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**Northeastern Builds Home for Senior Citizens**

## COVER STORY

### NORTHEASTERN CONFERENCE OPENS NEW HOUSING COMPLEX

By Stephanie D. Johnson

The critical need for housing for senior citizens and the handicapped living in New York City can be seen in the plight of Laura Jones. "I had such a hard time," she recalls. "Even (with) city housing, I was accepted and I called and I told them, I need a place right away. I and my children were staying with my brothers at the time. It was like twelve or thirteen people staying in the house."

She tried desperately to find an apartment. Once again she contacted the city housing authority, "I kept calling and calling and calling." She applied for federally subsidized housing, but to no avail. "I called them and got no kinds of funds, none at all."

Her plight turned into a bureaucratic nightmare—encumbered with red tape, endless forms that were always followed by an interview. Traveling to Manhattan from Queens was impossible for her since she was confined to a wheelchair for almost a decade after a serious accident rendered her completely paralyzed. "I told them I was certified homebound," she explained. "I'd get my brother to take a day off from work. I got nothing done."

Finally, after a five-year struggle, she was able to find an apartment. "It wasn't what we wanted," she said. "The landlord kept making promises and promises and promises. Later on the place began to go down. We bought furniture and carpet and everything got wet. We had no heat. We used to heat by the stove. We would put water on the stove. Everything was mildewed. We threw out dressers and clothes. We lost a lot of stuff."

The apartment was also infested "with rats and roaches." "It was horrible," she said. The landlord, in an attempt to force his tenants out of the apartments, refused to provide any services. "Maybe the only thing he would give was hot water. He wanted everybody out of the building."

This policy of neglect led to an inevitable three-year court battle between landlord and tenants. As vice president of the tenant association, Jones was in the forefront of the fight, but when her husband became terminally ill and the



Left to right: S. H. Brooks, treasurer of the Northeastern Conference, Stratton C. Lee, president of ARCO/Metro and property manager for the Towers, and G. R. Earle, president of the Northeastern Conference, stand in front of the newly completed Towers.

tenants refused to stand with her, she was forced to end her battle.

A greater problem presented itself with the death of her husband, she was bereft of her right hand. Faced with an impossible situation, she turned to God. During the darkest of times, he provided a place for her. "I couldn't go looking for an apartment," so she "sat hoping and praying."

Her faith was rewarded. She was informed that a new apartment complex was being built in Queens by the Northeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Her son's friend obtained an application for her and she was among the first residents of Northeastern Towers, a joint housing venture of the Northeastern Conference and the Housing and Urban Development Department. With deep emotion she exclaimed, "I thank God for it!"



Stratton C. Lee, property manager for the Towers, presents a plaque to Albert Evans, at 91 the oldest tenant, at the opening ceremonies.

#### Shelter To The Elderly and Handicapped

The idea of an apartment for senior citizens and the mobility impaired living in New York City loomed in the mind of conference administrators for nearly a

decade. That idea became a reality. "In 1977, word came the H.U.D. was looking for qualified sponsors for a senior citizens' building," according to Pastor S. H. Brooks, treasurer of the Northeastern Conference and one of the moving forces behind the Towers. The conference immediately applied to become a sponsor and was accepted.

The administrators were influenced by a number of factors that led them to build the towers—the escalating cost of rent, the diminishing earning power of those on a fixed income and cuts in Social Security.

Greta M. Thomas, general manager of the towers, echoed the same concerns. "People are in such need of housing it is unreal. They are on a fixed income and are not making more than \$200 or \$300 a month. They are paying that much for rent. There's nothing left to eat with or clothe themselves. It's nothing . . . the way they've been coming in, we could use three duplicates of this right now.

"Housing is critical," she continued. "You don't realize it when you're comfortable in your own house . . . It really wakes you up."

In November of 1982 construction began on the Towers and by January of 1984 they were completed. By the latter part of May, a number of tenants were residing in the Towers.

The grand opening ceremonies held on Wednesday, May 30, were attended by community, religious and government representatives. It was quite a landmark achievement, for the SDA Church now joins a small group of religious organizations that own and operate senior citizens' apartments in New York City.

#### Quiet, Middle-Class Community

The Towers are located at 131-10 Guy F. Brewer Boulevard in Jamaica, New York. It is situated in a quiet middle-class community in southeastern Queens. This location is ideal because it offers convenient public transportation, a shopping center, medical offices and a post office.

This 110-unit twelve-story complex is situated on spacious, manicured grounds, which in the future will provide the tenants with the opportunity to cultivate gardens.

The interior is kept meticulously clean by the superintendent of the complex, William David Gordon and his assistants, Rupert Shaw and O'Neal Robinson.

## PUBLISHER'S PAGE

### NEW WORKERS' TRAINING SCHOOL

"To Pastor LaGrone, the publishing directors and district leaders: We, the 1984 literature evangelist training class, would like to take this time to express our appreciation for the time and effort that was put into getting this training program together. It is not easy to make the study of God's Word and learning how to do the work that God has chosen each of us to do pleasurable, but you have been very successful. You made a nine-to-nine day go by very fast, and the things that we learned will never be forgotten. As a token of our appreciation, we would like to present to each of you a boutonniere."

These were the words spoken by Diane Reynolds of the Allegheny West Conference on behalf of the graduating class of the Columbia Union's F.H.E.S. Training School for new colporteurs, held in Hagerstown, Maryland, February 26-30 of this year.

To open the ceremonies the song "So Send I You" was played by Keith Reid on his trumpet. Each student had mastered the basic skills in the techniques of effective canvassing. Each one was tested on how well he or she could use logic and analyze the feelings and desires of the prospect. They were taught how to skillfully use their tools and identify buying motives.

This particular group has proved to be the most talented corps of literature evangelists ever in a training school. These students are having outstanding success, not only in sales, but also in influencing people to attend church. Soul-winning is the purpose of our work. This is why our dedicated literature ministers have disciplined themselves to the cause of God in this work.

Can you qualify to be a literature evangelist? Do you have God-given talents to do this work? If so, contact the publishing department of your conference.

At the close of this auspicious occasion, Keith Reid and Inez Reeves played an instrumental duet. Also, Katherine Hicks and Lee Davis of the Allegheny East Conference had arranged a special song for literature evangelists that was sung when marching orders were given at the close of the program.

to. You know if that were my mother I would want someone to do that."

When one enters the Towers, it is more reminiscent of a life in a college dormitory than senior citizens' apartments because the residents are a cosmopolitan group of men and women from the United States and the Caribbean who have formed lasting friendships. They often stop by each other's apartments or in the lobby to chat or share some food.

Pastor Brooks set forth the guiding purpose in establishing the home. "It was felt that many of our senior citizens were living in substandard housing," he said. "The church felt that in their sunset years we should be able to provide a place for them." They simply wanted to "render a service to the community." Future projects include an out-patient clinic and more housing projects for senior citizens.

The Northeastern Conference has certainly realized its goal and more. Ask Albert Evans, 91, the oldest tenant, Maude Mae Green, Flora Camphor, Carmen Charles, Leola Coppedge, Thomacena Johnson, Myrtle Meade, Willa Mae Jones, or Florence Kerr. They would heartily agree!



*The ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Towers was attended by men and women who are actively involved in civic and humanitarian affairs.*



*Smiles were in order as a tenant moved into the Towers.*



*Laura Jones smiles contently as one of the first tenants to move into the Northeastern Towers.*

The Towers provides one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments especially constructed for senior citizens and mobility-impaired individuals. They offer such features as non-skid floors, elevators, ramps, handrails and grab bars, chute and compactor rooms, smoke detectors, door locks, a heating system, a laundry room and a recreation room, in which the management are now making plans to offer a number of programs for residents.

### Residents as Family

The Towers are managed by ARCO/METRO, a private, minority-owned real estate management and consulting firm headed by Stratton C. Lee, Sr., C.P.M. A man possessing both professional expertise and concern for senior citizens.

Lee has served as vice president of the Jackie Robinson Management Corporation, the Executive Association of the National Center for Housing Management of the National Corporation for Housing Partners and vice president for Campus management at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, New York. He is assisted by Norma Bolden, who serves as area manager for ARCO.

It is the studied purpose of ARCO/METRO to serve as an effective manager, while at the same time giving personal attention to residents. Thomas describes their unique relationship. "We try to take care of them. We are much like a family here. I've seen them come up with the family, as it were. I think maybe that's the thing that brought us together like a family. Maybe I extend myself a little more with them. You have

# The Editor's Desk



Inner-city and prison ministries directors who attended the workshop at the General Conference on May 16.

## SUNSET CALENDAR

	Sept. 28	Oct. 5	12	19
Boston, Mass.	6:31	6:19	6:08	5:56
New York City	6:42	6:30	6:16	6:12
Buffalo, N.Y.	7:02	6:50	6:38	6:30
Atlanta, Ga.	7:27	7:17	7:08	7:02
Miami, Fla.	7:11	7:03	6:56	6:52
Charlotte, N.C.	7:12	7:02	6:53	6:45
Birmingham, Ala.	6:36	6:26	6:16	6:11
Jackson, Miss.	6:50	6:41	6:31	6:26
Memphis, Tenn.	6:49	6:39	6:29	6:23
Louisville, Ky.	7:31	7:20	7:10	7:03
Detroit, Mich.	7:19	7:09	6:57	6:49
Chicago, Ill.	6:38	6:26	6:15	6:05
South Bend, Indiana	6:33	6:21	6:09	6:01
Minneapolis, Minn.	7:00	6:47	6:34	6:24
St. Louis, Mo.	6:49	6:38	6:27	6:20
Kansas City, Mo.	7:06	6:55	6:45	6:36
Denver, Co.	6:48	6:37	6:26	6:18
Little Rock, Ark.	6:58	6:48	6:39	6:32
Dallas, Texas	7:16	7:07	6:58	6:51
New Orleans, La.	6:50	6:41	6:33	6:28
Albuquerque, N.M.	6:55	6:45	6:36	6:29
Oklahoma City, Okla.	7:19	7:09	7:00	6:53

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

## ALLEGHENY EAST



M. C. Van Putten, Allegheny East Conference president, addresses Williamsburg congregation on the occasion of their first "at home" baptism.

### FIRST "AT HOME" BAPTISM

Have you ever imagined what it was like in days of old when baptisms in rivers and lakes were common? Members of the Mt. Calvary SDA Church in Williamsburg, Virginia, shared a glimpse of that exciting, heaven-connected moment on Sabbath, June 2, when an outdoor baptism was held in their recently acquired portable pool.

This was their first "at home" baptism. They have previously had to use facilities owned by others.

M. C. Van Putten, Allegheny East Conference president, was the guest speaker as friends and relatives joined in this occasion, filling the newly refurbished little country church to capacity. The sun shone brightly as six souls were lowered into the baptismal pool. Afterwards, dinner was served for the candidates, family and visitors.

W. C. Scales, Sr., is pastor of this congregation.

Karen Chappell Brown  
Communication Secretary  
Williamsburg, Virginia



Candidates stand for their pre-baptismal examination.



Vincent Emmanuel Blyden and daughter Angela were recently baptized into the Williamsburg, Virginia, church.

## LONG ROAD TO THE TRUTH

During the 1930s a mother and her four children lived in a small frame house in the Virgin Islands. The family donkey was their only means of transportation and firewood was necessary in order to cook. A background of poverty, coupled with the death of the father, caused the family many trying times. Consequently, they formed a strong bond of love and unity.

Mrs. Blyden (Moms) had heard friends talk and neighbors whisper about a group called the "7th-Day People," and became keenly interested. Curiosity led to conviction, conversion and commitment. Soon she and her children were baptized by Pastor Van Putten, the father of M. C. Van Putten, president of the Allegheny East Conference.

With church being an island away, Moms organized a branch Sabbath school and had worship in her own home. Who was the keynote speaker? Who else but Moms herself. Many hearts were softened and souls won because of the dedication and courage of this woman. Moms turned out to be a pillar of faith in her community and a mighty spiritual influence over her children. Even today she preaches and shares the good news that was once brought her way.

When the son, Vincent Emmanuel, reached the age of 24, he joined the army and was soon shipped to Germany. He disassociated himself from all spiritual matters, although he never really forgot the teaching of his childhood.

His path led him to the United States after the war and he settled in Virginia. On a sunny day in October of 1983, Blyden decided to get a haircut. He drove to his favorite barber in Williamsburg. Arriving early, he parked and waited for the shop to open. Engrossed in his thoughts, he was startled by Bible workers Joanie Edmonds and Laura Flowers, who just

happened to be in the neighborhood. They invited him to attend the Real Truth Revival with guest speaker W. C. Scales, Jr. His heart was touched to the point of tears.

Although he did not outwardly seek the presence of God, he had a secret longing to again be with the people of God. He was totally amazed at how God had read his thoughts and now was leading him back to the path of truth that had covered so many miles and years.

On June 2, Vincent Emmanuel Blyden and his daughter, Angela, were baptized into the Mt. Calvary SDA Church in Williamsburg.

Moms was well pleased when she learned of his good news, but this time things are different. This time he was not nine years old. This time he had successfully climbed the ladder of experience and this time he is more determined than ever to follow Jesus.

Karen Chappell Brown  
Communication Secretary  
Williamsburg, Virginia

## POTTSTOWN HOLDS WOMAN POWER WEEKEND

The Pottstown church in Pottstown, Pennsylvania, held its second "Woman Power Weekend" March 3 and 4. The purpose of this weekend is to stress the importance of each person in developing his or her potential for good in the church and community.

Guest speaker for Sabbath services was Dr. Judith Nembhard, assistant professor of English from Howard University. Her sermon, "Once You Have Found the Ladder," was based on Jacob's experiences and his vision of Heaven. It was emphasized that all things are possible through Christ.

Music for the service was furnished by the Youth Day Ensemble from the Newtonville, New Jersey, church under the direction of Doris DeGuzman.

The afternoon musical potpourri featured talent from the local church. This was followed by a vesper vocal selection from Lolita Miller and inspirational thoughts by Elizabeth Shields, a local elder.

The weekend series closed with a "Ladies Only Brunch." At a previous meeting the ladies of the church expressed interest in establishing a local chapter of the Adventist Woman's Association.

Dr. Nembhard, who is active in the national organization and an associate editor of *The Adventist Woman*, presented guidelines for the establishment of local chapters and the process was initiated.

Temporary officers will serve until the group is formally organized, at which time permanent officers will be elected. The temporary officers are Carol Cantu, president, Gwendolyn Norwood, secretary, and Esther Bigger, treasurer.

Charter members for the Pottstown-Pine Forge chapter of the Association of Adventist Women are Janet Arms, Freddie Beasley, Esther Bigger, Edith Blanding, Sheri Calhoun, Sophis Calhoun, Eunice Canady, Carol Cantu, Idella Church, Jayne Darby, Lynn Davis, Luvenia Dunn, Merle Ford, Almata Gore, Ernestine Hall, Paula Howard, Carol Johnson, Tretesious Lester, Gwendolyn Norwood, Shirley Sample, Elizabeth Shields, Dorothy Suggs, Sossina Teffera, Mildred Thomas, Esther Turman and Joy Wilkes.

## "SABBATH SERVICES IN NAVY PRISON"

It began in January, when the brig chaplain informed Chaplain M. H. Wilson that two prisoners in the brig were Seventh-day Adventists. When Wilson visited them, they requested that services be conducted on Sabbath. One month after coordinating with the brig chaplain and brig officials, services began February 11.

At the first service 26 were in attendance. The attendance averages between 20 and 30 each Sabbath, even though it is announced as a Seventh-day Adventist worship service. The prisoners, Lyman Connor and Jeffrey Kitts, were baptized May 14 into the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The Navy brig in Norfolk, Virginia, is a long-term facility serving military installations in the Tidewater area. These include the Navy, Marine Corps, Army and Air Force bases and units.

On April 7, eight weeks after the services began, the prisoners surprised Chaplain Wilson with a plaque which read:

"In appreciation of the services, inspiration and spiritual guidance that you have given to all of us, thank you! From the Bridge Over Troubled Water Choir and inmates of Naval brig. 7 April 84."



N. Miller and S. Haywood Cox.



Pastor C. D. Brooks.



Pastor and Mrs. W. C. Scales.



N. Miller and S. Haywood Cox.

### A BEAUTIFUL CAMP MEETING

It was an outstanding camp meeting. Seventh-day Adventists from across the plains, valleys and the rivers traveled to Camp Shady Hill in Edwardsville, Kansas. It was a feast of nine glorious days of singing, witnessing, preaching, work-

shops, discussion groups and youth activities.

It was the best of times for preaching with pastors E. E. Cleveland, J. Collins, C. D. Brooks, Charles Gramham, Joel Tompkins, W. C. Scales and Mrs. Scales, Delbert Baker, Calvin Watkins and Walter Arties.

It was the best of times for singing with Pastor Wintley Phipps, the Singing Men of Oakwood, Sounds of Joy from Omaha, Nina Brown and others. It was the best of times with youth activities: Master Guide graduation, youth seminars and sports. It was the best of times for education with Pastor Melancon from Oakwood College. It was the best-laid plans for campground improvement.

Camp Meeting 1984 was the refreshing spiritual rain after the drought of 1983, when only mini-camp meetings were held. Souls were led closer to God as a result of the many challenging messages, songs and activities of 1984.

Additional features of camp meeting included a Vacation Bible School program and sewing classes. The sunshine of God's goodness continues to abide with the members of the Central States Conference.

### ONCE AGAIN THE MIRACLE IS SHARED

On Sabbath, May 26, Edward Johnson was baptized at the Bethesda SDA Church in Omaha, Nebraska. After receiving Bible studies from Rhonda Davis and Pastor Willie L. Harper, Johnson made his stand for the Lord. Pastor D. B. Simmons was assisted by Pastor Arthur Herrington. After a very moving, spirit-



The Sounds of Joy.



Breath of Life.



N. Miller and W. Mosley.



L. B. Hampton and S. Haywood Cox.

filled ceremony, Simmons spoke from Revelation 14:6-12. The Holy Spirit then guided Simmons through a sermon entitled "The Third Angel's Message."

Johnson and Deborah Jackson were joined in marriage on Sunday, May 27. It is with much love, joy and happiness that the Bethesda church family welcomes the Johnsons.

Willie L. Harper  
Correspondent

## OPTOMETRIST FOR TRUTH

For the first time in the 100-year history of a conservative state college in eastern lower Michigan, an official special graduation ceremony was held for one of its graduates because of his religious convictions.

W. Darrell Smith, a member of the Fairhaven church in Flint, Michigan, was awarded his doctor of optometry degree from the College of Optometry at Ferris State College in a special ceremony on Thursday, May 17, rather than during the traditionally scheduled Saturday, May 19, graduation.

Smith believes that graduation services are, for the most part, designed to recognize an individual's academic accomplishments. He also believes that Saturday is the Lord's Sabbath, a day set apart for rest from daily self-centered activities. Because of these personal convictions he could not participate in the scheduled Saturday graduation services.

However, Smith still wanted to participate in all the grandeur of a graduation exercise. Initially, he attempted to have the graduation services changed from Saturday to another day of the week. He realized that this year marked the centennial year for Ferris State and that plans for this graduation had been made years in advance. Smith stated that he was not trying to set a precedent by challenging the administration with such a petition, but he felt strongly that some accommodation should be made.

He petitioned the Lord in prayer while he searched for an alternative in keeping with his religious convictions and at the same time acceptable to the college administration. Smith is convinced that the Lord, through his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Smith, directed the idea of requesting to the school's administration that he be allowed to participate in a special graduation ceremony. After he and his parents had devoted much time to prayer, and after a lot of thought and planning, Darrell Smith developed a tentative program and format so that he could present the idea to the college administration.

When Smith presented his idea of a special graduation ceremony, along with his convictions of being an Adventist Sabbath-keeper, the administration officially approved his request.

School officials acknowledged their respect for this young man who so elo-

quently lived up to what he believed. They gave him their support both publicly and privately as they participated with him in this very special Thursday graduation ceremony.



*W. Darrell Smith, O.D., stands with his mother, June Smith (left), and sister after having his degree conferred. Willie Smith, his father, is not shown.*

Smith not only received support from his parents and school officials, but also from church members in the Idlewild church and the Big Rapids, Michigan, church. Members from these and other area churches attended the graduation ceremony as an indication of their support for his religious convictions.

Prior to attending Ferris State College, all of Darrell's education had been in the Adventist school system. He attended the Flint SDA church school, Adelpian Academy and Andrews University. Since there are no Seventh-day Adventist colleges or universities offering a doctor of optometry degree, Smith found it necessary to attend a state school.

Optometry is a primary health-care profession in which one learns how to preserve and best utilize the important sense of vision. Smith says that very few minorities seem to be aware of this excellent professional career option. At present there are more than 27,000 doctors of optometry in the United States. However, less than 500 of these doctors are minorities.

Ferris State College, located in Big Rapids, Michigan, is the only college of optometry in Michigan and one of only fifteen in the United States. The College

of Optometry's first graduating class was in 1979. This year the college celebrated its sixth annual commencement.

Participants on the graduation program included a cross-section of faculty and staff members from the college, along with representatives from the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Representatives from the school included: Charles Hurt, associate professor in the College of Optometry; Donald A. Priebe, vice president of academic affairs; and Jack W. Bennett, dean of the College of Optometry. Representatives from the church included Kenneth Lee, an elder from Big Rapids, Michigan, who gave the invocation; Ruth Faye Davis, professor of home economics at Oakwood College and Smith's cousin, introduced the commencement speaker, Charles D. Joseph, president of the Lake Region Conference. James D. Parker, pastor of the Capitol City church in Indianapolis, Indiana, gave the benediction.

Smith's ultimate career objective is to maintain a progressive full-scope primary care practice in a multi-disciplinary setting.

## CAPITOL AVENUE CHURCH SCHOOL ALUMNI DAY

Sabbath, June 16, was the Capitol Avenue church's School Alumni Day, during which decades of the 1930s and 1940s were highlighted. Former teachers and alumni from as far away as Pasadena, California, Cleveland, Ohio, Inkster, Michigan, and Chicago, Illinois, were present.

Pastor David Rand, Andrews University chaplain, was the guest speaker. Participants for the entire day were former teachers and alumni of the West Street, Capitol Avenue and Capitol City church schools.

During the morning service Ruby Cartwright, a former student at the Capitol Avenue school, presented a bit of church school history that reminded the alumni of their humble beginning, eight grades in a one-room classroom in the rear of the church in the early 1930s.

After the morning service a most delicious dinner, which was prepared by Lee Marble, was served at his cafeteria.

The evening climaxed with a social providing the opportunity for everyone to renew acquaintances and reminisce about old times. Ann Ross was chairperson of the planning committee. As Ann

contemplated the activities of Alumni Day, she says "Praise God from whom all blessings flow."

Frank Rand, brother of Pastor David Rand, who had not attended church for more than 30 years, has since joined the family of God and will soon be baptized.

Ann also says that future plans call for another class reunion in two years, perhaps honoring the 1950s and 1960s.

Charli Cartwright  
Communication Secretary

## 'PRAISING HIS NAME WITH SONG'

There comes a time when every musician must take a pause and change the tempo of his or her life. So it is with classical songstress Vaida Smith, who recently ventured into gospel music.

On June 23 Vaida appeared with pianist Carlos Medley in a vespers concert at the All Nations SDA Church in Berrien Springs, Michigan. The program provided much-needed seed money for the church's budding ministry. The near capacity crowd experienced a tasteful blend of contemporary gospel, traditional and black gospel music.

"Carlos and I have chosen for ourselves the slogan 'Praising His Name with Song,' Vaida explained. "That's what we're really doing here."

Vaida, a native of Vancouver, British Columbia, has been singing for more than twenty years. She holds a bachelor's degree in vocal performance and a master of music education from Andrews University. She currently is program director for WAUS, an FM radio station in Berrien Springs. She captured leading roles in such musicals as "Hansel and Gretel," "Fiddler on the Roof" and "The Sound of Music." She has also toured Brazil and Romania with the university's brass ensemble.

After performing her first gospel concert last April—in the university's college church—Vaida says she enjoys the musical diversity. "I can reach a lot more people with a variety of music styles," Vaida claims. "In gospel music you sing about the deep beliefs that people hold."

"I think gospel music delivers a "double whammy," she notes. "Not only are the words powerful, but when you blend them with beautiful music you're delivering some greater than the sum total of the individual parts."

Though Vaida's career is barely off the ground, she has already sung with Dove Award winner Larnelle Harris. "I was so impressed with his musicianship. He can do practically anything with his voice," she says.

"With the hundreds of times that I've sung, I've never had an audience reaction like that," Vaida explains. "It really was an unforgettable experience."

Carlos, a native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, has played the piano for more than twenty years and performed in several area churches. In April he appeared on the "Today with Lester Summral" telecast on WHME-TV South Bend, Indiana.

Carlos holds a master's degree in religious communications from Andrews University. He is minister of music for the Faith SDA Church in Dowagiac, Michigan.

"It's a real challenge to convey the gospel through instrumental music," Medley notes. "You have to select tunes carefully so that their very melody rings out a spiritual message."

"I see myself as an interpreter," Carlos explains. "I like to capture the joy and excitement of being a Christian with melody and rhythm."

Carlos and Vaida will be available for concerts this fall. If your church would like to experience this new ministry, just write Carlos at 1205 St. Joseph Road, B-3, Berrien Springs, MI 49103, or call (616) 471-9139.

Ronnie Rosado  
Communication Secretary

## SING, BEACON, SING

The Beacon of Joy church recently organized a brand new group of singers called the Evangelistic Choir.

At the suggestion of Pastor Tyrone A. Boyd, the choir was formed and is currently accepting new members. The only prerequisite is that you love to praise the Lord in song.

The first performance by the choir was on Sabbath, May 19, at the divine worship service. Although only sixteen members strong, the group's voices emerged with the strength and dedication of a full-fledged choir.

Under the direction of Lorraine Harris and pianist Joyce Hall, as well as assistant pianist Anita Green, the Evangelistic Choir is currently scheduled to sing once

a month for Evangelistic Day at the Beacon of Joy church.

Tanya Williams  
Communication Secretary

## PATHFINDER DAY AT SHARON CHURCH

The Milwaukee Badger Pathfinder Club celebrated its first local Pathfinder day of the year on June 2.

The Badgers were in charge of all Sabbath services, beginning with Sabbath school.

Acting superintendent for the day was Cheryl Blue. An inspiring joint lesson study was led out by Gerald O. Harvey, deputy director for the Badger club.

Special music during the divine worship service was presented by the Strings of Harmony, a singing group from St. Louis, Missouri. According to reporters Marva Kelly and Yvonne Harvey, the music set the mood for the congregation to receive the sermon, which was given by Norman Usher, principal-teacher at Sharon Junior Academy in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Pathfinder of the Year trophies were awarded to Yulonda Blathers and Francesca Muiff. Members of the club did not know who would receive the trophies until the names were called. It was a complete surprise to both recipients.

The Strings of Harmony, a group of young people ranging in age from ten to 23 years, were in charge of the Adventist Youth hour. The program consisted of a skit and a mini-concert.

The closing event for the day was a fellowship social. Members of the Badger Pathfinder Club are determined to sponsor another Pathfinder Day. They enjoy having a Sabbath when they are actively involved for the entire day.

Marva G. Kelly  
Club Secretary

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Everyone enjoys giving good advice, and how wonderful it is to be able to say the right thing at the right time!

*Proverbs 15:23*

Wisdom is a fountain of life to those possessing it, but a fool's burden is his folly.

*Proverbs 16:22*



## NORTHEASTERN ORDAINS EIGHT

Eight ministers were ordained at the Northeastern Conference camp meeting on Sabbath, June 30, at Camp Victory Lake in Hyde Park, New York. Those ordained were Arlington R. Greene, David S. Glover, Archange Emmanuel Mondestin, Matias Solis, Martin Benjamin, George W. St. John, Kenneth L. Green and Lawrence S. Dorsey. These men bring with them a wide and varied array of experience.



*Pastor David S. Glover and family: Andre, Monique, Hazel, Mark and Pastor Glover.*

*Pastor David S. Glover* was born and reared in Brooklyn, New York. He received his ministerial training from the Manhattan Bible Institute, Drew University and Oakwood College.

For twelve years he served as an outstanding minister in the Pentecostal denomination. In 1982 he became a Seventh-day Adventist through the Christian witness of pastors Robert Lister and Gilbert Foster.

Following his baptism he received an invitation to join the gospel ministry. He served as associate pastor of the Mount of Olives church in Brooklyn, New York. He presently serves as pastor of the Shiloh Seventh-day Adventist Church in Springfield, Massachusetts.

Glover is married to the former Hazel Prescod of Barbados, West Indies. They are the parents of three lovely children: Mark, Monique and Andre.



*Pastor Arlington R. Greene and family: Darren, Garth, Leila Faye, Pastor Greene, Kevin, Michelle and Curt.*

*Pastor Arlington R. Greene* was born and reared in an Adventist family in Jamaica, West Indies. In 1953 he graduated from West Indies College in Mandeville, Jamaica, as an accountant.

Greene has faithfully served in the area of church finance as an accountant for West Indies College, the East Jamaica Conference, the West Indies Union and Andrews Memorial Hospital in Kingston, Jamaica.

He has served as secretary/treasurer for the West Jamaica and Bahamas conferences. For the past seventeen years, Pastor Greene has served with distinction as auditor of the Northeastern Conference.

Greene is married to the former Leila Faye Crarey of Kingston, Jamaica, West Indies. Their union has produced five children: Garth, Michelle, Kevin, Darren and Curt. All are active members of the church.



*Pastor Archange E. Mondestin and family: Monique, Unelle, Jacquelline and Micheline.*

*Pastor Archange Emmanuel Mondestin* is a third-generation Adventist and was born and raised in Port Margery, Haiti.

He studied at Diquini, the theological seminary in Haiti, and received a master of arts degree from the University of Montpellier, where he studied French lit-

erature, Latin, classical Greek and pedagogy. He has taught school in Haiti and France.

Mondestin entered the gospel ministry in 1979 at the recommendation of Pastor M. D. Bermingham, coordinator of the French work for the Northeastern Conference.

Pastor Mondestin is the author of *Connaissance et Liberte*, a book written to teach Christianity and Adventism to the upcoming Haitian generation. The book was published in 1983.

He is married to the former Unelle Noel of Haiti. The Mondestins are blessed with four children: Micheline, Monique, Paul-Emmanuel and Jacqueline.



*Pastor Matias Solis and family: Dennis, Pastor Solis, L. Michelle, Mercedes and Edwin.*

*Pastor Matias Solis* was born and reared in Panama. He received his ministerial training at Antillian College in Puerto Rico and the SDA Theological Seminary in Berrien Springs, Michigan, where he received a master of arts degree in religion in 1979.

In that same year the Northeastern Conference called him to serve the Hispanic churches in Salem, Boston and Lawrence, Massachusetts.

In 1983 he was transferred to his present field of labor, the Bethel Hispanic church of Boston, Massachusetts, and the Providence Hispanic church in Providence, Rhode Island.

In 1967 he married Mercedes (of Panama) and from their union were born two children: Michelle and Edwin. With the death of his sister, his nephew Denis became his son.

The other ministers ordained at the Northeastern Conference camp meeting will be featured next issue.

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God blesses those who obey Him; happy the man who trusts in the Lord.

*Proverbs 16:20*



Luis German Cajiga.

### ARTIST HELPS SPANISH CHURCH

Luis German Cajiga is an artist of world renown. He is also known as a writer, poet, orator, college professor, preacher, musician, athlete and more.

At the invitation of the Central Spanish church in Atlanta, he spent two weeks with them to raise funds toward their church building and the 1,000 Days of Reaping. For five days he exhibited 32 pieces of his serigraphic works at the Rosewood Room of the Terrace Garden Inn Hotel. They netted over \$2,000 toward the project.

With his own multi-media creation on a giant 9x30 foot screen, he conducted a week-long Revelation seminar with more than 50 non-members in attendance nightly. In addition to the resurgence, reconsecration and recommitment of the members, eight persons made decisions to join the church and are getting ready for baptism.

The Central Spanish church was organized (by President R. B. Hairston and was being pastored by R. Franklin and R. E. Tottress in the Atlanta-Berean district) with eighteen members. Soon after their organization, Carmel Rivera was called from Puerto Rico to pastor the church. Today the membership stands at 64.

There are some 170,000 hispanics living in Atlanta. Cajiga's effort made a significant impact upon the influential leaders and professional people in the Spanish community to the extent that they have gotten the consent of the artist, and are already making preparations for another art exhibit to be held September 13 and 14. This exhibit is being sponsored by the Casa Cultural

Hispanoamericana and other private organizations. Pastor Rivera announced an evangelistic crusade, also to be conducted in September.

### WILLIAMS TO SERVE PRISON MINISTRY

Harry J. Williams has been called to broaden his responsibilities beyond being director of better living centers in the Atlanta area. He will also be the evangelist for the Birmingham-based United Prison Ministry. The president is Richard Bland.

Williams became converted to Adventism in the Philadelphia penitentiary in 1973. Immediately after leaving prison, he went to Oakwood College, where he turned his energies toward studying for the ministry. After completion, he accepted the call to South Atlantic Conference in August of 1979.

He has traveled all over the conference, North America and the islands promoting inner-city programs, holding workshops in prison ministry and instructing young people against the serious hazards of the drug traffic, alcohol and smoking. In addition, he has also been assistant pastor at the Atlanta-Maranatha church, assistant pastor at the Atlanta-Boulevard church and pastor of the Rome church in Georgia. He has also developed three viable better living centers in the Atlanta area. In going to Birmingham, he will still carry the major portion of his responsibilities in the South Atlantic Conference.



Harry J. Williams.

### EBENEZER SCHOOL HOLDS FIRST COMMENCEMENT

Stephanie Whitley, Elizabeth Harper and Beda Hightower had the distinction of being the first students to graduate from the Ebenezer Seventh-day Adven-

tist Elementary School. This is the first year the school has been in operation, and these girls were the only students in the eighth grade.

Pastor E. J. Lewis delivered the baccalaureate message at the 11 a.m. service on May 19, on the class theme: "Moving Upward."

The commencement followed after sunset by the home and school leader, local elder Raymond Scarlett. His topic was: "Where Are the Children Gone?" The graduates presented their parents with silk roses in appreciation of their love and sacrifice in providing them with a Christian education.

The acting principal, Pastor E. J. Lewis, presented awards and honors to the worthy students and brought the never-to-be-forgotten day to a close.

### BEREA HOLDS WEEK OF PRAYER

The Adventist Youth Society of the Berean church in Charlotte, North Carolina, conducted their spring week of prayer under the theme of "Be Ye Steadfast." The last Sabbath service was conducted by Pastor Stephen Patterson, a prison ministries specialist for the Orlando-based "Jesus Behind Bars." This poetic pastor stated his belief that, contrary to public opinion, "Experience is the best teacher." "Wisdom from the Word of God is the best teacher."

Patterson conducted a Jesus Behind Bars prison ministry workshop on Sabbath afternoon and Sunday. Forty persons completed the course and will receive a J.B.B. certificate after spending 40 hours of comprehensive training in effective prison ministry.

### MAYOR HONORED AT GUEST DAY

On June 2 the Sabbath school of the Berean church in Charlotte, North Carolina, held its Guest Day program when their guest of honor was Mayor Harvey Gantt of Charlotte.

Other participants were Bernice Miller, Sabbath school superintendent; Richard Long, pastor; Sabbath school Secretary Cecilia McCallough, who made the presentations; and two high school graduates, Cheryl Bennett and Samantha Thorne, who were recognized by their Sabbath school for their academic achievements.



Lori Cammack of Nashville, Tennessee.

## STUDENT MUSICIAN WINS SCHOLARSHIP

Lori Cammack, a member of the Riverside chapel in Nashville, Tennessee, is a music student at the Blair School of Music in that city.

Lori had mixed emotions when her instructor issued her a scholarship application because there was a Sabbath conflict. Erlene Cammack, Lori's mother, suggested that Lori complete the application and she would confer with the instructor. Although the instructor assured her that he would try to make alternate arrangements, when the schedule was posted, a Sabbath date was listed for Lori.

When Erlene again visited with the instructor, she submitted the application and a request for rescheduling the audition. She then learned that someone had already visited. Unknown to Lori, when she performed for the mandatory jury presentation, the instructor had arranged for members of the scholarship guild to be present. Lori was not only blessed with a special audition, but she is also the recipient of a music scholarship.

The scholarship gives full tuition for a class in musicianship, theory or history, and one-half tuition for voice for the academic year 1984-85.

Allen Johnston  
Correspondent

## MANAGEMENT FIRM LOOKING TO CLIMB

A new minority-owned property management firm has been formed in Nashville, Tennessee. The firm, American Diversified Asset Management Corporation (ADAM), was organized in April

of 1984 with Rhon Reid, Washington Butler, Jr., and Edward C. Williams as principals.

Rhon Reid is the chief executive officer. Butler, a former candidate for governor, is executive vice president for internal administration. Edward Williams serves as executive vice president for field administration. The corporate offices are located in Trademark Square of the Metro Center.

Rhon Reid talks about the new firm with enthusiasm and great expectation for the future. "We started out with nothing but our experience, our talents and some sacrificial financial investment. Now we have fiduciary responsibility for funds in excess of \$3.9 million dollars annually," Reid said. "In addition," he continues, "other property owners are calling us to explore the possibility of ADAM serving as their professional managers."



Left to right: Rhon Reid, Edward C. Williams and Washington Butler, Jr.

"We are off and running. Our momentum is high, but we have not even started to accelerate in terms of market penetration," said Ed Williams, property manager. When asked what obstacles he sees to the success of ADAM, Reid replied: "We don't see any obstacles. We see challenges, opportunities and mountains to climb, some great and some small, but we are looking for those mountains and taking them on as we encounter them."

As a property management company, ADAM is responsible for the overall site maintenance and management, rental of units, monitoring the care of properties and financial management. The latter includes collection of rents, payment of bills, management of cash reserves and investment counseling. "We relieve the client of all the headaches and



Left to right: Washington Butler, Jr., Rhon Reid and Edward C. Williams.

details of managing a property, which requires keeping it in a safe, attractive and rentable condition," said Washington Butler.

We are in a position to manage an unlimited number of multi-family properties for an individual or corporate owner, a bank, an insurance company or another mortgage holder providing the same high quality service as we provide for all of our client," Butler said.

The dedication these three men bring to a very difficult business is impressive. They have shown that they are not afraid of risks or challenges. Their commitment to achieve success is certain to inspire their employees and client property owners.

For further information, contact Washington Butler, Jr., Executive Vice President for Internal Administration, (615) 256-3612 or 13.

## SOUTH CENTRAL SPELLING BEE HELD

"I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me." This was the motto of Shunda Michael as she spelled in the South Central Conference's first spelling bee, held in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

The bee took place on May 12. Shunda was the winner for the fourth and fifth grades. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. N. C. Michael of Jackson, Mississippi, and attends the B. W. Abney Learning Center in Jackson.

Also representing the Abney Learning Center was Kevin Collins, son of Mary Collins of Jackson. Linda Tynes is the teacher and Susie Hill is the principal.



From left to right: (almost hidden) Ann Marie Brown, Caesar Robinson (youth elder), Alvin Kibble (visiting pastor) and W. C. Byrd (pastor of the Mt. Olivet SDA Church).

## MOUNT OLIVET HOLDS WEEK OF PRAYER

"Jesus is the Answer for the 80s" was the theme of the youth week of prayer held at the Mt. Olivet SDA Church in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Pastor Alvin Kibble of the Trinity SDA Church in Newark, New Jersey, was the guest speaker. For six nights Pastor Kibble presented the following topics:

- "The High Cost of Low Living,"
- "Of Company and Character,"
- "Lip Service Religion,"
- "No Thanks, Satan,"
- "Fame" and
- "The Holy Harlot."

"Coming Home" was the sermon that climaxed this week of devotion. Members and the many visitors who attended the meetings committed their lives to God as a result of their religious exercise.

The 1984 week of prayer is now in the past, but the inspiring messages will continue to live on, and also the theme song:

"Sign me up for the Christian jubilee, write my name on the roll.

I've been changed since the Lord has lifted me,

I want to be ready when Jesus comes."

## YOUTH FEDERATION HELD IN OCALA

The M. C. Strachan Youth Federation convened on Sabbath, May 5, in Ocala, Florida, under the distinguished leadership of Frankyann Dawkins. This annual activity involving the youth of northern Florida and southern Georgia was held in the spacious facilities of the Church of God by Faith, Inc., James Jones, pastor.

Pastor G. W. Murray, members of the Shiloh church and A.Y.S. leader Denton

Hamilton hosted the more than 2500 attendees. Mayor Wayne Robenous of Ocala extended the city's welcome.

Ida Mae Scott of Ocala was the Sabbath school superintendent. Ricky and Vivian Martin of Progress Village presented the lesson. Verlyn Elvin of Patmos Chapel in Winter Park, Florida, coordinated the children's Sabbath school, and the Heavenly Voices from Jacksonville, Florida, directed by Kimberly Rahming, presented musical selections.

Pastor Henry M. Wright, president of the Allegheny West Conference, delivered an inspiring and challenging message entitled "Stormy." Betty Ashe conducted worship services for the children.

After thirteen-year-old Shawntrell Singleton of Jacksonville presented the only oratorical speech, awards of appreciation were presented to Myra Richardson and Pastor Milton Sterling, federation pastoral advisor.

Five concurrent workshops entitled "Teenage Witnessing," "Effective Parenting Skills," "Divorce and Remarriage," "Operation Fireside" and "Advantages of a Black SDA College Education" were presented by B. Waldon, Jackie Titer, Keith Dennis, Loretha Tolbert, Diane Moore and Jan Ross.

The Elim SDA Church in St. Petersburg, Florida, presented a skit for the A.Y.S. hour. Gregory Mack, associate pastor of the Jacksonville, Florida, district, closed the Sabbath with vespers. Next year's activities are already looked forward to with excitement and anticipation.

## SOUTHEASTERN HOLDS CAMPMEETING FOR 1984

Campmeeting 1984 was a historic moment for the Southeastern Conference. After members from Florida, Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina had met together for years, this was a solo event for the Southeastern Conference.

The ten days were filled with old-fashioned prayer meetings, Bible-backed preaching and a revival time like never before.

The pastors who had speaking appointments contributed greatly to the revival. Guests included Dr. B. Reaves and Dr. Rosa Banks, Oakwood College;

Pastors C. D. Brooks and Pastor W. M. Starks of the General Conference; Pastor W. Pearson of the Allegheny East Conference; Pastor I. B. Warden of the Southern California Conference; Pastor G. R. Earle, president of the Northeastern Conference; Pastor R. W. Bates, former director of personal ministry for the General Conference; Pastor R. Robinson from the Breath of Life; and, from the Southern Union, President A. D. McClure and pastors O. J. McKinney, W. M. Abbott, Jr., and Fernon Retzer.

Eugene Armstead was ordained into the gospel ministry on Sabbath, June 2.

The theme for the youth tent was "Now is the Hour."

The activities closed with notes of regret that the experience of campmeeting had to conclude. The conference family eagerly awaits next year's session, which promises to be bigger and better.

## IN TRANSITION

Malcolm Taylor, who served the Valdosta, Quitman and Thomasville, Georgia, district will move to the Winter Park, Apopka and Sanford, Florida, district, and Claude Mathews, a recent graduate of Andrews University, will replace him.

Gregory Mack, who served in the infiltration ministry, will assume duties at the Fitzgerald and Hazelhurst, Georgia, district. Jonathan McCottry leaves that district to go to the Lakeland, Plant City, Avon Park and Thonotosassa, Florida, district.

Milton Sterling, who formerly pastored there will go to Tabernacle and Perrine, Miami, Florida, district vacated by Don Edwards, who will pastor the Florida City and Key West, Florida, district.

Ernest Young has been appointed from there to serve the Ephesus church in West Palm Beach, Florida. Herman Davis goes to the Jacksonville and St. Augustine, Florida, district and Theus Young to the Tampa, Florida, Progress Village district, a switch in commands.

Barry Bonner, a recent graduate of Oakwood College, is the new pastor for Ft. Pierce, Florida. He is part of the infiltration ministry.

Trevor Fraser, who pastored in West Palm Beach and Ft. Pierce, Florida, goes to Oakwood College, Huntsville, Alabama, as associate professor in the department of religion.

R. R. Brown

The 38th annual camp meeting was a grand success, and the satisfying presence of the Holy Spirit remains. Our conference president recounts some of the glorious events, and shares with you photos of our welcomed guests.



Ramona Young, director of health services, kept nurses and Dr. Joshua Smith busy. Their volunteer services kept sickness and accidents at a minimum.



The first Sabbath speaker, G. Ralph Thompson, secretary of the General Conference.



Classes were taught in nutrition, sewing and CPR. Twenty pioneers were honored for their faithfulness in developing the conference.



Dr. M. A. Warren of Oakwood College returned to his home conference. Dr. Warren wrote the Sabbath school lesson helps this quarter. He has earned two doctoral degrees. The president awarded him a plaque for his accomplishments. Ford not only had an interesting church at study, but C. R. Pritchett conducted a workshop for the sabbath school department.



R. L. Wookfork delivered the ordination message and all ministers participated in the program.



W. T. Cox, Little Rock district pastor, was the principal candidate at the ordination service.



B. E. Wright and his youth department performed very well. Thursday night was Youth Night. Barry Black and Albert Teele were speakers for the youth. The Pathfinders paraded through the downtown streets of Athens promoting temperance.



W. C. Jones informs Robert Smith that, for the second year, Olice Brown reports over \$23,000 in sales. S. L. Green states that all cabins, tents and any available space was taken, giving us a capacity crowd. We look forward to camp meeting in 1985, in spite of it being a General Conference year.



James Best of the Allegheny West Conference conducted a workshop on "Decisions" for R. E. Brown. H. L. Lee conducted family finance classes each evening for M. M. Young. Pastors Ellis and Dragoon baptized 30 souls during camp meeting.



C. E. Bradford, vice president of the General Conference for North America, was the last Sabbath speaker.

# OAKWOOD COLLEGE

## **BERMUDA'S PRIME MINISTER**

World renowned leaders, including the prime minister of Bermuda, addressed 197 graduates and their guests June 1-3 at Oakwood College in Huntsville, Alabama.

General Conference Field Secretary Charles D. Brooks was the speaker for the consecration program, the first of four commencement weekend services that provides each graduate with an opportunity to re-dedicate him or herself to God and humanity. Brooks, also known worldwide for his "Breath of Life" telecast (for which he is speaker and director), appealed to listeners to lift higher moral standards.

Henry M. Wright, president of the Allegheny West Conference and former associate professor of religion and theology for Oakwood, returned to present the baccalaureate address. Many graduates he happily recognized by name during the service were students he encouraged to press on to higher levels of achievement.

The prime minister of Bermuda, John W. Swan, delivered the address at the nurses' pinning ceremony on Sabbath afternoon, June 2. Premier Swan, who served as chairman of the Bermuda hospitals board prior to joining the cabinet, emphasized in his speech the tremendous responsibility of preserving lives. Swan has been instrumental in helping Bermudians attend Oakwood through scholarships, and he urged the audience to appreciate the uniqueness of Oakwood College, its warmth and fellowship.

At a reception held in his honor Saturday evening, Swan was visited by the mayor of Huntsville and other local leaders. On Sunday he received a distinguished service award from Oakwood.

J. Richard Munro, president of TIME, INC., delivered the commencement address on Sunday morning, June 3. He verbalized the achievements of Oakwood College, including being ranked with Ivy League universities for send-

ing black men and women to medical schools. (This year alone nine former Oakwoodites graduated from medical schools).

M. Munro, who received the corporate friendship award from Oakwood, was no stranger to the college. He made it known that he felt it an honor to return after visiting in the fall at the 1983 faculty/staff colloquium and that he plans to aid Oakwood through his affiliation with the United Negro College Fund.

Each service of this 75th graduation was appropriately held in the Oakwood College sanctuary, a \$3-million-dollar structure that seats 3,000. Since its first graduating class in 1909, Oakwood has consistently graduated men and women with a commission to be worthy examples in Christian service.

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## **IN THE NEWS**

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### **NEW LIFE CHURCH HOLDS BIBLE BOWL**

The New Life Seventh-day Adventist Church in Nashville, Tennessee, under Pastor Morris Patterson, hosted the South Central Youth Federation Bible Bowl and basketball competition in January to determine representatives for the youth congress in Atlanta, Georgia.

The theme of "Welcome, Champions" was brought to life in the opening words of the federation president, Souix Hudson. Pastor Joseph McCoy, director of youth ministry, directed the contest for both the junior and senior Bible Bowl teams as they competed for the championship.

The excitement was climaxed as two teams struggled to "gain the victory." The winners were the Oakwood Academy of Huntsville, Alabama, junior team and the Bethel SDA Church of Jackson, Mississippi, senior team. The basketball winners were from the Riverside SDA Church of Nashville.

At the eleven o'clock worship hour the church was filled to capacity as worshippers supported the youth federation and winning teams. The guest speaker was Pastor Robert Smith, Jr., who delivered a power-packed message.

The winning teams represented the South Central Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. We brought home first place trophies in temperance and basketball.

### **LITERATURE EVANGELISTS INVADE BEREAN IN BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA**

There was no mistaking their presence, for one had only to see them from a distance and recognize the familiar sky and navy blue so reminiscent of their high calling. They came from Mississippi, Louisiana and even as far away as Texas, all converging on Baton Rouge and, more specifically, on Berean. Their purposes were to recruit and show the progress of the work here in the Southwest.

The high day in Zion began with the invasion of the Sabbath school hour, which was highlighted by the melodious tones of Yolanda Harris, Sharon Chessell, Valerie Coats and Vendetta Douset, a group of sisters known as the "New Believers."

It was during the divine worship hour that the conference's assistant treasurer, Pastor Samuel Green, reminded us that "God is going to finish His work with or without us, but He would rather have us share in His plan of salvation. The finishing of the work hinges on taking to the people the written word, the printed word and the preached word."

The worship hour's platform guests included the publishing director, James Marshall, pastors D. Coleman of the Cafin (New Orleans) and New Orleans East churches and Thomas Blevins from the Natchez district.

Robert Antwine was recognized as the champion soul-winner, for which he received a magnificent trophy. Six of his eleven precious souls were present for

the meeting. Berean's own Kevin Jenkins was another literature evangelist recognized for his thirst for souls.

Following a scrumptious meal provided by the Sabbath school department, the invasion extended into the Adventist youth hour, when Pastor Blevins provided the vesper thought, which was an adaptation of the parable of the ten virgins found in Matthew 25:1-13.

As the day drew to a close, literature evangelists and lay persons alike were reminded that not only are we to carry light, but we are also to be lights. The high day in Zion finally ended for the rest of us, but it continued the next day for the lay evangelists as they made plans for their next invasion.



Joseph F. Milner, Jr., chairman of the Lay Advisory Council.

## LAY COUNCIL ACHIEVES GOALS

Joseph F. Milner, Jr., chairman of the Lay Advisory Council, was re-elected to a second term on February 12, 1984. During his 1983/84 year as chairman of the L.A.C., Milner stated that the council achieved 100 percent of its goals.

Evangelism—1983 was the greatest year ever for evangelism in the South Central Conference with more than 1,700 baptisms. Laymen played a significant part in helping win souls and raising up new congregations.

Family finance seminar—Goal number two was to have pastors Samuel Meyers of the General Conference and O. J. McKinney of the Southern Union Conference conduct a family finance seminar at the 1983 camp meeting. Sixty-eight graduated from the course, while many others attended.

Laymen's retreat—Goal number three was to have a laymen's retreat for training and testifying of the work done in 1983. This retreat was held at Joe

Wheeler's Park near Florence, Alabama, March 2-4.

Building team—Goal number four was to organize a building team in the conference to help construct and renovate church and school buildings. That team has helped on one building and is ready to go all the way on future buildings.

1983/84 was a super year and the enthusiasm among laymen and pastors was high as goals for 1984/1985 were set.

Evangelism—The goal for 1984 is to encourage every member to work with the pastors to win a soul in 1984.

Southern Union Revolving Fund—The goal this year to inform and invite members of the revolving fund in which they may invest money and draw interest while the fund helps churches to have money to build. The L.A.C. board members pledged \$4,000 when they voted to use the revolving fund on February 12.

Family finance seminar—Another goal for this year is to hold another family finance seminar at camp meeting with pastors S. Meyers and O. J. McKinney.

Reactivate the L.A.C. committees—Another goal this year is to have all seven L.A.C. committees activated by camp meeting.

We look forward to having all churches take part in the L.A.C. by having someone from each church at every meeting of the Lay Advisory Council, including the June 17 meeting at camp meeting and the November 4 meeting. We especially invite pastors to meet with the L.A.C. whenever they can.

## NORTHWEST SPANISH DEDICATES CHILDREN

The Northwest Spanish church recently witnessed the presentation of four young children to God. Azael Colon, church elder, led out in the presentation ceremony by reading from Scripture and the book *Counsels to Parents*.

On this occasion the children of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Gonzalez, Mr. and Mrs. William Montanez, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Pineda, and Pastor and Mrs. Miguel Rodriguez were dedicated to the service of our Lord. The entire congregation has accepted its responsibility to pray and help these families, in order to ensure that their faith in the Lord remains firm.

## THE NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL VOICE

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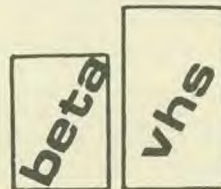
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