabwe Africa. For the past 20 years he ministered in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy Jean; two sons; two brothers; and six grandchildren.

SALT, Harriet, 80, died March 17 in Miami, Fla. She was a member of the Miami Springs church.

STEWART, Mertis, 82, was born Sept. 19, 1913, and died Jan. 31. She was a member of the Mount Dora church. She is survived by two daughters: Mary Jean Damron of Apopka, Fla., and Susan Stewart of Mount Dora, Fla.; one brother; two sisters; eight grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

THARP, Marland Eugene, 88, died July 5 in Altoona, Fla. He was a member of the Mt. Dora church in Mt. Dora, Fla. He is survived by one son, Paul R. Marland of Sonara, Calif.; and one daughter, Karen Tureno of Austin, Tex.; five grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

THOMPSON, Willie, 89, died March 8 in Lineville, Ala. She was a member of the Sanford Meadows, Fla., church. She is survived by her husband, Warren; three sons; one daughter; 10 grandchildren; and numerous great-grandchildren.

TIMPSON, George W., 68, born August 16, 1927, and died May 24. He began denominational work July, 1952 until May, 1996 prior to his passing. He is survived by his wife, Cynthia; one son, Dane Timpson of Los Angeles, Calif.; two daughters: Chevelle Watson of Fresno, Calif., and Cynthia Timpson of Lincoln, Neb.; three sisters; and seven brothers.

VANDERBERG, Sandra, 38, died June 28 in Miami, Fla. She was a member of the Miami

Springs church. She is survived by her husband, Stuart; and two daughters, Christine and Katherine.

VININGRE, Irene, 90, died March 10 in Apopka, Fla. She was a member of the Florida Living church.

WALTER, Colleen Marie, 71, died May 15 in Winter Park, Fla. She was a member of the Kress Memorial church in Orlando, Fla. She is survived by her husband, Kenneth; one son, Tom of Maine; and one daughter, Donna M. Smith of Arkansas.

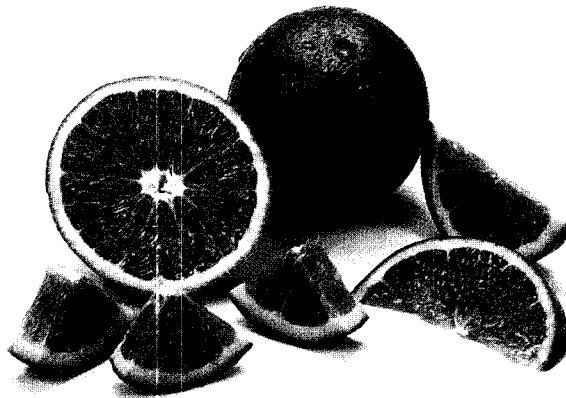
WEISBERG, Douglas M., 46, died Feb. 19, 1994, in Altamonte Springs, Fla. He was a member of the Altamonte Springs church. He is survived by his wife, Dolores M. Ham-Weisberg; one daughter, Joy Ragan; and his parents, Jack and Ruth Weisberg.

WHEELER, Alice May, 84, died April 6 in Hendersonville, N.C. She was a member of the Florida Hospital church in Orlando, Fla. She served for 36 years in various nursing management positions at Florida Hospital Orlando. She is survived by three brothers: Joe Wheeler of Junction, Colo., Dr. Ira Wheeler of Manchester, Ky., and Elder Ben Wheeler of Salem, S.C.

WILHITE, William R. "Bill", 76, was born June 5, 1920, in Ripley, Miss., and died June 18. He lived in Madison County for the past 27 years and retired as owner and operator of the Wilhite Truck Stop. He was an elder and charter member of the Jackson, Tenn., church. He is survived by his wife, Louise; two sons: William and Jerry; one daughter, Diana Hughes; two stepsons; two stepdaughters; one brother; eight grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; nine step-grandchildren; and 11 step-great-grandchildren.

WILKES, Julia Alvarez, 84, died May 19 in Jacksonville, Fla. She was a member of the Miami Temple church in Miami, Fla. She is survived by one son, Herbert of Memphis, Tenn.; two daughters: Ann Schwab of Miami and Deborah Hanlon of Jacksonville; 13 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

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