

SOUTHERN

Spreading Tidings of the Southern Union Adventist Family



Dreams Come True on Adventist Campuses

- 7 It's My Very Own
- 21 Remembering the Morning Star
- 25 Follow Your Heart ...

FOR'S REVIEW COPY

Practice

FOR'S

The Value of a Christian Education

My father has a memory from his early childhood of the house he lived in being pulled down a country road in North Dakota by two large steam engines that were normally used to harvest the wheat. The dirt road was wet from rain and, at one point in the journey, was not able to hold the weight of the engines, which then sank into the mud. Finally after many hours, they were able to complete the task of moving the house to a new location.

Dad was too young to remember much about why the house was being moved, but later learned firsthand about his parents' commitment to Christian education. It so happened that the first farm that they homesteaded in North Dakota was too far from the church and school where the nine Bietz children could be educated, and so they found property closer to the school and moved the house.

Christian education was fundamental to the convictions of my grandfather and grandmother because they read a book by Ellen G. White that had recently been translated into German. The book was titled *Education*.

A Legacy of Sacrifice

While few people would pick up their house and move it so their children could be educated in a Seventh-day Adventist environment, I am inspired by the stories I've heard of students who have made similar sacrifices. One such story comes from the early days of Southern Adventist University's history, when the school was known as Graysville Academy.

Charles Francis Dart was forced to leave his home when he began keeping the Sabbath, and walked to Graysville from Georgia eating berries and nuts that grew along the road so he could obtain a Christian education at Graysville Academy. A lot has changed in the last 100 years, but one thing has not changed—there continue to be many students who sacrifice today to obtain a university education in a community of believers.

You may be asking why it matters whether or not someone is educated in a Christian environment. Research indicates that peers have the most powerful influence on the development of university-age students' faith. At Southern, students are surrounded by Christian friends who share similar values. The university's vision is that education is not just about being smart, but most importantly, it is about being saved. By providing an education for both the mind and soul, Southern connects students to the source of true wisdom.

Ellen White says, "Instead of educated weaklings, institutions of learning may send forth men strong to think and to act, men who are masters and not slaves of circumstances, men who possess breadth of mind, clearness of thought, and the courage of their convictions." *Mind, Character, and Personality*, Volume 1.

An Invitation for the Next Generation

March 19 has been designated as "Southern Adventist University Sabbath" here in the Southern Union. I'd like to invite you to take this opportunity to think about someone you know who would benefit from the kind of Christian environment Southern offers.

If a student wants a Seventh-day Adventist university experience, Southern is committed to doing everything we can to make that available and affordable. It's a valuable investment, with incalculable returns. Don't assume it is too expensive without at least calling (1.800.SOUTHERN) to see what scholarships, loans, and work might make it feasible for you, your child, or grandchild to invest in a Seventh-day Adventist University education.



Gordon Bietz
*Southern Adventist
University President*
Guest Editorial

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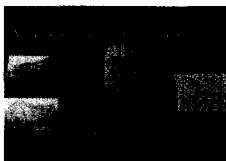
FEATURES



MANY COLLEGES, ONE GOAL 4



It's My Very Own 7



REMEMBERING THE MORNING STAR 21



"Follow Your Heart..." 25



No Fads... Just Facts! 26



THE NEW SMC 29

NEWS

- | | |
|----|-------------------------------|
| 8 | Carolina |
| 10 | Florida |
| 12 | Georgia-Cumberland |
| 14 | Gulf States |
| 16 | Kentucky-Tennessee |
| 18 | South Atlantic |
| 20 | South Central |
| 22 | Southeastern |
| 28 | Southern Adventist University |
| 30 | Southern Union News |
| 24 | Nondiscrimination Policy |
| 34 | Classified Advertising |
| 37 | Calendar |

Cover Caption: *Public high school graduate Natalia Lopez-Thismon probably would be attending a public college if Natalia's parents hadn't encouraged her to visit an Adventist campus. She is currently a junior mass communication major at Southern Adventist University, and vice president of the University's Latin American Club.*



MANY COLLEGES, ONE GOAL

How 14 Colleges are Reaching Out to Students Who Aren't
Attending Adventist Schools



“As Adventist public school students, we didn’t get much information from Adventist universities,” Natalia says. “None of our colleges made any effort to recruit me.”

Natalia was lucky, though. Because her parents had gone to an Adventist university, they were able to tell her about her options in Adventist higher education. Thousands of Adventist public school students aren’t so lucky. That is why the 14 accredited Adventist colleges in North America—including Southern Adventist University, Oakwood College, and Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences—are working together to create a broader awareness of Adventist college programs and majors among Seventh-day Adventist students who, like Natalia, are not attending Adventist high schools.

The colleges conducted focus groups on both sides of the country, as well as a nationwide survey, which revealed that a significant lack of awareness of the Adventist college options exists among students and parents, especially for those who aren’t currently enrolled in Adventist academies.

“We found that when Adventist young people attend an academy, they know a lot more about Adventist college options because of our annual college fair tour and frequent visits to those schools,” says Dawn McLendon, vice president for public relations at Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences.



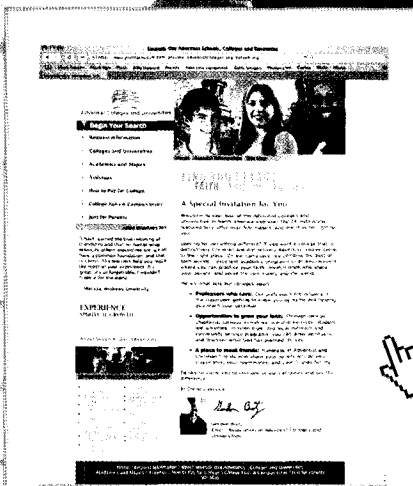
Students at Oakwood College gain wisdom not only from the teachers, but also from communication with God.

“But, often those who are in public high schools have little formal contact with any of our Adventist colleges. We want to help these students understand all of the Adventist options available.”

GETTING THE WORD OUT

The colleges have sent more than 40,000 pieces of direct mail in a coordinated effort to reach Adventist young people attending public high schools, home schools, or other private high schools. The letters invite young people to visit a web site and receive an eBrochure outlining Adventist college options. In addition to the letters, the colleges also sent emails and made personal phone calls. Nearly 2,000 young people responded to these contacts and asked for more information.

This same effort is being re-



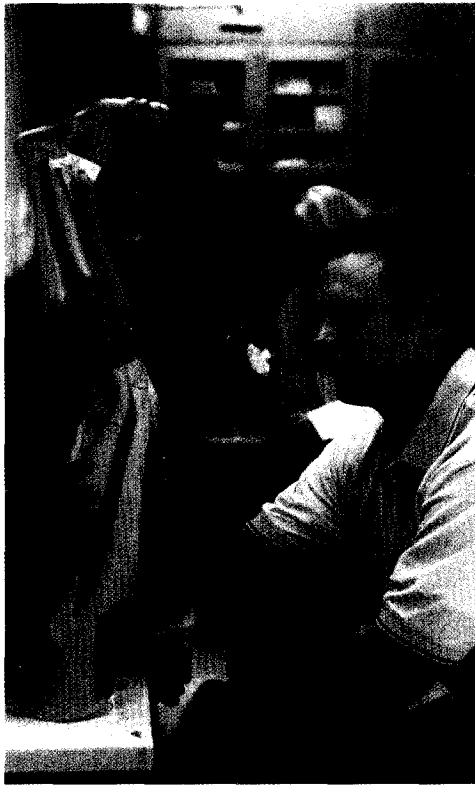
The Adventist college website (www.adventistcolleges.org) offers a comprehensive listing of majors and programs, both undergraduate and graduate, in 14 Adventist colleges and universities in North America. Information about campus visits, financial aid, and special events is also provided.

Public high school graduate Natalia Lopez-Thismon (cover photo) and her four best friends would probably be attending public colleges if Natalia’s parents hadn’t encouraged them to visit an Adventist campus.

“I attended Hialeah-Miami Lakes Senior High School. I made good grades, and my teachers there wanted me to go to a prominent school. Other universities promised me great scholarships,” Natalia reports.



Personal interaction with professors is one thing that sets Adventist colleges, like Southern Adventist University, apart from larger institutions.



Florida Hospital College students learn the wonders of the human body—and of its Creator.

peated this year with updated materials and with new names of sophomores, juniors, and seniors provided by church pastors and clerks around the country. A new web portal, www.adventistcolleges.org, also offers students and parents a central place to find answers about Adventist college options.

“Our Adventist colleges and universities have options for most of our Adventist young people,” says Jason McCracken, director of enrollment management at Oakwood College, “and this new approach gives us some improved and expanded ways to introduce these options to our Adventist students in high schools everywhere.”

“Together, we have new opportunities to talk with young people whom we haven’t reached before and who don’t know much, if anything, about us,” adds Vinita Sauder, chair of this initiative and vice president for marketing and enrollment services at Southern Adventist University. “We’re working collaboratively as a team of Adventist colleges to change that.”

THE ADVENTIST ADVANTAGE

The college research shows that Adventist colleges have unique values and opportunities that aren’t found elsewhere. One of the main things that students told the researchers was that Adventist colleges offer the faith factor, the ability to find friends, peers, mentors, and teachers who believe—and reinforce—a common faith. These students, whether they attended an Adventist high school or not, also felt Adventist colleges offered the chance to provide personal attention and meaningful interaction with professors that can’t be found at a public college or university. Additionally, all groups of Adventist students viewed Adventist colleges as having excellent academics.

This is what Natalia and her friends discovered during their visit to Southern Adventist University that helped them decide to attend an Adventist college. “We talked to professors who not only taught excellent programs, but connected with us on a personal level,” she says. “With all of us being public school students, the academic aspect was really important to us.”

Natalia is now a junior mass communication major and vice president of the University’s Latin American Club and just returned from being an exchange student in France. “It’s been a dream come true, and I’ve found a true home at Southern,” she says.

With this new initiative, it is the hope of every college and university involved that more students can make this connection with Adventist higher education and help their personal dreams come true.

Vinita Sauder is the vice president for marketing and enrollment services at Southern Adventist University, and Lori Fitcher is the University’s communications manager.



More than 40,000 letters were sent to Adventist young people attending public high schools, home schools, or other private high schools.

Working Together

Funding for this collaborative communication project is provided by the Association of Adventist Colleges and Universities, a consortium of the North American Division colleges and universities. Coordination and leadership for the project is provided by that group’s Adventist Enrollment Association, made up of the enrollment professionals at these colleges.

The 14 Adventist colleges and universities participating in this collaboration:

- Andrews University, Michigan
- Atlantic Union College, Massachusetts
- Canadian University College, Alberta, Canada
- Columbia Union College, Maryland
- Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences, Florida
- Kettering College of Medical Arts, Ohio
- La Sierra University, California
- Loma Linda University, California
- Oakwood College, Alabama
- Pacific Union College, California
- Southern Adventist University, Tennessee
- Southwestern Adventist University, Texas
- Union College, Nebraska
- Walla Walla University, Washington

To find out more, visit

www.adventistcolleges.org



It's My Very Own

BY JULIE VEGA

A small child cowers in the corner of a dark, dirty room as shouts and screams fill the air. Scary men with guns have just bashed in the locked door of the house, gaining entrance. Heavy footsteps accompanied by loud commands invade the house as Mom and Dad run into adjoining rooms, endeavoring to elude the inevitable. Pots filled with the devil's brew are on the kitchen stove in the process of being transformed into death and destruction.

The child is paralyzed with fear. Why is this happening? Cursing and shouting rise from the utter chaos. In the dark corner, little hands cover frightened eyes. It doesn't take long before Mommy and Daddy are being marched out of the house in handcuffs.

"Mommy! Daddy!" The screams rise above the chaotic trauma. Then all is quiet. Sobbing rocks the little frame. Fear grips the tiny body.

What will happen to me? The silent question arises from the blackness of the little mind. Then friendly footsteps accompanied by a friendly voice invade the darkness. "Come to me, little one," the kind voice invites. The words are soothing in spite of the terror. Wrapped in friendly arms, the child is whisked away to a strange room in a strange building, with strange people talking.

This picture plays itself out in countless cities and towns all over the land, but God hears the cry of the children. He also hears the prayer of Christians who asked, "What can we do?" Barbara Neher prayed that prayer, and God revealed a loving ministry to her. And now, this



Julie Vega with "Bags of Love" delivered to the Department of Children's Services.

God-given ministry has been multiplied. The ripple effect is beginning to mount up as waves on the ocean, reaching out to the emotional pain and suffering of His small children.

It's My Very Own, one of the varieties of small group ministries at Madison Campus church, has commenced. Bags of Love are being filled five times a month for children who have been ripped out of their homes by strangers with nothing familiar to hang on to. Each bag contains a hand made quilt, stuffed animals, personal items, and activities. There is a journal and pen for the teenagers, and a coloring book and crayons for the younger children. Age and gender appropriate items are packed with loving hands into a drawstring bag, a "Bag of Love." One volunteer has already made 33 quilts for this project. Others have donated hundreds of hours and hundreds of dollars for supplies.

The Department of Children's Services (DCS) of Davidson County informed the Madison Campus members that they anticipate the need for

50 "Bags of Love" each month. Can we begin to imagine how comforting this can be to a frightened child taken away from the familiar—no matter how bad—into a whole new unfamiliar world?

We are delighted with various community organizations coming together to help. The auxiliary at TCMC (Skyline Campus) is making pillows and bags for the project, and has granted a monetary gift to provide start-up funds for the project. Our local senior citizen organization has joined our endeavor by providing a number of filled bags.

Madison Campus church's "It's My Very Own" project is seeking donors for books, puzzles, toys, and age/gender-appropriate personal items. Dana Mosher heads the "It's My Very Own" committee, which includes Teresa Johnston, Cheryl Howell, Phyllis Rumsey, Jane Ziesmer, and Julie Vega, pastor.

This special ministry is an important arm of the Caring Connection Ministry, under the direction of Julie Vega. Caring Connection Ministry began last year as a vital part of the Madison Campus church's social work ministry, reaching out to the community. Other arms of Caring Connection are Celebrate Recovery, Spanish/English classes, Adopt-a-Grandparent program, and various small groups that spiritually and emotionally feed and nourish its church family.

"All around us are heard the wails of the world's sorrow. It is ours to aid in relieving and softening life's hardships and misery." *Christ's Object Lessons*, page 415.

Children Learn About Dinosaurs at Book Center



BECKY CARPENTER

Dinosaurs at the ACBC? How could this have happened? Dinosaurs have long been restricted to the realm of the evolutionists, an example for them of creatures that followed a dead-end path of evolution and then disappeared. So why are school children

going to the Adventist Christian Book Center to study them? Is the ACBC now promoting evolution?

A new book by Elaine Graham-Kennedy, Ph.D., a Seventh-day Adventist geologist, is behind this commotion. Her book, entitled *Dinosaurs: Where did they*

come from...and where did they go? is written from the perspective of a biblical creationist, and contains lots of information on dinosaurs that many Christians will find surprising.

As part of the promotional campaign for this book, the ACBC has hosted "dinosaur parties" for students from several Adventist schools. During their time at the ACBC—the children tour the bookstore, spend time listening to an employee read a story aloud, engage in coloring contests, word searches, and other educational activities; as well as assemble a three-dimensional dinosaur skeleton from wooden bones.

"The children really enjoyed listening to my reading," said Denise Rueda, ACBC employee. "You could tell that this was a topic they were really interested in learning more about."

"Some of the children already knew some things

about dinosaurs, but when they were putting together the dinosaur puzzle and finding the hidden bones, they got to pretend that they were really geologists. You could see their excitement," added another staff member.

As they departed, each class received a copy of Graham-Kennedy's book for their classroom so that they could learn more about dinosaurs. The winners of the coloring contests also received small dinosaur-themed toys. Every child received a balloon to remind them of an enjoyable time at the dinosaur party.

—BY NATHAN SWEIGART



BECKY CARPENTER

Academy Students Learn Christ's Way to Pray

The ninth and 10th grade students at Adventist Christian Academy in Charlotte, N.C., recently experienced prayer in a unique way.

Robert Crux, education superintendent for the Carolina Conference, led the students in a study of Philip Saaman's book, *Christ's Way to Pray*. Through the

study they learned the true meaning of prayer and



how to really pray using Christ's example.

Crux used the Adventist EDGE format, which teaches students practical ways to put what they've learned into practice. So, the young people not only newly understood the context of prayer, but were now able to apply it to their individual lives.

With personal testimonies and interesting stories that greatly touched the students, Crux became a powerful prayer model in their lives while at the school.

"Mr. Crux helped us to see Jesus in a very real way. I want Jesus to be a part of my life every day," commented one student.

—BY LAWANNA MCCOY

Churches Reconnect with Inactive Members



JADE IRENE MEYER

During the weekend of January 10, more than 200 people gathered at a Nosoca Pines Ranch to pray, plan, and prepare for increased connecting with the inactive members in the communities. Throughout the weekend participants were asked to write down the names of people they had not seen in church for quite some time. One woman generated a list of more than 110. Potentially there are more than 35,000 inactive Adventists in the two-state Conference.

At the invitation of Jim Davidson, Conference president, two or three representatives from the majority of congregations were there to lay plans for what they would do as a team once they returned home. There was excitement in the air as they reported to the entire group what they would be doing by God's grace. These same teams will reconvene in September to share what has been accomplished to

effectively reconnect in nine month's time. Ideally, they will learn from each other how to overcome obstacles in the process of reclaiming individuals for Christ. The weekend presentations were videotaped, and copies were provided to train absent team members.



Paul Richardson, director of the Center for Creative Ministries, provided instruction and inspiration for this essential ministry.

The weekend of prayer and planning has already produced results. Following is a story from one of the Carolina Conference pastors, Bob Fekete.

"Today, I was used in a miracle. As I headed out this afternoon on a few visits, I stopped at the church to grab a few of the latest Signs magazines. Then I stopped at a gas station. On the other side of the pump was a middle-aged

man eyeing my Ford Focus hatchback. When I got out he said, 'How many miles do you get per gallon?'

"I said, 'Around 32, how about yours?' I then asked, 'Are you a Christian?'

"Yes.'

"Good,' I said, 'I have something for you.' I gave him a copy of Signs. 'Have you ever heard of Seventh-day Adventists?'

"The person riding with me is one.'

"Surprised, I asked, 'What did you say?'

"The person riding with me is a Seventh-day Adventist. I am a Baptist, and her husband has come to church with her children. She doesn't go to any church. She is what I would call a backslider.'

"I knew the Lord was 'reconnecting' with this woman. "I asked where they were from. He replied, 'Myrtle Beach.' (I knew they had come from Myrtle Beach to my gas station in Camden to meet me by divine providence.) When she

emerged from the convenience store, the man said to her, 'This man wants to meet you. He's a Seventh-day Adventist pastor.'

"I greeted her and handed her a Signs. She said, 'Oh, Signs of the Times. I know that. We saw a big sign to your church.'

"Oh, that was a sign to our camp at Liberty Hill,' I replied.

"That's right, Liberty Hill. I used to play in the tree houses in Florida at Camp Ka...Ka...Laqua (we said it together).' She explained that her last visit there was more than 20 years ago, and inquired about how much the camp costs now. She seemed quite interested.

"We parted with, 'Glad to meet you,' from both of us. I added, 'God bless you.'

"I should have added one more line: 'We would not have been meeting today if wasn't for the Lord. This is His doing.'"

—BY JOHN SWEIGART

Orchestra Brings New Life to Sabbath School

Senior Sabbath school leaders in Umatilla, Fla., rejoice in an upstart ministry that helps solve the age-old challenge of getting members to church on time. The answer came September, 2006, through a new orchestra that brings fresh meaning to the children's tune, "I love to go to Sabbath school. I love to sing the songs."

Accompanying those songs, beginning each Sabbath morning at 9:15 sharp, are musicians ranging in age from 5 to 81 who



The Sabbath school orchestra at the Umatilla, Fla., church

responded to the "no age limit" call. The orchestra's only octogenarian, who

hadn't played his violin in more than 60 years, now tries to practice several

hours every day. He is determined to contribute only sweet-sounding notes to the growing group that is now composed of more than a dozen members.

Joy of music has truly added renewed vitality to church ministry in Umatilla. People who previously only attended the 11 o'clock service, now arrive at 9:15 to sing and play with the orchestra that has brought new life to Sabbath school.

—BY ALBERT AND ELAINE ELLIS

Lauderhill Church Grows Through Lay Evangelism

Forty-two individuals were baptized into the Lauderhill, Fla., church during November, 2006, meetings conducted by George Williams, evangelist, from the Central Jamaica Conference. Another 112 interests continue to study.

Preparations for the reaping campaign began in May, 2006 when Oswald Ramsay, Lauderhill's lay evangelism coordinator, organized 10 small group ministries. When the meetings began six months later, most visitors in attendance came as a result of invitations from members who studied the Bible with them in home group settings. No Bible workers were employed.

Those baptized were immediately placed in the Training Light Bearers class to learn witnessing skills. Subsequently, they joined the 10 small group minis-

tries and began witnessing to family and friends.

"Lauderhill members have come to the realization that evangelism is not an event, but a process," says Burnett Robinson, church pastor, who is making a paradigm shift in church growth strategies. "Evangelism is for all seasons in a congregation that continues to grow according to the Apostolic model."

Lauderhill's goal in the next five years is to increase membership by 50 percent and to plant a new congregation, adding to the four churches that have already spawned from Lauderhill: Ambassador, Eliathah, Royal Palm, and Sunrise.

"This church has not gone on birth control nor reached the place where she has ceased giving new birth," says Robinson.

—BY OSWALD RAMSAY



An exuberant Clive Williams (top and middle), whose brother, George, conducted the evangelism series, was baptized by Garfield Blake, associate pastor, and joined by Burnett Robinson, pastor. Among 41 other individuals baptized on this day was Monica Bryan (bottom), a former licensed, credentialed minister of the Apostolic Church of God.

Ewings Celebrate 50th Anniversary

Ralph and Ruby Ewing celebrated 50 years of marriage on December 22, 2006, at the Walker Memorial Church in Avon Park, Fla.

Clearwater Church Views City as Congregation

"The city of Clearwater, Fla., is our congregation, and we are its ministers," states Steve Adessa, pastor. This message is put into practice as the Clearwater church reaches out to its 105,000-member "congregation" through patriotic programs and by helping those in need.

On September 11, 2006, Adventist members and members of the church that rents the facility on Sunday shared in a commemorative service. Both pastors officiated as its members prayed for community leaders, law enforcement officers, and fire fighters.

Church elders Captain Calvin Dennie from the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office and Chief Leland Greek, the Emergency Medical Services training coordinator for the City of Seminole, were in full dress uniform as they spoke to



Veteran's Day Service honorees: Al Gropper (front row, left), Dominick Papparatto, Ernie Sylvester, Primo Marrietti, Paul Bishop, Dorothy Ebanks, and Kelly Peckham; Richard Breedlove (back row, left), Jack Mattox, Myrtha Chery, Clifford DeGuzman, Jose Ferrer, and Charles Hynson.

the audience, which included visitors and officials from Pinellas County.

Other outreach activities of the Clearwater church have included:

- Pathfinders sharing copies of *Broken Chains* by Doug Batchelor as they collected food for the needy.

- Honoring veterans from five branches of the military on Veterans Day. Tampa First member Col. Ernie Sylvester, a MEDEVAC pilot who served in Vietnam, was the featured speaker.
- Holding a fall festival with free car washes,

games, and food that influenced two non-Adventist children from the neighborhood to join Pathfinders.

The church facility is also used in the following ways to reach out in the community:

- Polling location for elections,
- Food pantry,
- Thrift store,
- Sewing Room where quilted lap robes are made for disabled veterans, and
- Heliport for rescue craft to land and pick up critically injured patients from an ambulance.

For 2007, the Clearwater church has plans to continue its ministry to their "special congregation" of 105,000 members.

—BY JOY HUNTER

Kendall Church Member Celebrates 101 Years



Constansa Jeffers turned 101 on December 23, 2006.

Constansa (Duggins) Jeffers was born December 23, 1905, on the island of

St. Kitts, West Indies. This gentle housewife taught her children, Arthur, Viola, and Edith, to love the Lord in their youth.

Following the death of her husband, Don, Constansa moved to Miami, Fla., to live with her daughter, Edith Tatem. Here, she embraced the Advent message and became a faithful member of the Kendall church when Carlton Anderson served as pastor.

In December, 2005, Kendall church members

celebrated Constansa's 100th birthday and cheered as she blew out the candles. Many of her 20 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, and eight great-great-grandchildren were present.

Though unable to attend church services as before, Constansa delights in frequent visits from her caring church family and looks forward to participating in the quarterly communion service brought to her home.

Today, the 101-year-old still reads without glasses and loves to sing hymns she has committed to memory. She also discusses past events with accuracy and clarity.

"We admire Sister Jeffers for her gentle, quiet, and happy spirit," her church friends testify. "Constansa's faith in the soon return of Jesus is a tower of strength to us all."

—BY JEAN AND MAVIS RICHARDS

New Members Share Testimonies at Retreat

This year's annual New Members' Retreat took place on the weekend of January 19-21, at the Cohutta Springs Conference Center. The retreat provided a chance for those recently

baptized as Seventh-day Adventists to become acquainted with the local Conference leaders and share testimonies. After lunch on Sabbath, Ed Wright, Conference president, held a casual meeting to connect with those who came by hearing how they learned about the Seventh-day Adventist Church and what brought them to the decision to become members.

One

couple, David and Robbie Heaton, shared their journey from their position as youth ministries leaders in their Baptist church. As they studied the Bible, they found that their church "didn't add up," so they continued to study and search for answers. They found what they were looking for listening to Doug Batchelor speak and by way of the *Amazing Facts* Bible study series.

"It was very hard to leave that, but once you start understanding the truth, you want to share it with someone. It really does feel like a fire inside, and we started sharing what we had learned, and the

more we shared, the angrier our friends would get. It eventually got to be so difficult, we had to leave," said David.

"We decided we were going to make this journey one way or another and stuck with it. Now we have a church family that supports us, and we're trying to work things out with some of the relationships that were damaged," said Robbie.

The Heatons and their three boys are now members of the Cedartown, Ga., church. This was just one family's story out of the 200 new members who attended the weekend retreat.

—BY BRIAN YOUNG



Nearly 200 new members of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference came together for the annual New Member Retreat.

Coble Elementary Students Awarded at GCA Science Fair

Young, future-Isaac Newtons buzzed around the gym of Georgia-Cumberland Academy in Calhoun, Ga., on Sunday, January 21, at a Conference-wide Science Fair for Adventist schools. Middle-school students from John L. Coble Elementary in Calhoun proudly showed visitors and other entrants their colorful display boards which featured pictures, graphs, and documentation of the weeks of research and experimentation. Project subjects ranged from using magnets to find iron content in breakfast cereals, to measuring the energy collected in solar panels.

Educators from Gordon County schools served as judges for the fair as they

evaluated and scored the displays. They focused on what the student did in the current year, how well he/she followed the scientific methodologies, the detail and accuracy of research as documented in the data book, and whether experimental procedures were used in the best possible way.

The judges applauded students who could speak freely and confidently about their research, showing that they had a good grasp of the project from start to finish. The judges often asked questions outside the normal scope, such as "What didn't you do?" and "What would be your next step?" to test the student's insight

into their research.

Coble students Molly Theus, Edison Carrick, and Sarah Theus were respectively awarded the first place prizes in biology, physics, and chemistry for the 7th and 8th grade level.

All participants were awarded a t-shirt and medallion. Winners of the competition were awarded scholarships to Georgia-Cumberland Academy, the sponsor of the competition.

—BY BARBARA MITTLEIDER



Edison Carrick stands with his project in which he concluded that 9:00 a.m. is the best time of the day to use a solar panel.

Church 152 Organizes in Alpharetta

The Alpharetta, Ga., mission group was officially organized into the Alpharetta Seventh-day Adventist church on Sabbath, December 16, 2006. One hundred fifty people gathered as 56 individuals requested to become charter members of the 152nd church

of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference. Stan Patterson, Conference vice president for pastoral ministries/evangelism officiated; Kevin Costello, vice president for finance/treasurer presented the call for the offering; and Mitch Haze-kamp, association/trust services director offered the benediction. Paul Hoover, ministerial director for the central region of the Conference, delivered the Sab-



Fifty-six people signed the charter membership list for the new Alpharetta church at the organization ceremony held only 18 months after the group first began meeting.

bath sermon in which he encouraged the new church to stay focused on its mission of leading men and women into a saving relationship with Jesus Christ.

The church began with a group of seven individuals meeting in homes each Sabbath for study, planning, and worship. On Sabbath, June 10, 2005, under the sponsorship of the Atlanta North church in Dunwoody, Ga., the group held its first public worship service at a rented church chapel in downtown Alpharetta.

From that day, the guidance and leadership of the Holy Spirit in the Alpharetta church plant has been obvious. Within a year, a stunning, new church facility was secured for long-term rental, a successful com-

munity health fair was held, Denver Cavins became the group's regular Sabbath speaker, a Conference evangelist held a five-week evangelistic effort, and Rusty Williams was appointed full-time pastor in December, 2006. During this time, the church has experienced steady growth in attendance, membership requests, and giving, meeting all of the Conference's requirements for becoming a full church only 18 months since holding its first public worship service.

“To go from a mission group to a full church, skipping company status—and in a year and a half—is very rare in our denomination, and is a testimony to God's leading in this effort,” said Rick Mosley, one of the founders and leaders of the Alpharetta church.

“It has been exciting to see God's hand move in planting a church in this much-needed area,” said Rusty Williams, pastor.

The group is excited about the future, with the possibilities and challenges alike. Organizing the church with its officers and ministry leaders, finding land and building a church home, and discovering God's plan for reaching a very affluent community are but a

few of the tasks ahead for the new Alpharetta church.

“The birth of a church, like the birth of a child, really is a miracle,” said charter member Nelson Fontaine, “and it's humbling to think how God will use this church in the last days.”

Please pray for the members in Alpharetta as they strive together with Jesus Christ to build a church that will bring honor and glory to their Father in Heaven.

—BY NELSON FONTAINE

Lands Celebrate 60th Wedding Anniversary



James and Robbie Lee Land

James and Robbie Lee Land celebrated 60 years of marriage, December 28, 2006.

They met when James' mother attended evangelistic meetings in Albany, Ga., and joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1932. Robbie Lee and her family were already members at the small Albany church. Then both families moved, and their paths parted for 13 years. However, the families stayed in touch, and the couple got together when James went into the Army Air Corps in 1944. They were married in 1946.

James and Robbie Lee have four sons: Don, Charles, Bobby, and Fred; 13 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

They both have been active in the Church and were instrumental in starting the Conyers, Ga., church, which has 380 members. They love the Lord, His Church, their family, and helping God's people when they can.

Students Participate in Mission Emphasis Weekend



More than 50 care packages were prepared to mail to student missionaries.

Bass Memorial Academy held its annual Mission Emphasis Weekend on January 18, for the 50th straight year. Each January,

the Academy dedicates one Sabbath to focusing specifically on missions and student missionaries.

To set the mood, the afternoon commenced with an international food fair where students and church members sampled a variety of cuisines from many different countries.

After the food was

cleared away, students and church members brought out special treats they had purchased or collected to fill care packages which

were bound for a number of islands and continents around the globe.

Two kinds of things went into the boxes: items meant for the missionary personally, and items for the missionary to share with those they work with. A box may include toothpaste, magic markers, balloons, and sauce packets from Taco Bell. The one consistent item included in every package was a written message of greeting and encouragement from the volunteers who helped pack the box, or a card with a scripture and a dozen signatures. Other volunteers wrote entire pages. But, no box was closed without an encouraging word from home. More than 50 boxes were prepared to mail to student missionaries serving around

the world.

Yearly, the missions department at Southern Adventist University provides a list of student missionaries currently serving in the mission fields. They also assist with boxes, customs forms, postage, and guidance in preparing the packages. Ironically, with a package being sent overseas, the postage and paperwork involved in sending the box often outweighs the actual dollar value of its contents. But, the true worth of the package has little to do with money. After the boxes are weighed and sealed, a prayer is offered asking God's blessings for the student missionary receiving each box and for the lives of those they will touch.

—BY KIM TWOMLEY

Selma Women Bring Friends to Autumn Renewal

Though small in number, the women of First church in Selma, Ala., are enthusiastic about women's ministries. As an outreach ministry, the women work on projects each year to raise money to bring one or more women who are not members of the Church, to the women's ministries autumn renewal with all expenses paid. The goal is to introduce these friends to Christ.

In November, 2006, the women brought two guests with them. In addition, all

but one of the women who regularly come to church attended the retreat.

According to the women, this is an excellent opportunity to build friendships with other women in the Church and to witness to the guests in a fun, inspirational, and non-threatening environment. The goal for this year is to raise enough money to pay for three friends to attend.

—BY KATHY MARSH/
REBECCA GRICE



Kathy Marsh (left), Taffy Bobart, Ann Page, Becky Johnson, Angie Greenawalt, Jessie Dosier, and Darlene Smyly raised enough money to sponsor two non-Adventist women to attend the autumn renewal.

Pathfinders Witness with Live Nativity



AMY MURPHREE

Presenting a live nativity scene has become a tradition for the Birmingham First church Pathfinders.

The First church in Birmingham, Ala., has the perfect location for depicting the birth of Christ. Lorna Road, where the church is located, is a very busy, five-lane road, and the traffic is

especially heavy as holiday shoppers make their way to and from the nearby Galleria Mall.

Evelyn Georgeson was impressed to start the live nativity more than 18

years ago. She made all the costumes which are still being used, with a few new pieces added over the years.

Six years ago, the Pathfinders wanted to do something special for the Christmas holidays in conjunction with the church's Christmas party. That is when the staff and children decided to take on the sponsorship of the live nativity. Now, not only do Pathfinders volunteer as characters, but Pathfinder parents and other members also help. On one occasion, the children of a family of onlookers asked if they could dress up as characters. The Pathfinder leaders were thrilled, and the children were immedi-

ately added to the cast.

Some people stop to take a few moments to reflect on the nativity, others slow down as they drive by. It is common to hear horns honk as if to say, "thanks."

When spectators stop they are invited to come in for refreshments and to participate in caroling, games, and festivities.

The event reflects the real meaning of Christmas, and those who help hope it touches and blesses many hearts in the community.

The live nativity usually takes place on the second Saturday night of December, in various weather conditions.

—BY DEB GORECKI

Pensacola Holds Religious Liberty Forum



Lincoln Steed, *Liberty* magazine editor, spoke to a Pensacola, Fla., audience at the University Parkway church on January 19 and 20. Steed described current political developments affecting our religious freedom, "Americans think this country is an exception in a world where religious liberty is under attack in many places, but our testing time

might be coming sooner than we think."

As associate director of public affairs and religious liberty for the North American Division, Steed travels frequently to troubled areas and meets with government officials to promote religious liberty. *Liberty* magazine is currently circulated to 200,000 political leaders, judiciary, lawyers, and other thought leaders.

"Though signs point to the coming trouble in this country, today, as in Paul's time," Steed maintained; "Our freedom to witness our religious faith to others is something we have which cannot be restrained." Quoting from Acts 21, Steed noted that Paul

went to Jerusalem, even though he was warned that if he did so, he would be headed to a conflict and would be bound. His inspiring example demonstrates that we cannot let the dynamic of repression determine our behavior.

Steed, who was born in Australia, described ongoing persecution of Adventists in various countries he has visited. In Sri Lanka, Anthony Alexander, pastor, was jailed for two years, accused of terrorism. While in prison, he witnessed to Buddhist and Hindu inmates, and before he was released, there were 60 inmates meeting every Sabbath.

"Since 9-11, we have been faced with a global re-

surgence of violent Islam," noted Steed. "Americans are energized to engage this threat, which," Steed feels, "will serve as the catalyst for Protestants to obtain government power. Pope Benedict XVI, in the meantime, is portraying the Roman Catholic faith as safe, nonviolent, and rational. Religion is a huge factor in world affairs now, and Islam will facilitate the alliance of Protestant groups with Rome," according to Steed.

"Religious liberty is important, but can't win as a lobby, acknowledged Steed. We need to speak out now to provide opportunity for further witness."

—BY GLENDA HASS

Business with a Purpose



Steve Dickman (left) and Richard Hallock welcome attendees.

Steve Dickman, Southern Union chapter president; and Richard Hallock, Conference president, welcomed more than 225 people to Cedarvine Manor Conference Center in Lebanon, Tenn., for an Adventist-Laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) rally on Sabbath, January 20. The purpose of the meeting was to build awareness of the mission of ASI and to promote attendance at the National ASI Conven-

tion, which will be held this year in Louisville, Ky., August 1-4.

Ron Christman, ASI secretary-treasurer, shared a brief presentation titled "HimPowering Your Business." Terry Moreland, a business owner from Bakersfield, Calif., and Henry Martin, former Mercedes-Benz dealer from Grants Pass, Oreg., and ASI past-president, shared personal testimonies about how God has used them and their businesses to lead others to Christ. Brothers of Nashville men's choral group, performed a mini-concert.



Henry Martin

ASI is the organization of Seventh-day Adventist laypersons involved in professions, industry, education, and/or services, which exists to provide challenge, nurture, and experience in "Sharing Christ

in the Marketplace," as well as in supporting the global mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The ASI philosophy promotes a Christ-centered lifestyle, manifested by a



Brothers of Nashville choral group perform a mini concert

commitment to be in daily partnership with God. Its members seek to live God's love in their lives and share that love with the millions of people they encounter in their business and professional activities each year—hence the motto, Sharing Christ in the Marketplace. For more information, visit www.asiministries.org

—BY MARVIN LOWMAN

Investment Project Merits Amazing Results

In many churches, Investment is no longer heavily promoted. Such is not the case for the Hendersonville, Tenn., church, under the Investment leadership of Clara Hansen.

Hansen established a project to raise money for Investment. She cut out little aprons from fabric, glued a pocket on the front of the apron, and had a little tape measure for the waistband. Then she wrote a poem that was put into the pocket:

'06 Investment Plan will soon end.

With this apron our total we'll mend.

A tapeline will measure

your waist.

Give a dime for each inch of good taste.

But, if you really don't want to tell,

Five dollars will do very well!

Your answer the pocket will hold.

Our waists are worth dollars untold.

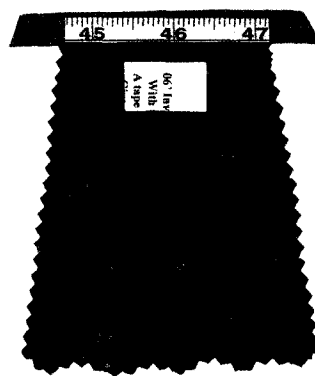
The aprons were given to each Sabbath school member on December 2, with the instructions to eat heartily and measure their waists after the holidays. Hansen even had a tape measure and offered to measure anyone who cared to have his or her waist measured. The Investment

monies for the month of December totaled \$214.61. The church members also collected UPC labels from Worthington, Loma Linda, and MorningStar Farms products totaling \$43.60. The total Investment offering, including the label money, amounted to \$333.32.

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—BY CLARA HANSEN



Highland Academy Alumni Weekend

April 6-7, 2007

Special Honor Classes
1947, 1957, 1982, 1997

Ham Radio Operator Honored

Julie Brude from the Adventist Amateur Radio Association, a worldwide network of Seventh-day Adventist ham radio operators, presented Paul Anderson, N4BHO, with the Don Neufeld Award on Sabbath, October 14, 2006.



Julie Brude presents Paul Anderson with the Don Neufeld Award

This award is presented to Adventist amateur radio operators who have made a significant contribution to the cause of Adventist amateur radio. Paul and Elizabeth Anderson's daughter from North Carolina, a sister from Alabama, and other family members were present at the Hendersonville, Tenn., church for the service.

Anderson is active in the Red Cross organization

in Nashville, particularly during disasters, by directing traffic.

Ham radio is included as an important function of emergency communication and coordination of activities, especially when phone lines and cell towers are down.

Anderson was first licensed as an amateur radio

operator in 1952 as WAZLV. In 1991, he wrote that as a result of his ham radio hobby, he had baptized four people into the Church. In 1996, Anderson became secretary of the Adventist Amateur Radio Association and served as secretary-treasurer from 2000-2005.

As secretary, he spent hundreds and hundreds of hours trying to update the AARA records with members' addresses and email addresses. Anderson earned the respect of all involved by the way he ran the treasury.

Anderson has served in leadership roles of ham radio clubs in the Nashville,

Tenn., area (including president, 2000-2001), and has been active in other ham radio clubs in areas where he lived.

Paul Anderson is up most mornings at 4:30 a.m., turning on his ham radio to give Bible studies to other amateur radio operators. He said one of his objectives of being active in ham radio clubs was to help people know about Jesus.

Anderson retired from pastoral work 11 years ago. He served in the Gulf States, Kentucky-Tennessee, Georgia-Cumberland, Iowa, and Carolina conferences. Currently, the Andersons are continuing their sharing, caring, and helpfulness in the Hendersonville church.

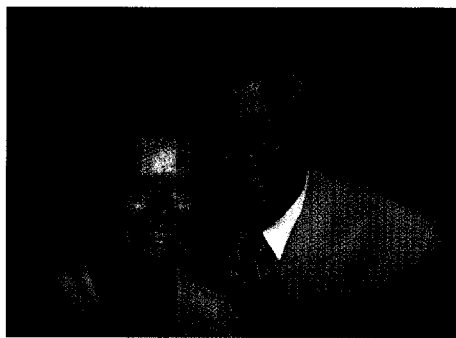
—BY CLARA HANSEN

Hendersons Celebrate 50 Years of Marriage

Norman and Barbara Henderson celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary by flying to San Diego, Calif., and spending several days at the Bahia Resort on Mission Bay—the same place they spent their honeymoon 50 years ago.

Barbara Jones Henderson graduated from the school of nursing at Glendale Adventist Hospital on Sunday, November 11, 1956, and they were married in Oxnard, Calif., on November 13, 1956. While in California, Bar-

bara attended her 50th class reunion at the Glendale Adventist Hospital.



Barbara and Norman Henderson

They spent two years in the United States Air Force at Vandenberg AFB, Calif., from 1957-1959. They were

privileged to experience the first six firings of the Atlas Missiles from the base.

In 1959, they heeded God's call to Lawrenceburg, Tenn., where Norman practiced family medicine for 41 years until his retirement in 2000.

The Hendersons were blessed with five children: Cindy Brown of Nashville, Tenn., RN at Vanderbilt Medical Center; Linda Terrill of Orlando, Fla., RN at Florida Hospital; Teri Bailie of Turlock, Ga., dental hygiene; Mark Henderson of Nashville, M.B.A. in surgical

sales; and Scott Henderson, of Aurora, Colo., D.D.S.; and they are blessed with 14 grandchildren.

The Hendersons have been involved in church activities as elder, leaders in children's divisions, choir director, and building committee chairman.

Norman currently serves on the association and executive committees for the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference. He has also been heavily involved with the Kentucky-Tennessee Business & Professional Foundation, serving as its president on several occasions.

McClellanville Burns Mortgage in Record Time



Pictured are Willie Brown (left); Ann Whiteside, church clerk; Herbert Whiteside, head elder; Johanna White-Brown; and Willie Dupree, pastor.

The McClellanville church, in McClellanville, S.C., are praising God for His blessings to help the members pay for its church

in 10 years.

The church had a humble beginning when Johanna White-Brown was baptized in 1936. She remained the only Adventist in the community for years until she was joined by her son, daughter, and sister.

In 1985, Herbert Whiteside, head elder, pushed for a church to be established in McClellanville. The group was organized into a company in 1989 under the leadership of Phillip M. Florence, pastor. For 10 years the members worshipped in a school and then

a home until they built the church. On December 9, 2006, the members celebrated with a mortgage burning ceremony.

The celebration started Friday evening with Dante Tobias, former pastor, presenting the sermon.

On Sabbath, Calvin Watkins, Sr., personal ministries director for South Atlantic, was the keynote speaker.

After the worship service, the members gathered in the fellowship hall for dinner.



Willie Dupree burns the replica of the mortgage as Calvin Watkins, Sr. (right), and other church members look on.

If you ask how these members accomplished this task they will tell you, "with prayer and unity."

—BY ANN M. WHITESIDE

Whiteville Church Hosts Mega Weekend

Mega Weekend was the successful brain-child of Everton Ennis, pastor of Praise Tabernacle church in Whiteville, N.C.

During the weekend of June 23-25, 2006, Praise Tabernacle's church members enjoyed three days of bonding. The theme for the weekend was "Going Forward in God's Power," and it began with an Agape Feast on Friday night, complete with various kinds of fruit, breads, and soups. All the tables were in the form of a unified cross, and the spiritual food was a vibrant sermonette by Ennis. Testimonies followed, and a special unity was felt, observed one church member.

On Sabbath, services were held at the same venue with a rousing church service, afternoon potluck, and a town hall meeting where questions

could be asked of the church leadership. Youth ministries presented a skit to conclude the second day of the weekend. The skit's theme was about the latter days and asked the question, "Are we driving the Holy Spirit away?"

One of the reasons for the Mega Weekend was to refocus attention on outreach in the form of ministries, and thus reach out to the Whiteville and surrounding communities to meet its needs. On the final day of the weekend, a workshop describing various ministries was presented, and the members were impressed to volunteer their help in the various ministries. An enlightening test on temperament and personality, the DISC Survey, was given to each member to aid them in knowing themselves better, how to

perform the ministry they want to participate in, and how to relate to others.

After the workshop, the members gathered

at the future site of the school and church for a clean-up day. Smiles were seen, as they surveyed the work they accomplished.

There is ongoing outreach in Whiteville, such as a radio ministry held every Sabbath; "Morning Praise," led by Leon Verrett, local elder; a Sabbath morning literature outreach at the local Whiteville Flea Market; and an active youth program. However, Mega Weekend



Members of the Whiteville church enjoy fellowship during the Mega Weekend.

emphasized ministry—attending to the needs of those in the community as an effort to evangelize the community, including offering future services to the area at the nearly completed school site. Renewal and rededication was accomplished. "I'm excited about the new emphasis, and I'm ready to serve," summarized one church member.

—BY CHARLOTTE VERRETT

South Atlantic Honors Retirees

The pastors, principals, and support staff of South Atlantic met at the Marriott Hotel in Augusta, Ga., for its workers' meeting and principals' council meeting in January.

Inspirational devotional and seminars were presented by Freddie Russell, Alex Royes, and Stephen Ruff.

The highlight of the

meeting was the awards banquet. Ward Sumpter, executive secretary for the Southern Union Conference, and his wife, Mary, served as master and mistress of ceremonies. The banquet is held to recognize the pastors for their hard work in the area of evangelism and to give recognition to those who have recently retired.

King Solomon

Smallwood, pastor, was one of the retirees honored for 42 years of service in the Gospel ministry. Smallwood pastored churches in Georgia, Ohio, North Carolina, South Carolina, and also served as the executive secretary for the Allegh-

eny West Conference.

Three educators were honored as well. Leola Wade was recognized for 35 years of service at Berean Junior Academy and Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy (GAAA). Wade served 31 years as an English instructor and four years as the principal at GAAA.

Geraldine Horton was honored for 12 years of service, and Juanita Grier for eight years of service.

South Atlantic pastors reported more than 1,200 baptisms for 2006. Juan Reyes reported 70 baptisms; Gregory Saunders, 80; John Boston, 80; and Carlton Byrd, 130.

South Atlantic also



Pennie Lister-Smith (right), Conference vice president for education, presented Leola Wade, retired principal from GAAA, with a plaque and a gift.



Vanard Mendinghall (right), Conference president, presented King S. Smallwood a token of congratulations for 42 years of denominational service.

recently hired four new pastors: Stephen Ruff, assigned to Atlanta New Jerusalem and Newnan, Ga., churches; Prince Lewis, Rocky Mount and Wilson, N.C., churches; Jason Scott, Laurinburg and Southern Pines, N.C., churches; and Donavan Washington, Goldsboro, and LaGrange, N.C., churches.

—BY JAMES K. LAMB

Atlanta Pathfinders Participate in King Celebration



The Berean Crusaders' color guard, followed by the drum corp, led the way in the Martin Luther King, Jr., parade.

Color guards from the Berean, Decatur, and Lithonia Pathfinder clubs were given the honor of posting colors at the 21st anniversary of the national Martin Luther King Jr., holiday celebration at the Ebenezer Baptist church in Atlanta,

Ga. Ten Pathfinders posted colors inside the sanctuary of the church. Among the attendees were Mayor Shirley Franklin, Yolanda King, Martin Luther King, III, congressional leaders, lawmakers, and leaders from around the world.

Dressed in class-A uniforms, the young Pathfinders made an excellent witness as to how participating in Pathfinders plays a positive role in the lives of Adventist youth.

"When I was walking in the church, it was like walking back in time. I imagined Dr. King preaching a sermon," said Toshia Jackson, one of the color guard for the event. Toshia is a member of the Berean Crusaders Pathfinder club.

After the ceremony ended, more than 100 Pathfinders, Adventurers, and staff from the north Georgia Federation, marched the three-mile parade route through downtown Atlanta.

Led by the youth ministries director for the Conference, the group kept in step as the drum corp members sounded out cadence. The parade ended at the Ebenezer Baptist church on Auburn Avenue.

On the following Sabbath, the Berean Crusaders held an investiture service and inducted 40 new members into the club. Director Tonya Spann noted that this was one of the largest numbers of inductees in the Conference. Last year, only 40 youth were inducted from the north Georgia territory.

—BY ROBERT W. JOHNSON

Oakwood College Church Honors its Centenarians and Nonagenarians



Garland Millet, 93 (front row, left); Dorothy McCloud, 93; Inez Booth, 93; Esther Washington, 93; Juliette Wise, 91; Jessie G. Bradley, program coordinator (back row, left); Alice Brantley, 92; Archie Bayless, 100; Jeanette Jackson, 93; Benjamin Abney, 91; Albert E. Johnson, 92; Beryl Carrington, 101; Ernest E. Rogers, 90; Justin Hamer, 92; and Rosa Moore, 92. Members unavailable for the photo: Fannie Jacobs, 92; Lawrence Jacobs, 95; Hazel Mayes, 94; Ursula Millet, 90; Ruth Stafford, 98; Rosella Washington, 94; Selena Chandler, 92; and Roberta Fields, 90.

The Oakwood College church honored all its members who are now more than 100 years of age and those who are in their 90s on Sabbath, November 11, 2006. One is 101, one is 100, and 20 are in their 90s. Most attend church and Sabbath school regularly, though some are shut-in. For this special service, several were participants, leading song service, praying, reading Scriptures, teaching a class, announcing hymns, and presenting the children's story.

A special lunch was provided for honorees and their family members. Jessie G. Bradley, centenarian-nonagenarian committee chairperson, praised these members for the many years of service to the cause of Christ, His church, and His children. Craig

Newborn, pastor, praised Bradley and her committee for this worthy project, and praised the Lord for the blessings He has given the church through these dedicated members. Public officials and church leaders, including the presidents of the General Conference, North American Division, Southern Union, South Central Conference, the governor of Alabama, U.S. Senator Sessions, Huntsville Mayor Spencer,

and the City Council, issued certificates, proclamations, letters, and statements of honor. They all praised the honorees for service to the church and the community.

A Huntsville Times

reporter and photographer

were present to cover the historic event and share the secrets of an abundant life, NEWSTART, with the total community.

—BY CLARENCE E. HODGES



Archie Bayless, 100, led the Sabbath school songs



Beryl Carrington, 101, led divine worship prayer

REMEMBERING THE MORNING STAR

BY LAUCLIN FIELDS

A piece of Vicksburg history was unveiled Friday, January 19, when a small group gathered to dedicate a marker at the former Morning Star Seventh-day Adventist church site.

"This is one of the building blocks that made Vicksburg special," said Mayor Laurence Leyens about the church on Fayette Street that has had a presence in the city for the past 112 years. "I am impressed how you have captured the history so future generations can know where we came from."

The marker, which has historical photographs and a brief history, commemorates the church that was founded in 1895 by James Edson White, who first held services and classes on a boat called Morning Star. A school and chapel were erected later that year on Walnut Street.

The growing congregation moved into a building on Fayette Street in 1900. That property—home to a mission house, janitor's cabin, school, and chapel, was destroyed by the deadly tornado that struck Vicksburg in December, 1953. The following year, the congregation built a church at 1117 Fayette Street, its place of worship until 2000. Now, 225 Morning Star members meet in a building at 1954 Sky Farm Avenue.

The church is one of 146 congregations that make up the Nashville-based South Central Conference, which owns the property where the marker was placed. For Temple of Christ, a



Church and local officials stand behind a marker at the former site of Morning Star church: R. Steven Norman, III (left), archivist and historian for South Central Conference; Dana Edmond, Conference secretary; Benjamin P. Browne, Conference president; James Harris, pastor of Morning Star church; and Laurence Leyens, Vicksburg mayor, shared congratulations and reflections of the event.

non-denominational church, has used the building for services.

James Harris, pastor of Morning Star, said the church and its people have been a "beacon of light" in Vicksburg. "We are still making history," he said. "That's the wonderful and beautiful thing about it." Gordon Cotton, former curator of the Old Court House Museum, said he has always been intrigued by Morning Star, the oldest Seventh-day Adventist church in Vicksburg.

"I grew up in a neighborhood with Seventh-day Adventists and I always knew they were people to be admired for their civic-mindedness," he said. "Morning Star began it all in Vicksburg. There's something about being first that gives a great deal of satisfaction."

The marker is the first for the Conference, which is comprised of churches in Kentucky,

Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi, and parts of Florida, said R. Steven Norman, archivist and historian for the Conference. A second marker will be unveiled on August 18, in Yazoo City, the home of Lintonia Chapel church.

"This is the first in an effort to go back and review our history," Norman said. "We want to leave markers that will share our history with the community throughout the south."

The Seventh-day Adventist Church is a Christian denomination, known for its belief that Saturday, the seventh day of the week, is the Sabbath. The denomination grew out of the mid-19th century Millerite movement and was established in 1863. Among its founders was Ellen White, whose writings are still regarded by the Church. White visited Vicksburg in 1901 for the dedication of Morning Star's first mission house, chapel, and school.

Reprinted with permission from the Vicksburg Post.



Benjamin P. Browne led the

Bethel Members Celebrate Mortgage Burning

The weekend of December 9-10, 2006, at the Bethel church in Orlando, Fla., was one of praise and thanksgiving to God for the mortgage burning.

The group evolved from a children's ministries outreach initiative and became an organized church in 1991.

Sabbath service began with a rousing song service led by Malcolm Gordon, former Southern Union Conference president.

Following was a stimulating lesson study in which Cleveland and Jasinth Holness reflected on the patriots, voices echoed as the sanctuary choir sang, "We've Come This Far By

Faith." The meditation was given by Janice Browne, soloist.

The sermon, entitled "God's Creative Processes and Activity," was delivered by Benjamin Browne, president of the South Central Conference. He informed the congregation that God wants to transform and make all partakers of His divine nature.

During the afternoon celebration, Willie L. Taylor, president of the Southeastern Conference, commended the congregation for its faithful accomplishment, and emphasized that each time a church is faithful in fulfilling its commitment to burn the mortgage, its an

encouragement to other churches to do the same.

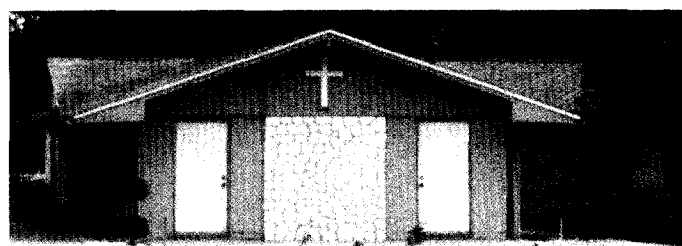
Anthony Smith, pastor, led the congregation in a dedicatory prayer. After the flames were extinguished, the congregation sang "To God Be The Glory."

Recognition was given to the following members: George Bowens, Pansy Vaz-Powell, Levi Gardner, Winston Wiggans, and Mat-

tie Mellon—charter members; Wilder Astwood and Cleretta Lampkin—pioneers; and Andrew Powell, Charles Weathington, and John Moment—contributors.

Pastors O. H. Paul, Patrick Vincent, Jackson Doggette, Larry Johnson, and John Damon, were among the celebration attendees.

—BY GLORIA RALPH



The Bethel church is mortgage-free.

Adventist Artist is One-Man Show

Owen Jolly, a talented, award winning artist, recently had a month-long show at the Highlands Art League in Sebring, Fla.

Jolly, a member of the Ridge Area church relocated to Sebring in 2005, and immediately became known to the art community.

He is a contemporary painter with a strong foundation in classical art. His works include oil on canvas, watercolors, pastels, and drawings.

Jolly was born in Jamaica, West Indies, where his talent was recognized at an early age.

His early work earned him a scholarship to the Jamaica School of Art, now known as Edna Manley Col-

lege of the Visual Arts.

After graduation in 1970, he taught at Clarendon College and exhibited his work throughout Jamaica.

He received many awards for his paintings, and his works can be found on the walls of cooperative and private collectors in Jamaica, Canada, the United States, and England.

Jolly serves as a deacon in the Ridge Area church and generously donates his talent whenever it is needed. His wife, Donnette, is a x-ray technician, and they have two sons, Gregory and David.

The Highlands Art League is a non-profit corporation founded by a small

dedicated group of citizens, and inspired by Aronette Schneck. The league opened the doors to its first museum in 1967.

The mission of the league is, "To promote the study, appreciation, and development of the arts

in its many forms, and to provide a program whereby the community may benefit from such purposes."

For more information about the Highlands Art League, visit www.highlandsartleague.com

—BY HERB DOGGETTE

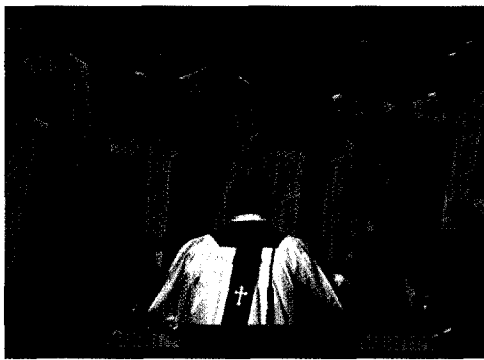


Alice Stroppel (left), interim director of the Highlands Art League, and Owen Jolly are pictured in front of two of his paintings.

Youth Attend Annual Convocation

More than 1,200 young people attended Southeastern's annual youth convocation.

The 2007 event marked the first time all four federations, M.C. Strachan north Florida; South Florida Adventist Youth Federation; Hispanic Federation; and the Haitian Federation participated in the convocation.



Dynamic Praise, musical group from Oakwood College

The Conference's youth department and its youth federations decided to take a "back to basics" approach with the annual convocation. The outcome exceeded their expectations.

The theme for the weekend was "Restore Not Destroy." The two-day event began on Friday, January 26, at the Patmos

Chapel church with a spirit-filled praise and worship service. The event continued Sabbath, January 27, at the Mt. Sinai church.

Special guests for divine worship included Calvin Watkins,

personal ministries director for the South Atlantic Conference; and Dynamic Praise from Oakwood College.

Watkins admonished the attendees to get rid of the things in their lives which keep them away from God, and to restore Him as first and foremost in their lives.

South Florida Adventist Youth Federation (SAYF) hosted the AYS service.

M'Konania, a renowned drama group from Oakwood College, started the evening with a presentation entitled "What If Jesus Was Your Roommate?"

The event concluded with an all-star basketball game at Forest Lake Academy. The game showcased the youth talent.

The youth, parents,



Calvin Watkins, Sabbath speaker at the convocation

and elders left the convocation uplifted, empowered, and determined to allow Jesus to restore His ministry and purpose in their lives.

You can view the convocation on SEC iTV at www.secsda.org.

—BY SHERRIE BARTON

Adventist Physician Provides Free Flu Shots

Tonya Young-Henley, M.D., of Family Physicians Group, provided the residents of central Florida with 500 free flu shots on Saturday, January 27, at the Mt. Sinai church.

Every year in the United States, more than 200,000 people are hospitalized from flu complications, and 36,000 die from the flu.

October or November is the best time to get vaccinated, but getting vaccinated in December or even later can still be beneficial since the height of influenza activity occurs in Feb-

ruary or later in most years. Though it varies, flu season can last as late as May.

"This is my ministry," exclaimed Young-Henley, a graduate of Oakwood College and the University of Florida School of Medicine.

She completed her residency in family medicine at Florida Hospital, which is the largest hospital in the country, in 2001.

Founded in 1987, Family Physicians Group is one of central Florida's largest private group practices. More than 120 providers offer healthcare services to thousands of patients from

25 office locations throughout Orlando, Altamonte Springs, Apopka, Edgewood, Kissimmee, Oviedo,

Winter Park, The Villages, and Tampa Bay.

—BY ROBERT HENLEY



Tonya Young-Henley, M.D., administers a flu shot to Mirel Cherinfont.

NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in all of its church schools, admits students of any race to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at its schools, and makes no discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnic background, country of origin, or gender in the administration of education policies, applications for admission, scholarship or local programs, and extracurricular programs.

CAROLINA CONFERENCE

ACADEMY

Mt. Pisgah Academy, Candler, NC

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Adventist Christian Academy, Charlotte, NC
 Adventist Christian Academy, Raleigh, NC
 Asheville-Pisgah School, Candler, NC
 Beaufort SDA School, Beaufort, SC
 Brookhaven SDA School, Winterville, NC
 Camden Adventist School
 Charleston Jr. Academy, Charleston, SC
 Columbia Adventist Academy, Lexington, SC
 Crossroads Adventist School, Statesville, NC
 Day Star Christian Academy, Anderson, SC
 Eddleman Adventist Academy, Spartanburg, SC
 Elizabeth City SDA School, Elizabeth, City, NC
 Fayetteville Adventist Christian School,
 Fayetteville, NC
 Five Oaks SDA Christian School, Durham, NC
 Florence Adventist School, Florence, SC
 Greater Charlotte Christian Academy,
 Charlotte, NC
 Greenville, SDA School, Greenville, SC
 High Country Christian School, Banner Elk, NC
 Johnston, William Elementary, Hickory, NC
 Myrtle Beach SDA School, Myrtle Beach, SC
 Poplar Springs SDA School, Westminster, SC
 Salisbury Adventist School, Salisbury, NC
 Silver Creek Adventist School, Morganton, NC
 Tri-City Jr. Academy, High Point, NC
 Tryon SDA School, Lynn, NC
 Wilmington SDA School, Wilmington, NC

FLORIDA CONFERENCE

ACADEMIES

Forest Lake Academy, Apopka, FL
 Greater Miami Academy, Miami, FL

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Beryl Wisdom Adventist School, Orlando, FL
 Bright Horizons Christian Academy,
 Groveland, FL
 Cocoa SDA School, Cocoa, FL
 Deltona Adventist School, Dade City, FL
 Forest City Adventist School,
 Altamonte Springs, FL
 Forest Lake Education Center, Longwood, FL
 Gold Coast Jr. Academy, Boynton, Beach, FL
 Gulfcoast SDA Elementary, St. Petersburg, FL
 Heritage Jr. Academy, Ocala, FL
 Indigo Christian Jr. Academy,
 Daytona Beach, FL
 Jacksonville Adventist Academy,
 Jacksonville, FL
 James E. Sampson Memorial School,
 Ft. Pierce, FL
 Life-Changing Christian Academy, Mt. Dora, FL
 Melbourne-Palm Bay SDA Christian School,
 Melbourne, FL:
 Miami Springs Adventist School,
 Miami Springs, FL
 Naples SDA Christian School, Naples, FL
 New Port Richey Adventist School,
 New Port Richey, FL
 North Florida SDA Elementary School,
 High Springs, FL
 Okeechobee Adventist Christian School,
 Okeechobee, FL
 Orlando Jr. Academy, Orlando, FL

Osceola Adventist Christian School,
 Kissimmee, FL
 Port Charlotte Adventist School,
 Port Charlotte, FL
 Sawgrass Adventist School, Plantation, FL
 Tampa Adventist Academy, Tampa, FL
 University SDA Church School, Orlando, FL
 Venice SDA Elementary, Venice, FL
 Walker Memorial Jr. Academy, Avon Park, FL
 West Coast Christian Academy, Bradenton, FL
 W. Palm Beach SDA Christian School,
 West Palm Beach, FL
 William A. Kirlow Jr. Academy, Opa Locka, FL
 Winter Haven Adventist Academy,
 Winter Haven, FL
 Z.L. Sung SDA Church School, Gainesville, FL

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND CONFERENCE

ACADEMIES

Atlanta Adventist Academy, Duluth, GA
 Collegedale Academy, Collegedale, TN
 Georgia-Cumberland Academy, Calhoun, GA

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Lester Coon Apison SDA School, Apison, TN
 Becker Adventist School, Atlanta, GA
 Augusta SDA School, Augusta, GA
 Coble Elementary School, Calhoun, GA
 Advent Home Youth Services, Calhoun, TN
 Standifer Gap SDA School, Chattanooga, TN
 Bowman Hills SDA School, Cleveland, TN
 Cumberland Heights SDA School,
 Coalmont, TN
 A.W. Spalding SDA School, Collegedale, TN
 Columbus, SDA School, Columbus, GA
 Cookeville, Christian Elementary School,
 Cookeville, TN
 Inez Wrenn SDA School, Crossville, TN
 Learning Tree Elementary School, Dalton, GA
 Meister Memorial SDA School, Deer Lodge, TN
 Douglasville SDA School, Douglasville, GA
 Duluth Jr. Academy, Duluth, GA
 Dunlap Adventist School, Dunlap, TN
 Josephine Edwards Christian School, Elijay, GA
 Cedar Ridge SDA School, Georgetown, TN
 Tri-City SDA School, Gray, TN
 Greenville Adventist Academy, Greeneville, TN
 Jasper Adventist Christian School, Jasper, TN
 Jellico SDA School, Jellico, TN
 Knoxville, Adventist School, Knoxville, TN
 LaGrange SDA School, LaGrange, GA
 Lakeland Adventist School, Lakeland, GA
 Wimbish Adventist School, Macon, GA
 Carman Adventist School, Marietta, GA
 Maryville SDA School, Maryville, TN
 Faulkner Springs Christian School,
 McMinnville, TN
 Morristown SDA School, Morristown, TN
 Murphy Adventist School, Murphy, NC
 Oglethorpe SDA School, Oglethorpe, GA
 Ooltewah Adventist School, Ooltewah, TN
 Pikeville SDA School, Pikeville, TN
 Misty Meadows SDA School, Ringgold, GA
 Savannah Adventist Christian School,
 Savannah, GA
 Shoal Creek Adventist School, Sharpsburg, GA
 Wildwood Adv. Elementary School,
 Wildwood, GA

GULF STATES CONFERENCE

ACADEMY

Bass Memorial Academy, Lumberton, MS

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Bass Christian Elementary, Lumberton, MS
 Big Cove Christian Academy, Owens Cross
 Road, AL
 Corinth SDA School, Corinth, MS
 Gulf State Conference (cont'd)
 College Drive SDA School, Pearl, MS
 Emmaus Christian School, Columbus, MS
 Emerald Coast Christian School, Ft. Walton
 Beach, FL
 Floral Crest SDA School, Bryant, AL
 Gulf Coast SDA School, Biloxi, MS
 Hoover Christian School, Hoover, AL
 Marianna SDA School, Marianna, FL
 Mobile Jr. Academy, Mobile, AL
 Montgomery SDA School, Montgomery, AL
 Mountain View Adventist Academy, Pell City, AL
 North Hills Christian School, Panama City, FL
 Pensacola SDA Jr. Academy, Pensacola, FL

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE CONFERENCE

ACADEMIES

Highland Academy, Portland, TN
 Madison Academy, Madison, TN

ELEM ENTARY SCHOOLS

Appalachian Christian Academy,
 Manchester, KY
 Bill Egly Elementary, Lawrenceburg, TN
 Columbia SDA Elementary School,
 Columbia, KY
 Dickson SDA Elementary, Dickson, TN
 Highland Elementary School, Portland, TN
 Hines Memorial Elementary School,
 Jackson, TN
 Leach Christian School, Cedar Brove, TN
 Lexington Jr. Academy, Lexington, KY
 Louisville Jr. Academy, Louisville, KY
 Madison Campus Elementary School,
 Madison, TN
 Martin Memorial Elementary School,
 Centerville, TN
 Memphis Jr. Academy, Memphis, TN
 Pewee Valley Jr. Academy, Pewee Valley, KY
 Ridgetop Elementary School, Ridgetop, TN
 Taylor Mill Christian Academy, Taylor Mill, KY
 Tullahoma SDA Christian School,
 Tullahoma, TN
 Woodbury SDA School, Woodbury, TN

SOUTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE

ACADEMY

Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy, Atlanta, GA

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Abney Chapel, Fayetteville, NC
 Baldwin's Chapel SDA School, High Point, NC
 Berea Jr. Academy, Sumter, SC
 Berean Christian Jr. Academy, Atlanta, GA
 Berean Jr. Academy, Charlotte, NC

Bethany Jr. Academy, Macon, GA
 Carolina Adventist Academy, Whiteville, NC
 Decatur Adventist Jr. Academy,
 Stone Mountain, GA
 Emanuel SDA Jr. Academy, Albany, GA
 Ephesus Jr. Academy, Wilmington, NC
 Ephesus Jr. Academy, Winston-Salem, NC
 Gethsemane SDA School, Raleigh, NC
 Lithonia Adventist Academy, Lithonia, GA
 Oakland Avenue School, Florence, SC
 Pecan Grove Jr. Academy, Drangeburg, SC
 Ramah Jr. Academy, Savannah, GA
 Napoleon B. Smith Academy, Greensboro, NC

SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE

ACADEMY

Oakwood Adventist Academy, Huntsville, AL

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Alcy SDA School, Memphis, TN
 Avondale SDA School, Chattanooga, TN
 Bethany Christian Academy, Montgomery, AL
 E. E. Rogers SDA School, Jackson, MS
 Emma L. Minnis SDA School, Louisville, KY
 Emmanuel SDA School, Mobile, AL
 Ephesus SDA Academy, Birmingham, AL
 F.H. Jenkins Elementary School, Nashville, TN
 Oakwood Elementary School, Huntsville, AL
 University SDA School, Knoxville, TN

SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE

ACADEMY

Miami Union Academy, N. Miami, FL

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Broward Jr. Academy, Plantation, FL
 Daughter of Zion Jr. Academy, Delray Beach, FL
 Elm Jr. Academy, St. Petersburg, FL
 Ephesus Jr. Academy, Jacksonville, FL
 Ephesus Jr. Academy, West Palm Beach, FL
 Miami Union Academy, N. Miami, FL
 Mt. Calvary SDA School, Tampa, FL
 Mt. Olivet SDA School, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
 Mt. Sinai Jr. Academy, Orlando, FL
 New Hope SDA School, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
 Palm Bay SDA School, Palm Bay, FL
 Palm Beach SDA Bilingual School,
 Riviera Beach, FL
 Perrine SDA School, Miami, FL
 Shiloh SDA School, Ocala, FL

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences,
 Orlando, FL
 Oakwood College, Huntsville, AL
 Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, TN

Self-supporting and home-operated Seventh-day Adventist schools, although presumably conforming to the same guidelines, are not included in the above list.

“Follow Your Heart...”

BY ROBIN DALE

Born in Brooklyn, New York, I was raised in a Jewish family with little religious upbringing. Years later, living in Miami, Florida, a friend died from AIDS, and I stood on my balcony screaming, “God. I need answers, and I need them now!”

Almost immediately, books, tapes, and people flooded into my life. I studied religious thought from Buddhism and Eastern meditation to New Age. Christianity was no attraction to me because of hypocrites I had met who represented Jesus.

Then, a force from within pulled me to watch *The Passion of the Christ*. I wept from the opening scene as my soul cried out, “I love You, Jesus. I love You, Jesus.” That day, in a theater, I was “saved.”

After the movie, a friend bought a new Bible for me. As we leafed through it, she showed me the Gospel story that inspired the film.

Still, I was skeptical of Christianity. I started to attend a church, yet, all I wanted to do was find a study group to learn what was in the Bible.

Meanwhile, God was working through a girlfriend who was trying to get me to visit her in Ocala, Florida. Finally, I made the trip. As I got out of my car, I heard God’s soft, sweet voice in my right ear saying, “This is what your spirit needs.”

While packing for the move to Ocala, I hurt myself and needed chiropractic attention. God sent me to the office of Pedro Orta, D.C. When



Robin Dale with her horse, *Emperador de Classico*

he asked for permission to pray over me, I was thrilled. Then, he and Jodhana, his wife, and their loving family invited me to their home, and we started a Bible study group that peaked at 13 members.

About this time, I began taking horseback riding lessons on Saturday. Learning about the importance of the Sabbath, I changed my lessons to another day to honor the Sabbath and attend church services with the Orta family.

Next, God gifted me with the most amazing horse. When people

meet him on trail rides or at drill team practices, they sense something special in my sweet horse. I tell them he came to me as a gift from God when I started observing the Sabbath.

Even so, I still attended occasional out-of-town horse shows on Sabbath. Soon, God spoke to me, and I knew I would never again attend a show on the Sabbath.

This resulted in a very difficult decision. Even before I owned my horse, I dreamed of joining a drill team. When my dream came true, I practiced for months with my team for a performance in January, 2007.

I now had to decide between my new commitment to God and my commitment to team members whom I did not want to disappoint. I was between a rock and a hard place.

I took the dilemma to my Bible study group, and God spoke through Pedro’s 13-year-old son, Peter. “What is more important?” he asked. “God, or your horse?” His words angered me at first. I felt as though I had been punched between the eyes.

Returning home, I decided to meet with my riding instructor and the friend who transported my horse to and from drill practice. Even as I shared my predicament, God spoke through them. Though disappointed that I might not take part in the event, their response was caring and understanding. “Follow your heart, and we’ll support you in whatever you decide,” they assured me.

That day, when a drill team performance and my relationship with God were weighed in the balance, the answer was clear—God is more important. The answer is *always* God.



HERB PRITCHARD

Pedro Orta, D.C., an Ocala, Florida, church elder, baptized his patient, Robin Dale, on December 16, 2006, at her request, and with special permission from David Swinyar, pastor. Robin was one of several patients who joined Orta’s Bible study group after he dedicated his practice to God and prayed, “Lord, make me an instrument.”

No Fads... Just Facts!

BY MARTA SOVYANHADI

The American Dietetic Association recognizes March as National Nutrition Month, and the Oakwood College Dietetic Internship Program in Huntsville, Alabama, supports this effort. The mission of the National Nutrition Month is to promote healthful living through wise nutritional choices, as well as developing good habits in exercising.

Incorporating whole-grains and legumes (beans, peas, and lentils) in the diet is a healthier choice that is lower in fat and cholesterol and high in fiber. Both whole-grain products and legumes are rich in vitamins and

minerals such as iron, folate, riboflavin, niacin, thiamin, calcium, and zinc. The fiber in whole grains and legumes takes longer to digest, resulting in a more lasting feeling of fullness. This feeling of fullness is due to fiber. Fiber provides several benefits: it decreases blood cholesterol levels, constipation, improves weight control by satiety with fewer calories, and improves diabetes control.

Substituting soymilk for cow's milk is a way to cut fat, cholesterol, and calories without losing nutrition. Soymilk is a good calcium source, and it has several beneficial roles in the diet as an

alternative to cow's milk. Soymilk is lactose-free and can be a good solution for lactose intolerant individuals. The protein in soymilk is nutritionally equivalent to animal protein. Unlike cow's milk, soymilk is cholesterol-free, low in saturated fat, and adequately provides iron. The American Heart



Marta Sovyanhadi (back row, right), dietetic internship program director, with the 2006-07 Oakwood College dietetic interns



Jeegna educates grocery patrons about healthy snacks.

Association considers soy products a healthy replacement for meat.

Fruits and vegetables are perhaps the most important part of a well-balanced diet, especially green, leafy vegetables. The animal kingdom (cows, rabbits, horses, etc.) has lived off this principle for years. It is important that we try to go back to the basics and follow the same diet. By eating colorful fruits and vegetables, you are adding a wide range of vitamins, minerals, fiber, antioxidants, and phytochemicals your body uses to help fight off cancers and infections and maintain good health. Always remember, as the American Dietetic Association puts it best, "Vary your veggies." As a rule, try to include more orange and dark green leafy vegetables in your diet daily.



Emily shows the key cause of tooth decay, empty calories from candy.



Carmalita selects plant protein, a healthy alternative for meat.

Though all foods fit into the pyramid, candies and sweets should be used as a "luxury." Candies contain mostly added sugars; they fit into the food guide pyramid as "fats and oils," which should be used in moderation. Calories from candy do not offer much nutrition and are the key cause in tooth decay.

A healthy snack alternative to candy is nuts. A small daily serving consisting of various types of nuts can contribute to a wide variety of vitamins, minerals, dietary fibers, and phytochemicals. In particular, eating nuts greatly lowers the risk of heart disease, stroke, and Type-2 diabetes. The recommended amount is about one to two ounces of nuts daily to

gain the maximum health benefit. Thus, for optimal health, consider GOING NUTS!

Are you stressed out? According to the American Institute of Stress, disorders that may be linked to stress include heart attack, stroke, hypertension, anxiety, and depression. Be careful. Over-eating and under-eating can be triggered by stress. It is important to learn how to manage stress through exercise, nutrition, and relaxation. Taking the weekend off and enjoying nature is a great way to relax. During your weekend off, it is very important to remember to get outside, use your senses, and enjoy all that nature has to offer.

Exercise is fundamental in maintaining a healthy body and an active lifestyle. Exercise also helps you mentally as well as physically. Psychological benefits such as a greater sense of well-being, increased self-esteem, and decreased anxiety or depression have been linked to exercise. Regular exercise helps to prevent heart disease, normalize blood pressure, regulate blood sugar, prevent bone mineral loss, promote weight loss and flexibility, and boost metabolism.



Valerie teaches children the benefits of soymilk.

The human body, which is 55 to 75 percent water, is in need of constant water replenishment. If one gets hungry, a cold glass of water or sucking on ice can also calm hunger pains. Drinking about six to eight glasses of water per day is known to reduce migraine, arthritis, angina, heartburn, hypertension, cholesterol, and blood pressure, among other common ailments.

Marta Sovyanbadi is the dietetic internship program director at Oakwood College.



Alaina (left) and Stephanie recommend fresh produce.

C-SPAN Comes to Southern

Southern students were among the first in the nation to see C-SPAN's new Campaign 2008 bus as part of the "Road to the White House" tour, when the bus stopped at Southern Adventist University on January 31. The bus was open for tours from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

The 45-foot mobile production studio is on the campaign trail to promote and enhance C-SPAN's comprehensive political coverage, traveling to major political events such as candidate debates and speeches in early primary

states, touring state capitols, and also conducting educational programs for teachers and students.

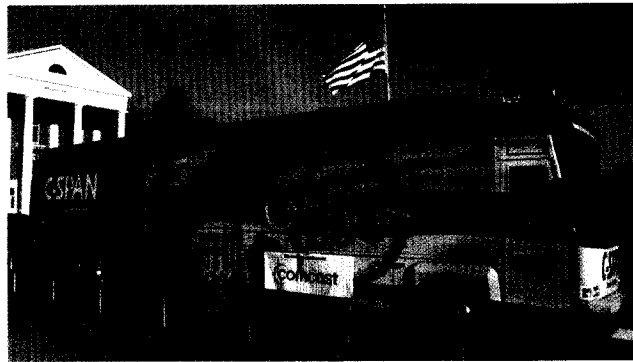
The event at Southern Adventist University, in partnership with Comcast

Cable, was part of the bus's inaugural "Road to the White House" tour, named after C-SPAN's renowned political program which marks its 20th year on the air in 2008.

"Southern Adventist University is honored to have been chosen as one of the first sights for this national tour," says Vinita Sauder, vice president for marketing and enrollment services. "Our students and the community will benefit from getting a behind-the-scenes look at how campaigns are covered on C-SPAN."

More information about the "Road to the White House" tour can be found online at c-span.org/schoolbus/about.asp.

—BY LORI FUTCHER



The C-SPAN bus opened for tours at Southern.

Gym-Masters Perform Halftime Show

The Chicago Bulls welcomed Southern's Gym-Masters as the NBA team's halftime entertainment during the Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday.

The 50-member gymnastics group's performance with the NBA team was its sixth in the last seven years. The group is one of the first

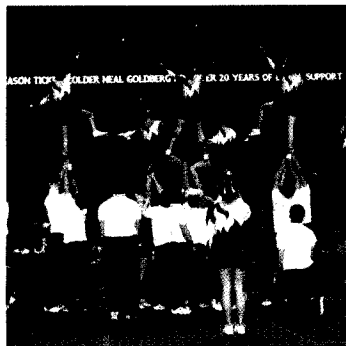
performers the Bulls schedule each year.

"[A Bulls representative] went on and on how our kids, out of the thousands of halftime performers he books, are by far the most mature and polite kids," says Richard Schwarz, Gym-Masters' coach.

The Gym-Masters high-energy performance captivated many in attendance.

"We have a lot of movement, people flying over people, throwing girls over pyramids—things that the crowd gets into," Schwarz says. "Most people go to the concession stands at intermission, but this time, about 90 percent of the people stayed in their seats."

—BY ANH PHAM



Gym-Masters performed to a packed stadium in Chicago.

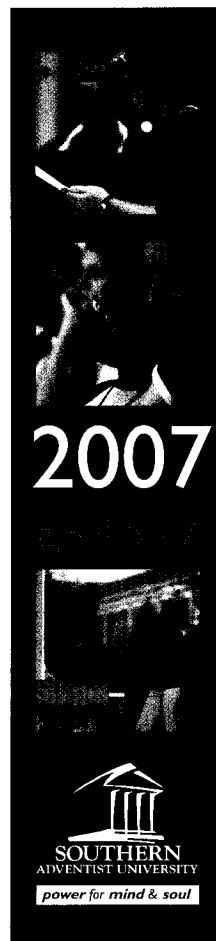
PreviewSouthern

Activities include:

- campus tour and academic forum
- financial aid presentation
- river boat cruise in Chattanooga
- scholarships given totaling \$10,000

Public high school and home-schooled students nationwide, as well as academy seniors from outside the Southern Union, are invited to experience campus life and meet our students at PreviewSouthern 2007.

1.800.SOUTHERN for reservations



P.O. Box 370 • Collegedale, TN 37315 • www.southern.edu

THE NEW SMC

BY SHANE GALLATIN

Standing in Lynn Wood Hall's chapel, I held a hymnal marked "SMC" and sang hymns from the early 1900s. Though it may have appeared as though I had stepped back in time, in reality I was experiencing a taste of the future.

Worshipping with the Southern Missionary Church (SMC—a Sabbath morning worship service, which I'm told isn't officially a "church," despite its name), I saw church leaders of tomorrow in action today.

I was greeted at the door with a smile and a bulletin, and walked into a chapel full of worshipers chatting pleasantly as they waited for the service to begin—a scene very similar to my home church.

The difference is that the service is run entirely by students, people my age who are tired of being bystanders at other churches and want to become their own church family. Students plan and organize the worship service, participate in the program, and make sure visitors (like me) feel welcome.

A Place to Connect

When I stood in the middle of the congregation, I felt a sense of connection

major, walked up to wish me a happy Sabbath and ask how I was doing. After we chatted a while, he invited me to sit with him and his friends.

"From the beginning, we tried to create an atmosphere of acceptance," Bess Martin, a senior psychology and religious studies major and SMC's worship coordinator, told me.

"When you have an atmosphere where everyone is like you," says Sean Reed, '06, last year's SMC leader, "it becomes much easier to get involved."

The goal of SMC, now in its third year, is to provide another option for students who aren't making a connection at other churches, a place where they can meet and worship with other students in a service that is run by students.

It's that sense of community that draws students into SMC and makes them feel at home. Nathan Krause, senior theology major and SMC's leader, explains that because of the relatively short amount of time most students spend at Southern, those who attend community churches often don't really feel like they're a part of the church family, let alone have a chance to get involved.

"SMC's goal is to get students involved in a church environment," Nathan

says, "some for maybe the first time in their lives."

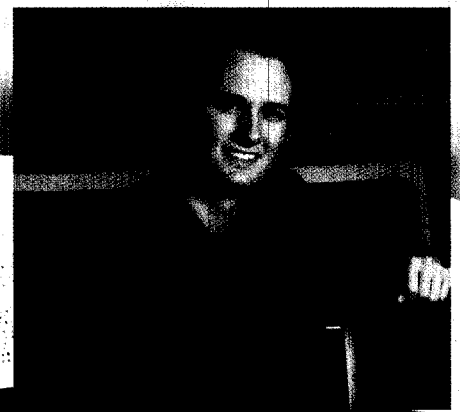
An Opportunity to Serve

Any student has the opportunity to be involved with the service, from preaching, to leading song service, to greeting people at the door, or collecting the offering. SMC also provides real-life learning opportunities for those in its leadership positions, many of whom plan to go into full-time ministry.

"As a pastor-to-be, this is a time to learn sometimes-hard lessons about what a church is," says Nathan.

As song service came to an end, Desmond got up from his seat next to me and walked up to the front to lead out the "I Saw Jesus" portion of the service. I watched as students throughout the congregation shared different ways they saw the character of Christ manifest itself throughout the previous week, whether it was a kind word, a helping hand, or a good friend.

Looking around, I could see Jesus, too—in the actions and words of the many students who play their part in building and supporting their community of believers. If what I saw was any indication, a glimpse into the future that we have nothing to fear.



to get students
ment, some
lives."

NAD, Pacific Press, and Review and Herald Partner in Evangelism



**"TELL THE WORLD"
7 in 7 in 2007**

The president of the North American Division (NAD) of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Don Schneider, along with the two NAD publishing houses, Pacific Press® and Review and Herald®, have teamed up in a bold new evangelism initiative to blanket

each Seventh-day Adventist Church member in the NAD to distribute seven pieces of literature in seven days. Seven in Seven will take place April 7-14, 2007. Schneider says, "Please join me in being a part of Seven in Seven in 2007. I'm going to give at least one piece of

North America with Adventist literature. The initiative is called Seven in Seven in 2007.

Seven in Seven is a simple plan to spread the gospel by encouraging

literature each day during April 7-14. If every Church member in North America shares just one piece of literature a day for seven days, we could distribute seven million pieces of literature. That means seven million contacts for Christ in just one week. Imagine what God can do with that."

At recent meetings, NAD announced that Church growth in the NAD has declined to only 1.4 percent. Literature evangelism is one way members can help grow the membership in the NAD. Dale Galusha, president of Pacific Press says, "Our Church has produced some fantastic

literature designed to be shared with friends, co-workers, family, and neighbors. Visit your local Adventist Book Center to see the sharing materials available to you. Then begin each day during April 7-14 with prayer, asking God to direct you to someone who needs encouragement, and He will bring someone into your life that needs the literature you have."

To find your local Adventist Book Center, call 800-765-6955, or visit the website at www.Adventist-BookCenter.com

—BY NICOLE BATTEN

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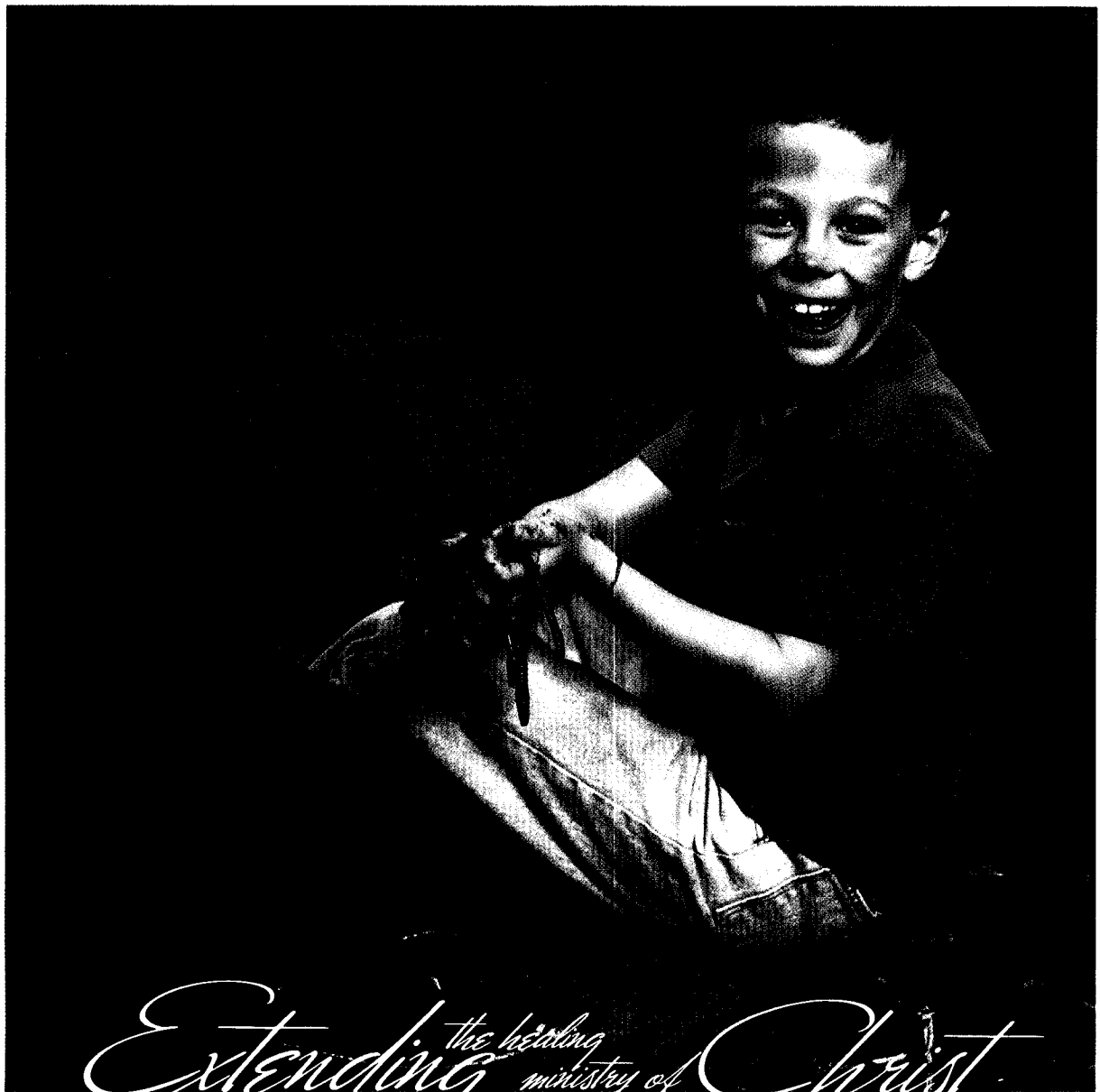
Featured Guests
B.J. Boles, '87, Friday Vespers
Ginger Heinrich O'Neal, '77, Sabbath School
Dr. Greg King, '77, Church Service
Hallerin Hill, '82, Radio and TV Talk Show Host on
The Seven Pillars of Wisdom, Saturday, 5:30 p.m.

Alumni Sports Night, Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

Ride for GCA, Motorcycle Event, Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

Honor Classes
'67, '72, '77, '82, '87, '92, '97, '02

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LEGAL NOTICES

The Kentucky-Tennessee Conference Session

Notice is hereby given that the 30th regular session of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held at the Madison Campus Seventh-day Adventist Church, 607-B Larkin Springs Road, Madison, Tennessee, Sunday, April 29, 2007. The Organizing Committee will meet at 8:30 a.m. The first meeting of the session is called for 10:00 a.m. This session is called for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing term and for transacting any other business that may properly come before the session. Each church in the Conference is entitled to one delegate for the organization and an additional delegate for each 25 members or major fraction thereof.

R. R. Hallock, President
M. G. Lowman, Secretary

The Kentucky-Tennessee Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists, Inc.

Notice is hereby given that the 30th regular session of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists, a corporation, is called to meet in the Madison Campus Seventh-day Adventist Church, 607-B Larkin Springs Road, Madison, Tennessee, Sunday, April 29, 2007. The first meeting is called for 10:00 a.m. The delegates to the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference of Seventh-day Adventists are the constituency of the corporation.

R. R. Hallock, President
Lin Powell, Secretary

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MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, an Adventist Health System 63-bed acute care facility located in beautiful southeastern Kentucky's Daniel Boone National Forrest, has various

openings for mission-minded health care professionals. For current postings, visit www.manchestermemorial.org and click on Employment or contact the job line at 800-872-8616. Resumes and applications may be faxed to 606-599-2506. Contact Joe Skula, Human Resources Director at 606-598-4510; or joe.skula@ahss.org for further information. (3-5)

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PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE seeks a full time faculty for Associate Degree Nursing Program in Mental Health Nursing, (Theory and Clinical). One year minimum teaching experience; three years experience as RN; current California RN licensure; and minimum of Masters in Nursing. Send application, which is available at: www.puc.edu/PUC/directory/forms/PUCEmploymentApp.pdf, letter of introduction, curriculum vitae and three current references for 2007-08 academic year to Human Resources, Pacific Union College, One Angwin Avenue, Angwin, CA 94508. Email hr@puc.edu or Fax 707-965-6400. (3)

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY Counseling & Testing Services seek Career Services Coordinator to provide direct oversight to career development activities for students. A Master's degree in a counseling related field is required as well as excellent interpersonal, oral, and written communication skills. This position is available June 1, 2007. Send resume or inquiries to Dr. Jim Wampler, Search Committee Chair, jwampler@southern.edu Counseling & Testing Services, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315. (3)

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks Director of Campus Safety and Services. Oversees monitoring the safety and security of the campus. Requires demonstrated administrative skills to manage multi-faceted department. Duties cover normal workweek with additional availability for emergencies and special events. Bachelor's degree and experience in safety/security management preferred. Contact Bill Wohlers, Vice President for Student Services with questions and suggestions wohlers@southern.edu; 423-236-2813. Send nominations, resume, or requests for application to Human Resources, Pat Coverdale, Director plcoverdale@southern.edu (3)

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY School of Social Work seeks applicants for tenure-track position (1/2 teaching; 1/2 coordinator) in BILLINGS, MT for 2007-08 school year. See details at <http://www.wwc.edu/services/>. Contact Pamela Keele Cress, Dean, School of Social Work and Sociology, Walla Walla University, 204 S. College Ave, College Place, WA 99324. crespa@wwc.edu (3)

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ATTENTION all former Valdosta Church pastors, teachers, and members. On May 5, 2007 the Valdosta Seventh-day Adventist Church will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary with a special recognition for Frank Southall, longtime elder and builder. For more information call 299-244-2042 and leave a message. (3-5)

World Church: New Site for Adventist Lawyers ...

The Office of General Counsel (OGC) at the Seventh-day Adventist Church's headquarters has launched a Web site to connect Adventist lawyers. The new site, www.adventistlawyer.org, will make it easier for church members to find Adventist lawyers in different parts of the world and allow the Church to easily share pertinent legal updates with the Adventist legal community, says OGC General Counsel Bob Kyte. The OGC used to list the names of all the Adventist lawyers in a book, but Kyte says "the day it was printed it was out of date."

The site now has the names and areas of practice for about 1,000 Adventist lawyers all over the world, but Kyte anticipates much more to come because lawyers can now submit their information anytime. The Web site will also have articles, news releases, case updates, and a roster for law students to register included on the site. [ANN Staff]

EXCLUSIVELY FOR HOME SCHOOLERS. You are personally invited to preview Union College in Lincoln, Neb., during Home School Sneak Peak, April 26-29. It's a FREE way (call for details) for you to experience Union's unique spirit. Call 800-228-4600; or Email: gofar@ucollege.edu; or visit us on the web at www.ucollege.edu (3)

JUST \$25 A MONTH can send a child in India to a SDA school. It pays for tuition, housing, food, clothes, and medical care. This is an official project of Southern Asia Division of Seventh-day Adventist. Choose a child: www.adventistchildindia.org Call 888-ACI-TELL (224-8355). Message: childcare@sud-adventist.org (3-5)

CHRISTIAN ATHLETES WANTED! People of Peru Project's Sports Camp in Iquitos, Peru, inspire and bless poor children through athletics and ministry; June 4-14. PeopleofPeru.org click "Latest News" for details. (3,4)

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Events Calendar

Carolina

MPA Spring Break – March 1-11.
Panama Mission Trip – March 1-14.
Pathfinder Work Bee – March 16-18. Nosoca.
MPA Academy Days – March 23-25.
Shepherdess Conference – March 23-25.
Men's Retreat – March 23-25. Nosoca.
Prayer Conference – March 30-April 1.
Adventurer Fun Day – April 14, 15. Nosoca.

Florida

Florida Pathfinder Events www.floridapathfinders.com/ or call 407-644-5000 x127.
Cowboy Camp Meeting March 23, 24. Seminole Meadows church, Sanford, FL. Details: cowboyorlando07@aol.com. www.cowboycampmeetings.com/
Maranatha Volunteer International Sabbath – March 24. Winter Springs church. Speaker: Dick Duerksen. Details: office@wssdachurch.com or 407-327-1190.
Vacation Bible School Workshop – March 24. Miami Temple church. Details: rhoda.burrill@floridaconference.com or 407-644-5000 x136.
Hispanic Vacation Bible School Workshops. Details: 407-644-5000 x138. April 1. Carol City Spanish church.
April 8. Apopka Spanish church.
Florida Keys Camp Meeting
April 6, 7. Camp Sawyer (four miles north of Big Pine Key). Theme: What Time Is It? Guest speaker: Bill Knott. Details: 305-731-9760 or 305-731-0039.
Estate Services Clinics and Seminars
April 14. St. Augustine.
April 21-22. Miami Temple.
April 28. Melbourne.
Community Bible Conference
113th Camp Meeting. May 25-June 2. Theme: Loving the Lost. Forest Lake Academy. Details: bulletin inserts and posters at Florida Conference churches or www.floridaconference.com/campmeeting/

Georgia-Cumberland

Complete calendar online—

www.gccsda.com

GCA Belize Mission Trip
March 1-12.
CA Costa Rica Mission Trip
March 4-16.
Laurelbrook Academy Mission Trip March 5-26.
High School Mission Trip
March 7-18. Mexico.
LIFEdevelopment Conference
March 9-11. The W Hotel, Atlanta. More information at www.LIFEdevelopment.us.
UTK Collegiate Mission Trip
March 9-18. Mexico.
Adventurer Family Fun Day
March 18.

Pathfinder Precision Drill Team Day - March 18.
CISM Training – March 19, 20. Collegedale, TN.
GCA Academy Days – March 23-25. Calhoun, GA.
AAA Alumni Weekend – March 23-25. Atlanta, GA.
Hispanic Women and Teen Retreat - March 23-25. Cohutta Springs.
South Georgia Camp Meeting – March 24. Cordele, GA.
Spring Women's Retreat – March 30-April 1. Cohutta Springs.
Teen Girls' Retreat – March 30-April 1. Cohutta Springs.
Health Rally – March 31. Brayton, TN.
ShareHim Rally – March 31. Atlanta North church.
Health Rally – April 7. Monteagle, TN.

Gulf States

Pastoral Planning – March 5-9. Conference Office.
Backpacking Invitational March 9-11.
Women's Leadership Certification (Level III) – March 9-11. Camp Alamisco.
Bass Memorial Academy Days
March 18, 19.
Bass Memorial Academy Alumni Weekend – March 23-25.
Conference Executive Committee (Budget & Statistics)
April 3. Montgomery.

Kentucky-Tennessee

Conference Association Board
March 13. May 15.

Conference Executive Committee

March 13. May 15.
Highland and Madison Academy Boards
March 22. May 10.
West Tennessee Festival of Faith – March 10. Advent Presbyterian church. Cordova, TN.
Music Festival – March 15-17. Highland Academy.
Highland Academy Alumni Weekend – April 6, 7. Special Honor Classes: 1947, 1957, 1982, 1997.

Southern Adventist University

Spring Break – March 2-11.
South East Youth Conference – March 15-17.
PreView Southern 105 – March 15, 16.
Week of Languages Festival – March 18.
Convocation: Hasel Lectureship – March 22.
Online Fall Registration – March 26-April 6.
Convocation: Asian Heritage – March 29. Stephanie Fast.
Gym-Masters Home Show – March 31.
Gym-Masters Home Show Matinee – April 1.
Orchestra Concert – April 1.
Drama: Sheila Flitton as "Beezie" – April 3.
PreView Southern 106 – April 5-7.
SonRise Resurrection Pageant – April 7.

Announcements

Thunderbird Adventist

Academy and Arizona Academy 86th Annual Alumni Weekend – April 6-8. Honor classes: 1957, 1962, 1967, 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997, 2002, and all Arizona Academy alumni. Details: alumni@thunderbirdacademy.org or 480-948-3300, x204; or www.thunderbirdacademy.org
Columbia Union College Alumni Weekend – April 13-15. D.C. and campus tours, concerts, banquets, and great memories. Honor classes: 1997, 1987, 1982, 1977, 1967, 1957, 1947, and 1937. Reserve your place: alumni@cuc.edu or 301-891-4133.

Atholton Church 50th Anniversary Celebration – April 27-29. Columbia, MD. Details: 410-997-8093; or www.atholton.org

La Mesa Adventist Community Church 50th Anniversary – May 5. La Mesa, CA. A full orchestra and choir presentation, "I Can Only Imagine." Details: 619 461-5703 for service and free seating information; reservations are required.

Camp Blue Ridge 50th Anniversary – June 1-3. All former campers and staff are invited for the reunion weekend. Details: 540-886-0771; www.cbnsda.com

"Ye Olde CLA Alumni Reunion" – June 7-10. Cedar Lake Academy alumni welcome schoolmates of 1957 and earlier, on the campus of Great Lakes Adventist Academy (formerly CLA). Honor classes: 1937, 1947, and 1957. Details: GLAA Alumni Office 989-427-5181, or

	Mar. 2	Mar. 9	Mar. 16	Mar. 23	Apr. 30	Apr. 6
Atlanta, GA	6:38	6:43	7:49	7:54	7:59	8:05
Charleston, SC	6:21	6:26	7:31	7:36	7:41	7:46
Charlotte, NC	6:23	6:29	7:35	7:40	7:46	7:52
Collegedale, TN	6:40	6:46	7:51	7:57	8:03	8:08
Huntsville, AL	5:48	5:52	6:58	7:03	7:09	7:14
Jackson, MS	6:02	6:07	7:12	7:17	7:22	7:27
Louisville, KY	6:41	6:48	7:54	8:01	8:07	8:14
Memphis, TN	5:59	6:05	7:11	7:17	7:22	7:28
Miami, FL	6:25	6:29	7:32	7:35	7:38	7:42
Montgomery, AL	5:46	5:51	6:56	7:01	7:06	7:11
Nashville, TN	5:46	5:52	6:58	7:04	7:10	7:16
Orlando, FL	6:28	6:33	7:37	7:40	7:44	7:48
Wilmington, NC	6:12	6:17	7:23	7:28	7:34	7:39

Your TICKET to Savings



Don't miss out on the opportunity
to support your local Pathfinder
Program and save money at the
same time!

Support Pathfinder



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Protect What Matters Most — Your Family



Take advantage of the opportunity to have Planned Giving & Trust Services assist you with your estate plan this year. Your family is counting on you.

With a thoughtful estate plan you can...

- **Make Provision for Children**
Be certain your children are financially looked after in a sensible and flexible way.
- **Appoint Guardians**
Relatives or close friends may be appointed as guardians of your children to ensure they are properly looked after.
- **Protect Dependents**
Make provision for your spouse or any other individual who might be living with or might be dependent on you.
- **Make Gifts and Legacies**
Of money, appreciated assets or items, these gifts and legacies may be left to relatives, friends, and charities.

Call your local conference now and schedule an appointment.

Carolina: Randy Terry, 704-596-3200
Florida: Jose LeGrand, 407-644-5000
Georgia-Cumberland: Mitch Hazekamp, 706-629-7951
Gulf States: Tui Pitman, 334-272-7493

Kentucky-Tennessee: Lin Powell, 615-859-1391
South Atlantic: Lawrence Hamilton, 404-792-0535
South Central: Michael Harpe, 615-226-6500
Southeastern: Herman Davis, 352-735-3142



Spring Conference Registration Form April 5-7, 2007



Conference Registration and Exhibit Fees

Registration fees include meetings and seminars. First time attendees are free.

Download online or contact ASI Southern Union for exhibit registration prices and form.

Conference Registration Fees

Individual Adult

Youth (2-12)

ASI Members

\$25 each

\$10 each

Non-Members

\$50 each

\$20 each

Registrant's Information

Attendees Names: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Lodging Prices

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____

No. of Rooms	Room Type	No. of Nights	Price	Sub-Total
_____	Motel Room 2 Queens or King (circle one) (Double Occupancy Pricing) Additional people/ night (14 years & up)	_____	\$92	_____
_____	Chalet #1 6 People (\$12 add'l person up to 12)	_____	\$160	_____
_____	Chalet #2 8 People (\$12 add'l person up to 16)	_____	\$195	_____
_____	Cabins/ Group Rate (8 people minimum)	_____	\$8/ea	_____
_____	Dorm Rooms per person	_____	\$15	_____
_____	RV Site	_____	\$25	_____
_____	Tents per person per night	_____	\$3/ea	_____

Meal Tickets

Place the correct number of meals on each line. Children 4 years and younger eat free.

Vegetarian Adult: \$9.00, Child: \$8.00

Vegan Adult: \$12.00, Child: \$10.00

Thursday Supper: _____ Friday Breakfast: _____ Friday Lunch: _____

Friday Supper: _____ Sabbath Breakfast: _____ Sabbath Lunch: _____

Sabbath Supper: _____ Sunday Breakfast: _____ Sub-Total: _____

Payment Information (Make checks payable to Cohutta Springs)

Card Type (circle one) Visa Master Card Discover

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Authorization Number: _____

Mail or fax (ONLY) this registration to Doris Patterson

1185 Cohutta Springs Rd. Crandall, GA 30711-5017

Fax Number: (706) 695-1299 Email Questions To: dpatterson@gccsda.com

ASI Southern Union PO Box 849, Decatur, Georgia 30031

Ph: (404) 299-1832,x408 Fx: (404) 299-9726 www.asisouthernunion.com

For Conference Information, contact Carol Hollie-Tsede
Ph: (678) 420-1408, chollie-tsede@southernunion.com

Total Registration: _____

Total Lodging: _____

3% Lodging Tax: _____

Total Meals: _____

Total Cost: _____

For Such A Time As This

Spring Conference 2007

April 5-7 For ASI Members and Non-members

Conatta Springs Conference Center - Grantville, Georgia



Featuring Keynote Speaker: Lewis Walton

Register today at www.asisouthernunion.com
or by filling out the attached form.

ASI
SOUTHERN UNION

TIDINGS

Southern Union Conference
P.O. Box 849
Decatur, GA 30031
Address Services Requested



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