

# LETTERS

Letters are welcomed for publication. The editor reserves the right to reject letters and where necessary, to edit for continuity and space requirements. Letters must be signed and should not be more than 150 words in length except, where, in the editor's discretion, more space is available. Address letters to Editor, Box 16677, Portland, OR 97216.

## A Tip to Bearhug

(I'm) relating this experience of God's great variety to provide means for gospel work.

As a self-employed yard-care worker, I have the privilege of making friends with my customers. One family was so grateful for the work I had accomplished for them, they insisted on paying me more than my charges. After explaining I would never charge any customer more than another, Jesus gave me the inspiration to suggest that they could make a donation to Operation Bearhug in lieu of paying me. Although they are members of the local Presbyterian congregation, they accepted the suggestion, knowing that the work was being done through the Adventist churches.

My heart was filled with joy and gratitude when I forwarded their check for \$552 to the conference. Praise God!

Ron Kuhar  
Vancouver, Wash.

## Critical Acclaim

While editors are not prone to be recipients of an overflow of "kudos," and I have been highly critical of our editorials, allow me this opportunity to commend you, and the staff, for the Nov. 18 issue. . . .

If one picture is worth a thousand words, the Nov. 18 issue's exceeded 56,000. I am sure very few readers are aware of what is involved in preparing a publication for printing with 56 pictures punctuating the script. The quality of the black and white prints would indicate someone has been doing their homework, or you have been very selective in choosing the best printable pictures.

The absence of baby dedications is a move in the right direction. Filling the GLEANER with Union news is of greater significance. If all GLEANERS are as well balanced as the Nov. 18 issue, you can be proud of your accomplishments.

Arnold Scherencel  
Canby, Ore.

## Against Negatives

First of all, I want to tell you we really enjoy the GLEANER. I save all the cover pictures and wish the information about the cover was on the

inside back of the cover picture. It's nice to refer to.

I enjoy the editorial(s) on the back of the cover picture(s). They are very inspirational.

I wish the negative comments could be deleted. The positive comments are refreshing. We never know whose hands the GLEANER falls into so we should be good ambassadors for our Lord.

Carol D. Yost  
Medford, Ore.

## Large Print Needed

My husband and I are having trouble reading the GLEANER and would certainly appreciate a little larger print. We enjoy it so and would hate to not be able to read it.

Betty E. Miles  
Madras, Ore.

 Editorial Response: Please, Betty, if you can, read the following testimony.

## Magnified Praise

Periodically the past several years I have considered asking that our subscription to the GLEANER be discontinued. However, I enjoy it very much and decided to not make that request but rather to purchase a magnifying glass. Voila! What an improvement.

My husband and I are 50 and both do a lot of reading but have difficulty reading the print in the GLEANER. I do not wear glasses, nor do I need them for other reading, sewing, etc. We have wondered how elderly eyes can read that tiny print.

When I read the letter from Grace Williams of Pendleton in the Nov. 4 issue requesting large print, I chuckled to myself. I'm glad to know I am not alone!

You keep the GLEANER coming and I will figure out a way to get it read!

Connie Purvis  
Troutdale, Ore.

## Concern for Youth

Re: Nov. 18 article, "The Church and Its Young People."

In vain I searched through the interview of Fred Cornforth, Idaho Conference youth director, for the real solution to the needs of our youth. To my utter dismay, the name of Jesus Christ was not mentioned at all of even remotely alluded to.

"And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me" (John 12:32 KJF).

When we take our eyes off Christ, the world fills our vision.

When we sponsor events such as depicted on the back cover of the Oct. 21 GLEANER, we have ceased to watch our youth go out the back

door. Instead, we are leading them to the door and financing appealing spot ads that say in short, "You can be of the world and still be a Christian." . . . .

Lester W. Atkins  
La Center, Wash.

## GLEANER Cover Slides Selected

The 13th annual contest for the selection of slides for GLEANER covers concluded Dec. 1, with choices made from the portfolios of the following 16 photographers: Debbie Beierle, Snohomish, Wash.; Arlan Blodgett, Salem, Ore.; Bryce Casebolt, Milton, Wash.; Gary J. Haynes, Gresham, Ore.; Sherman H. Hong, Oakland, Ore.; Maretta Kandoll, Vancouver, Wash.; Janet Lackie, Gary Lackie, Steve Lackie, and Maria Lackie, all of Anchorage, Alaska; Jan Mayberry, Sitka, Alaska; Bernard J. Penner, Gresham, Ore.; Ron Rigby, Anchorage, Alaska; Loren Schisler, Newberg, Ore.; Dan Waggoner, Newport, Wash.; and Harold Wilson, Anchorage, Alaska. Photographers Casebolt, Gary Lackie, Penner, Waggoner and Wilson each had two photos chosen.

Those photographers with slides qualifying as runners up are Margaret Annala, Hood River, Ore.; Debbie Beierle; Erik Besola, Livingston, Mont.; Bryce Casebolt; Jan Edwards, Fromberg, Mont.; Terri Gibson, Delta Junction, Alaska; Gary J. Haynes; Maretta Kandoll; Janet Lackie; Larry Luke, Pendleton, Ore.; Bill Oviatt, Washougal, Wash.; Bernard J. Penner, Ralph Piuser, Molalla, Ore.; Steve Ray, Deer Park, Wash.; Ron Rigby; Robert Rouillard, Puyallup, Wash.; Jim Sutton, Cashmere, Wash.; Greg Syverson, Dillingham, Alaska; Peter Tadej, Great Falls, Mont.; Judith L. Toop, Auburn, Wash.; and Harold Wilson. Photographers Annala, Casebolt, Penner and Wilson each had two runners up.

A total of 594 slides were submitted by 78 photographers. Twenty-one slides were selected, and will begin appearing on 1992 GLEANER issues in February. Winning slides are characterized by strong centers of interest; crisp lines, indicative of use of tripod; few harsh contrasts of dark and light; optimum exposure; photo processing by maker of film; ideal natural lighting of subject or scene and excellence in choice of subjects.

The 1992 contest will be open Oct. 1 to Nov. 30, 1992. No slides will be purchased for GLEANER covers, except during this annual contest. 

## ABOUT THE COVER

Ken Marshall, Woodland, Wash., spotted this raccoon along a stream in the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge, Ridgefield, Wash.

Marshall, who drives a truck for Copeland Lumber Yard, used a Minolta XG-M camera with K-64 film along with a 400 mm lens for this picture.

*Christians should be the most cheerful and happy people that live.*

*My Life Today, p. 177*

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## Northwest Church, World Mission

# 'Good Boys and Girls'

By Alden Thompson

**Editorial Introduction:** With this new year, the GLEANER introduces columnist Alden Thompson and *Northwest Church, World Mission*. Dr. Thompson, a native of Clarkston, Wash., and now college professor, theologian, and internationally-known author, living in College Place, Wash., and teaching in the School of Theology at Walla Walla College, believes that Northwesterners have a unique and wholesome role to play in the world church. The column is written from the point of view of one who lives in the Northwest by choice, but who also senses an extended family relationship to the world church, with privileges to exercise and contributions to make. Dr. Thompson is married to Wanda (Hoffman) Thompson, they are the parents of two daughters: Karin, a 1991 graduate of Walla Walla College, now studying cello at Peabody Institute, Baltimore, and Krista, a senior at Walla Walla College with majors in history and English.

As a public speaker, Dr. Thompson travels internationally, allowing him comparisons and contrasts not always apparent to the outsider looking into the world of Northwest Adventism, or to the Northwest Adventist looking out to the extended church family. His facility with the written word, and his willingness and ability to help resolve even painful and controversial processes of discovery, well justify this column and its title, *Northwest World Forum*. Welcome, Dr. Thompson.

Hard-to-shake diseases earn the "chronic" title. Writing a column for the GLEANER is one such chronic disease, I fear. After a period of remission for some 20 months, it's caught up with me again. The only known cure is to write. That's hardly a cure. But it does keep the disease in check.

I'm still teaching at Walla Walla College. I'm still an incurable Adventist. (Being a teacher and an Adventist are two more of my "chronic" diseases.) But unlike my previous column, "The View from Campus," this one will focus broadly on the work of the church.

"Northwest Church, World Church" suggests the emphasis I intend to give. Northwest Adventists are a unique breed. We have our quirks, our strengths and weaknesses. We'll ponder those. But we are also part of a larger Adventist family. The world church will form the inevitable backdrop for all our chatter about the work of the church here in the North Pacific Union Church.

Operation Bearhug has been an exciting reminder of what it means to be an active participant in a worldwide movement. Reaching out injects new life into the work here. In turn, that new vibrancy and life here enables us to give even more to the work out there. It's a great time to be an Adventist.

My title for this opening salvo is a free adaptation of 1 Timothy 4:12, Paul's admonition to young Timothy to set an example for the believers. But I want us to hear more than simply wise counsel to behave, to be good boys and girls. I'm interested in the power of an example to motivate, renew, and transform. Catching a glimpse of a good thing makes us want to go and do likewise. Hebrews 10:24 calls it "provoking" one

Alden Thompson



another to love and good works. I think we could do with such provoking.

There's something about living west of the Rockies that makes us less afraid of innovation. We don't feel we have to do it the way it's always been done. We can experiment. If it fails, we can try again. Unashamedly we can latch on to good ideas from anywhere. We can try them out. We can make good ideas better.

The results will be a rich blessing to the church here. But even more, it can be an example to believers elsewhere. They can learn from us, just as we learn from them. Adventism has grown to the point where innovation sent down from on high has little chance of breathing new life into the church. The impulse for change and growth is most powerful at the grass roots level. One small group can spark the rejuvenation of a whole congregation. One local church can inspire a whole conference. One conference can rouse a union. One union can make a difference in the world church.

So let's be good boys and girls here in the Northwest. Let's set an example for the believers. I'm not interested in bragging rights, but in a healthy, sharing, and caring church, one that is dynamic and growing as we look for the return of our Lord. By God's grace other parts of the church will see and give glory to our Father who is in heaven — then go and do likewise.

*Alden Thompson is professor of Biblical studies at Walla Walla College in College Place, Wash.*

## The Perth Declaration

*Continued from page 1*

power. We accept the Scriptures as our teacher and final authority, and respond to His limitless love in grateful obedience. We affirm as well our confidence in His leading through the Spirit of Prophecy.

"We believe the Seventh-day Adventist Church to be a prophetic movement more than an institution, the remnant people called of God to bear a unique message to earth's last generations, to announce the imminent return of Christ in power and glory. Being firmly convinced we live in the hour of His judgment, we are dedicated to the task of unitedly carrying Christ's final invitation

to every inhabitant of the earth.

"We note with regret that there are some among us who wish to participate in and be thought of as contributing to the Adventist work, while at the same time denying or ignoring fundamental components of our message and work. Their influence weakens efforts to build faith and unity. Others exercise a separatist spirit to present themselves as defenders of the authentic Adventist faith, the correctors of others, often elevating to importance issues not agreed upon by the body as vital. Still others advance speculative prophetic interpretations or organize meetings without consultation and in competition with those of the Church. Many circulate private publications and electronic media presenta-

tions among the believers in a manner to suggest they represent the authentic teachings of the body as a whole. Whatever the original intent, such activities are producing distrust and division that hinder the work of God.

"We appeal to those who promote private programs to set aside divisive side issues and join with the organized Church in affirming the fundamentals of our message. In unity we can rededicate ourselves, our abilities, and our efforts in cooperative service to God, pressing forward the work in the brief time that remains. We include in this appeal a call for personal spiritual renewal, for prayer, worship, Bible study, and committed lives. This means renewed preaching and teaching of the core truths with their timeless message of hope,

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## LETTERS

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### Bearhug Offer

Your Operation Bearhug Report thrilled me. What courage and foresight!

I read on, and found one sentence on page 5 of the Dec. 16 issue of the GLEANER that I've been pondering: "Operation Bearhug will continue to supply Bibles and evangelistic lessons and slides."

For nearly 40 years my husband was a pastor-slide-evangelist, and amassed slides on every subject he wished to present. I'd estimate he had upwards of 10,000 of them. The life of Christ is amply illustrated, the Second Advent, the sanctuary service, black and white texts, illustrated texts, Old Testament and New Testament stories illustrated, song slides — I could go on and on. They are filed alphabetically by subjects. Since my husband's death these slides have just been stored in the garage where they can do no one any good.

I'd be so happy to give the slides plus his two randematic projectors to Operation Bearhug if they have any use for them.

Inas I. Ziegler  
Cornelius, Ore.

### Softened Heart

(The writer tells of visiting her neighbors on her daily walks, then makes the following observation.)

... Operation Bearhug has opened my blind eyes and softened my stony heart with love to see the needs of my neighbors near and far. And it's been a burden lifter and pure joy to get acquainted with those around me. . . .

Joan Bovee  
Days Creek, Ore.

### Acknowledge Baptisms

In the last GLEANER, letters section, Nancy Franke was asking about having baptisms listed along with dedications, weddings, etc. WE AGREE! It's something I've wondered about for a long time. We'd love to have our newest members acknowledged to the rest of the union members!

Share Wetterlin  
Boring, Ore.

### Better True Than New

A letter from Betty Nelson in the Dec. 16 GLEANER contained a classic statement, a cry from many of us: "I am truly upset over all this 'new' stuff and think we should be more alert to stay to the 'old ways.'"

This morning I looked at the Dec. 14 reading in the 1992 worship book, *Our Father Cares*, and was jolted at the first paragraph: "Before the last developments of the work of apostasy there will be a confusion of faith. There will not be clear and definite ideas concerning the mystery of God. One truth after another will be corrupted."

## Lonely Faces

By R.A. Rentfro

"I never want to see that woman's face again," the pastor fumed to his faithful life's companion.

And some may even agree with him! Had he not, with his wife, worked for 13 years to win her decision for Christ?

"After all," he said, "Why waste time — her's and mine? All these meetings; the endless number of sermon tapes, and more lately, the Kenneth Cox video tapes? What's with that woman anyway? Until today I could not let her go, but I am through with her." It seemed final.

The pastor had driven to the woman's home one more time. He had been met at the front door by the husband who had cheerfully invited the pastor inside. On the table were three or four of the sermon video-tapes and a commentary on the Bible. The pastor spoke: "I am afraid with all this material, we are giving your wife indigestion!"

"Yes," he said, "I think so."

And with that the pastor packed up his stuff and headed for the door and with a cheerful good-bye, he backed his car out the driveway and into his own world.

There is only one dependable anchor: God. His Word to us is our only sure guide. "We must in no case turn from His guidance to put our trust in man" (*Ibid.*). Jesus promised the Holy Spirit "will guide you into all truth" (John 16:13).

Louise Rea  
Walla Walla, Wash.

### Positive Summitry

I personally attended Summit '91 and totally enjoyed the Christian environment. The speakers were very uplifting and the musicians were terrific.

Having been raised in a very conservative Adventist home, I found it spiritually uplifting. In short it was a wonderful Christian experience. I found it theologically sound and edifying.

Lana Munsey  
Caldwell, Idaho

As a young adult who attended Summit '91, I would like to express my appreciation to the Idaho Conference for putting on such a relevant event. I was blessed by the artists and speakers who shared Christ that day. While there has always been controversy within the church about what meets the needs of young adults, I can

We wonder what got into the man to lose faith when he well knew that faith matures more slowly in some than in others. Time and again he had said, "It takes so long for a pear to ripen, an apple . . . let it ripen in God's own time." But he had forgotten all that. Until . . . not long ago, when shopping with his wife in the supermarket the pastor and his wife saw the woman again. Almost at once the two women were in each other's arms. They were so glad to see each other again and, strangely enough, even the recalcitrant pastor was surprised to find himself glad to see the woman.

Then the woman spoke directly to the minister and said, "I had not been able to understand the application of the statement that the 'Testimony of Jesus is the Spirit of Prophecy' until now. God has revealed that to me. Does the new Adventist church building have a baptistry in it?" The pastor quickly assured her that it did, adding, "An Adventist church without a baptistry is like an insurance salesman without a pen!"

The woman was in church the following Sabbath and now attends regularly. God did not give up on her.

"Patience as well as courage has its victories." *The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 465

R.A. Rentfro writes from Ellensburg, Wash.

personally say that much good came from the day and many were strengthened in their Christian walk.

I was disappointed to read the responses to Summit '91 in the December issue of the GLEANER. Attendance at this event is entirely crucial in understanding what happened. In a sense it seems to me to be that judging an event by an advertisement is judging a book by its cover.

Ty McFarland  
Caldwell, Idaho

### No Jesus?

In the letters column of the Jan. 6, 1992, issue of the GLEANER, it was pointed out by reader Lester Atkins that an interview with Fred Cornforth, published in the Nov. 18, 1991, issue of the GLEANER, failed to mention Christ as a solution to the needs of youth. In checking the original transcript of that interview, we note that the editing process, not Fred Cornforth, was responsible for this omission. (Several paragraphs on the devotional life contained ample mention of our Savior.) Having said this, however, the GLEANER editor in no way wishes to suggest, or to make Pastor Cornforth appear to suggest, that redemption of youth is possible without Christ. The thrust of the interview, in our opinion, was to explore ways to remove barriers of tradition and practice which subvert the full expression of the love of Jesus through the church to young people. The editing process attempted to narrow the interview to that specific focus.

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## ABOUT THE COVER

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Maretta Kandoll, Vancouver, Wash., says she "is a part-time secretary at Portland Adventist Medical Center and a full-time mother of two." She still found time to take this picture of Ramona Falls near Mt. Hood.

She loaded her Canon FT6 Camera with K-64 film for this unusual cover.

## Morning Watch Index Available, 1975-1991

A new edition of the *Scriptural Index to the Morning Watch* has just been published. This fourth such index, edited and prepared by Taylor Ruhl and his Pacific Union College (PUC) Library staff, covers the years 1975 to 1991.

This new index is intended to complement the second edition (which covered 1945 through 1974). The publication enhances collections of *Morning Watch* books for churches, pastors, and others by providing easy access to the books by Scripture reference.

Inquiries should be addressed to: Morning Watch, Director's Office, PUC Library, Angwin, CA 94508.

## Food for Russia Update

Outstanding response to the Dec. 16 GLEANER issue appeal for funds to send FOOD TO RUSSIA has led to the shipment by the North Pacific Union Conference of 20 tons of food to St. Petersburg this month, and the possibility of 20 more tons in the near future. The food will be distributed directly to Seventh-day Adventists in the city, through the auspices of the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA).

A total of \$38,532 has been received, leaving a deficit of about \$4,000 to reach the needed \$42,500 for purchase and shipment of the needed 40 English tons of food. (The original published figure of \$40,000 proved to be slightly low; ADRA has advised us to raise the projection to \$42,500.

As of Dec. 30, 1991, 21,317 has been expended for the following supplies being shipped directly to St. Petersburg:

Rice	6 tons
White beans	6 tons
Milk powder	4 tons
Cooking Oil	3 tons
Sugar	1 ton

This shipment is being closely monitored by ADRA to ensure safe delivery and distribution. Those who may wish to help supply the remaining deficit for FOOD FOR RUSSIA should send their contributions to: FOOD FOR RUSSIA, North Pacific Union Conference, P.O. Box 16677, Portland, OR 97216.

*Great characters are formed by little acts and efforts.*

4 Testimonies, p. 603



### Listen on TV

In a major effort to broaden its visibility throughout the United States, *Listen* magazine is conducting a nation-wide television advertising campaign.

Working with a major TV ad production and time brokerage firm, *Listen* is appearing in 225 60-second advertisement spots throughout the U.S., with a potential viewing audience of 250 million. T-shirts, as modeled above, are among the incentives offered in the ongoing ad campaign.

Glen Robinson

# WALLA WALLA COLLEGE

## Motel Rooms Reserved For Alumni Weekend

Walla Walla College's Alumni Association has reserved blocks of rooms in local motels for the Centennial Alumni weekend, April 22-26. Most of the rooms are non-smoking or will be made "smoke free." Reservations must be made by April 1 by calling the motel directly. Please identify

yourself as a WWC alumnus. The motels are listed below, from least to most expensive:

Whitman Annex	(509) 529-3400
Econo Lodge	(509) 529-4410
City Center Motel	(509) 529-2660
Travelodge	(509) 529-4940
Comfort Inn	(509) 525-2522
Pony Soldier	(509) 529-4360

Kelly Just

## Sequeira Awarded

Jenny Sequeira of College Place, Wash., received the 1991 Bill Burby Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship of \$2,000 at an awards banquet on Sept. 7. Sequeira is a junior health science major at Walla Walla College.

The award was granted based on Sequeira's "scholarly record, commitment, and potential for making future contributions to the health education field."

Sequeira contributed to the field of health education this summer, spending nine weeks in Sri Lanka working with the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA). Along with Bobby Jo Robinson, another WWC student, Sequeira visited villages, dug wells, transcribed health-help videos into local languages and did surveys for future health projects.

Sequeira plans to do full-time health education work in the third world after graduation from Walla Walla College in June 1992.

Steve Dunston



# Operation Bearhug: The Reflex Influence



Bruce Johnston

By Bruce Johnston

The excitement level is high. We have seen miracles. Nearly 1,000 souls baptized in 1991 as our Northwest people have responded. Fifty-five in nine teams have ministered there. M.M. Murga, the union president, wants to extend the heartfelt thanks of our brothers and sisters in the Russian Union.

Alf Birch, our global mission director, through generous gifts from friends, has taken five FAX machines into Russia — one for each conference and one for the Russian Union, as well as a computer. These same friends are purchasing a van that is so badly needed.

Plans are well under way for even greater outreach in the months ahead. How thrilled we are to have a part in what appears to be one of the greatest outpourings of the Holy Spirit in modern times.

My question is this: Does the Holy Spirit only work this powerfully in lands where people have lived under oppression, priva-

tion and suffering? We know the answer. There are thousands around us here in the Pacific Northwest who are open and responsive to the love of Christ through word and deed. Open and responsive to reading and studying the Bible.

Many would be open to an invitation to evangelistic meetings or to the worship service. There are children who would come to Sabbath school if properly arranged. There are thousands of unchurched Seventh-day Adventists many of whom would respond if we make them feel welcome and accepted. The Holy Spirit is as available here as it is in Russia. Bear hugs are appropriate in the USA too!

I see a "reflex influence" occurring here as a result of what is being done in Russia. I hear many saying, "We have it so good. We have become comfortable. It is now time for us to be in earnest about what we believe."

I am thrilled with this stirring among our people. Your pastors and conference leaders are ready to assist you, to train and equip you. Why not pray right now, offering yourself to God as a loving, caring witness? And please tell your pastor. 

*Bruce Johnston is president of the North Pacific Union Conference, with headquarters in Portland, Ore.*

## Food for Russia

By Bruce Johnston

As I write, a container with 20 tons of food is on its way to St. Petersburg expedited through ADRA (Adventist Development and Relief Agency). Another will soon be shipped to Moscow.

I want to thank you for your generous gifts. The response to this appeal has indicated to me that our people have tender hearts that respond to human needs.

Several have asked: "Is it really possible to get food through to our people, given the situation there?" Let me share with you the arrangements we have made:

1. ADRA is serving as our agent, to use their expertise to get it in. (They are

world renowned for getting food into difficult areas.)

2. Our church officials and the ADRA representative in Russia have been notified to be on hand to take immediate possession and oversee distribution as soon as it arrives.

Let's add our prayers to this process. Unquestionably God has been working miracles on behalf of His people in Russia.

The last word right out of Russia, through our own channels, is that the food lines have lengthened, leaving many people at the end of the lines without food. The worst of the Russian winter is just ahead.

So thanks again for your generosity in the face of this human need. 

## LETTERS

Letters to the GLEANER editor are welcome. Letters must be signed and should not exceed 150 words in length. Letter writers are urged to limit their letters to commentary on editorial matter appearing in this journal, and should specifically refer to the issue date and article in question. Priority will be given to letters received by the editor within 45 days of the cover date of issue in question. Letters which direct personal criticism at individuals will not be printed; conversely, letters which promote a person by name or description for gratuitous praise will be declined for publication. Highest priority will be given to letters which add information and commentary, pro and con, to material appearing in this journal. Address letters to Editor, Box 16677, Portland, OR 97216-0677.

### Summit Blessing

I am 14 years old, and I want to respond to a letter... (Dec. 16, 1991, issue) (which) criticize(d) ... "Summit Festival." I attended with several friends; we all enjoyed it and were blessed.

I hope the church continues to support such positive gatherings for their youth. . . .

*Melody Cross  
Garden Valley, Idaho*



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LITHO U.S.A. CP4830

*Consecrate yourself to God in the morning; make this your very first work.*

*Steps to Christ, p. 70*

POSTMASTERS ONLY: Send form 3579 to North Pacific Union GLEANER, P.O. Box 397, College Place, Washington 99324.

I was so impressed with the recent youth rally, Summit '91 (in the Idaho Conference) . . .

I was among those who helped transport 20 young people from south-central Idaho to Boise for the event. . . . However, being a mother of three teen-agers, I did more than just watch the program. What blessed me more than anything else was watching the kids. . . .

On the way home, the boys in my car talked enthusiastically about the pros and cons (most pros) of the day and looked forward to next year. . . .

One third of our group were not members of the Adventist Church. . . . They are still coming to our youth group and church services every Sabbath.

Thank you . . . for daring to communicate the love of God to our youth in a language they can understand. In response to Robert Parks and Betty Nelson (Dec. 16 issue) . . . allow me to paraphrase Proverbs 14:12, "There's a way that seemeth wrong unto a man, but the ways thereof are the ways of life."

Judy Thietten  
Twin Falls, Idaho

### Improbable Unity?

Amos asks the question, "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" Calls for unity, as proposed in your editorial on the Perth Declaration (Jan. 6 issue), are great if all are unified under the banner of truth. But how can those that are being criticized for preaching the Third Angel's Message to come out of Babylon unite with those who are bringing in a flood of Babylonian theology, worship formats and witnessing methods?

Indeed, Isaiah 59:19 is being fulfilled, "When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him."

Let there be a true repentance for forsaking our divine commission from leaders to members, then God Himself will unite us to give the Loud Cry to our dying world.

Harry A. Knopper, M.D.  
Pasco, Wash.

That a sizable percentage of Adventists — even leaders — may be found in less-than-vital spiritual fettle is not at issue. The Perth Declaration admits these shortcomings and calls for repentance, forgiveness and advance. If one perceives the main thrust of Adventism to have irrevocably gravitated toward secularized, politically entwined religion ("Babylon"), unity, based on a consensus to support such a system, would be to build on a foundation of sand. If, however, the mission is perceived to be evangelistic, redemptive and responsive to world needs in context of end-time prophecy (which I emphatically believe it is), we dare not lightly dismiss the Perth Declaration, despite traditionalist fears. The Perth Declaration is a solemn appeal to all who diverge from the historical mission of the church. The appeal is as much to those who are amalgamating mission with the world (a strong concern of this editor) as it is to those who support a more traditionalist expression of church mission. The Perth Declaration clarifies the options of choice. The invitation of repentance, revival and reconciliation has never

been so general, the prayer for unity never more fervent.

### Divergent Views

I always am eager to read the letters from readers in the GLEANER. They deserve their important place in the front of the magazine, and we need the full variety of viewpoints represented by them.

We should have no fear of printing or reading "negative" letters. Just because we may not agree with a reader's viewpoint doesn't make it negative — just different. A community as diverse as our denomination needs to hear from all of its members, and we need to bear the love for each other and security within ourselves to hear others' opinions non-judgmentally. Vitally important issues confront our church today, and we should value the input of any and every member in understanding them.

"The fact that there is no controversy or agitation among God's people should not be regarded as conclusive evidence that they are holding fast to sound doctrine" (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 707).

So, please keep those good letters coming!

Barbara Fetherson  
Eugene, Ore.

### Cause for Hope

I have noted that negative commenting is on the increase among many Adventists who consider themselves as defenders of the true faith . . . I find the same spirit among some who write the GLEANER.

Certainly we ARE in a trying and shaking time. . . . One could spend an entire lifetime bemoaning, "sighing and crying."

Thankfully, I am seeing more to rejoice over in the church these days. The involvement of our people in Russia is thrilling. Our day WILL come in North America. The growth in the Dominican Republic is phenomenal. To think that we need a new church built there weekly, and that Maranatha plans to build 785 new churches there in early 1992! What GOOD news!

Kirby Davis  
Malo, Wash.

### Privileged Voice

I want to respond to your Dec. 16 "Bearhug: Junkets for Privileged?" I respond with both concern and support of the position you have taken. Concern, first of all, that any Seventh-day Adventist knowing anything about world missions would voice criticism for the effort the church is putting forth in taking advantage of the opportunities that have been opened to Seventh-day Adventists in the former Soviet Union.

I respond in a very positive manner in the way you have covered the evangelistic efforts that have been put forth. Elder (M.P.) Kulakov has been a friend of mine ever since he first visited the United States in the late 1960s. I have had him and his wife in our home, sent him many books, projectors, filmstrips, video recorders, word pro-

cessor and all of the Westbrook Hospital video series.

I have also been among those "privileged" individuals who were invited by the General Conference to conduct workers' meetings and preach in the churches. That, of course, was before the opportunities that have been presented in the last few weeks. . . .

As the Seventh-day Adventist Church of North America gets involved in missions, and in this case foreign mission, I am certain that the work in America will find a greater commitment and devotion on the part of its members. Every Seventh-day Adventist should see these as opportunities for all "privileged" to have a part in the proclamation of the Gospel to all the world. . . .

W.D. Blehm  
Gresham, Ore.

### Personal Viewpoints

The GLEANER is known as a "people paper," and this is as it should be. "By our love one for another," readers will know we are His disciples.

In this issue's letters, you'll note a diversity of feelings; unbridled joy, mixed concern, stalwart disagreement. But you will see no personalized attacks, no accusations, no commentary to demean.

But we'd like to do more on this page to highlight the goodness of God in the experience of readers. We'd like first-person pieces which, like the covers, depict an appreciation of the working of God, even through learning experiences or tribulation.

To encourage such submissions, I take this opportunity to announce a contest, to begin March 1 and to conclude May 1, 1992. We will select a maximum of 20 pieces, for which we will compensate the writers \$25 for each piece accepted. Guidelines are as follows:

1. Pieces should be drawn from experiences or insights achieved while living or visiting in the Northwest.

2. Reference to the Adventist experience in the Northwest must be implied, or mentioned, in the article.

3. Writing may be in the form of a succinct parable or creative piece, a dialogue, or a personal experience of yourself or of someone who has related the events to you personally. However, experience must be either true, on the one hand, or clearly allegorically on the other hand. We will not accept fictitious experiences written true-to-life.

4. Writing which implies a conflict, an uncertainty, an issue, which, in the course of the narrative, finds resolution, is encouraged.

5. Pieces should be between 350 and 750 words in length.

6. Each author is limited to one submission for cost consideration. Submission of multiple entries is grounds for disqualification.

7. Topics of interest of the editor include, but are not limited to, the following: The experience of bringing someone (or being brought by someone) to Christ; the blessings of a spiritual/devotional home/private life; the blessings of conflict resolution with brethren; the effect of Godly influences in the Christian life; seasonal perspectives.

8. True names must accompany articles, and true bylines are encouraged; however, for publication, writer may request pseudonymity or withholding of name. Such requests will be honored; however, if a pseudonym is employed, it will be so identified with the article, without divulging the writer's true name or address.

9. Cutoff for submissions is June 1, 1992. Winners will be notified on or before Sept. 15, 1992. Pieces will begin to appear at the editor's discretion, following payment of royalties.

10. Pieces may include original or attributed poetry, but should not consist primarily of verse.

## ABOUT THE COVER

The cover photograph for the Feb. 3, 1992, GLEANER was selected from the portfolio of Gary J. Haynes, administrative director of pulmonary medicine and cardiology at Portland Adventist Medical Center in Portland, Ore. Titled "The Ole' Days" by the photographer, the country mood scene was taken near Goldendale, Wash., using a venerable Canon F1 camera loaded with Kodachrome 64 film on a sturdy tripod. This is the first published photograph from the recent slide contest.

territory were surpassed only by literature evangelist Larry Gasser of Auburn, Wash.

### More of the Same

"We need more LEs like Chris, and we're getting them," says John Silvestri, now associate publishing director of the North Pacific Union Conference. (Silvestri recently moved from the Oregon Conference office where he was publishing director; since Jan. 1, 1992, publishing leadership has been consolidated at the North Pacific Union Conference office.)

"There is a myth of the literature evangelist. I remember when I first went into this work, I came home one day and my wife was crying. Someone had left some ears of corn on our doorstep, alms for the poor. They figured we'd have trouble making it through the winter," says Silvestri.

"There's a lot of good about the myth. Hard work, ministry, 100 percent consecration, frugality, soul winning. We all want those kinds of examples, and good literature

evangelists always do these things. But the false part is that this is a second-class ministry, a struggling life, a penance for not getting a college education, things like that. That's wrong. It's a question of being able to enjoy this work, to be organized, to be goal oriented, to depend on the Lord, to believe in what you're doing, and to learn the necessary skills."

### A Better Myth

As the literature evangelistic ministry grows in the Northwest (sales were up five percent last year), leaders like John Silvestri look for the day when the colporteur will become indispensable in the work of local churches.

"Not long ago, we did an experiment in the Northwest. In one conference, through the years, the five literature evangelists had averaged five baptisms a year. You could count on it: five customers baptized — one per colporteur.

"Then we changed things. We had local

Lay Bible Ministers (church members trained in giving Bible studies) follow up the five LEs. We told the colporteurs to make the contacts, place the books, and to refer those who wanted to study to local church members. During that time, beginning immediately, and for several years, the literature evangelist contacts shot up from five to 25 baptisms a year. Five hundred percent instantaneous increase," he pauses. "We need more of this. Literature evangelists should be making contacts; trained members should be bringing their contacts into the church."

The scenario seems too simple, too pat, almost mythical. But then, literature evangelists, it seems, have always been creatures of mythology, giants of faith, behemoths of consecration, mammoths of gospel heroics.

The message today is that the myth, in its essential truth, lives on in the ministry of those who make of it the profession of a lifetime. 

*Ed Schwisow is editor of the GLEANER.*

# An Idaho Conference Bear Hug

By Gary Dennis

Flying at 31,000 feet, and looking down upon the snow-covered terrain of Greenland, gave us shivers. However, for five of us, the sight was an added reminder of our purpose for being there. It is best expressed by a phrase from the old mission hymn, "From Greenland's Icy Mountains" which says, "They call us to deliver their land from error's chain."

It was Tuesday, Oct. 1, and we were on our way to Russia where we would spend the next two and one-half weeks as the Idaho Conference representatives of Operation Bearhug. The five-member team, soon to be six, was led by Fred Cornforth, Gem State Adventist Academy and youth director for the Idaho Conference. Ed Scheresky, Idaho Conference Trust Department; Robyn Logan and Steve McPherson, students from Gem State Adventist Academy; and myself, Gary Dennis, teacher, made up the five that visited the North Caucasian Conference.

A special thanks goes to Anatoli, who as our translator, became the sixth team member as our voice, ears, and friend. These six were only the tip of a larger Idaho Conference team whose help and team spirit made the trip possible, from the students who raised money for Bibles to each member that prayed and donated materials for a successful mission.

The three cities of Makhachkala, Grozny, and Nalchik, which are located along the

Caucasus Mountain Range between the Caspian and Black seas, were our destinations. Each city, with populations of more than 500,000 (and 80 percent Moslem), have small Seventh-day Adventist congregations which are active and had made extensive plans for the visit by the Idaho Operation Bearhug Team.

### Makhachkala

To be greeted at the Makhachkala airport by Vladimir and Valery, the local pastors, with the universal language of a smile, was a reward we were soon to recognize on the face of each person we met. This small congregation of believers had distributed handbills and posters throughout the city in anticipation of the three-night series to be held in the local Avarian Theater. Their efforts were not in vain, for the 750-seat theater was well attended each night. On opening night both radio and television as well as three newspapers were there to interview Fred about the purpose of the visit.

Many of those who attended the meetings were those visited during the day, like the vice principal of the oldest elementary school in Makhachkala. She, along with many others, was to take her stand for Christ on the last evening of the meetings.

The Baptist family that opened their home to us was also represented when Pastor Fred invited those who wanted further study to take their stand. A Moslem family brought their daughter for special prayer because of

her leukemia, caused by the Chernoble accident. So many faces now flood our memories as one by one they stood in recognition of Christ as the Son of God.

### Grozny

Traveling Northwest along the Caucasus Mountains by bus from Makhachkala to Grozny was a musical trip. The choir, made up of members from all three churches, and which performed at each meeting, traveled with us, singing as we traveled. It was in Grozny that the director of the city's philharmonic chorus, after attending the first night's meeting, invited us to a private performance the next day at which they requested the privilege of performing as a part of the last night's meeting.

We were to learn in Grozny that Satan is not happy when his territory is threatened by the truth of the Bible, and that Grozny would live up to the meaning of its name, "trouble." Our hotel was only two blocks from the theater where the meetings were held. Upon returning to our hotel the night of our second meeting, we were surprised to see what appeared to be a streetcar accident right in front of the theater's entrance. Upon getting past the streetcar (like only a driver in Grozny can) we realized that every intersection around our hotel had been barricaded with streetcars, buses,

trucks and cars, and we were in the middle of the area where a local ethnic group had decided to rally the people for a civil conflict. We were awakened during the night several times to automatic gun fire.

We prayed that God would override Satan's attack. Even though attendance at the last meeting was reduced because of the conflict, those in attendance responded very positively to the invitation to accept Jesus and to continue with study for baptism.

Leaving any group of beloved people is difficult, but even more so when they are threatened by civil conflict. We praise God for the strong leadership in the Grozny church by Boris, their pastor, and for the spirit of friendship and generosity shown by their church family. Their spirit could best be summed up by a hymn which they sang for worship one evening. Although we did not recognize the words, the melody was unmistakable and we were able to sing along with them: "When Peace, Like a River."

#### Nalchik

To visit Nalchik, filled with trees adorned in their autumn colors, and overshadowed by snowcapped Mt. Elbrus, the highest mountain in Russia, is a sight of great beauty. The smiles on the faces of the Russian people coming to the meetings reflected their city's beauty.

Our bus arrived in time for us to have about two hours for preparation before the first meeting. With the slide projector set up for the travel presentation, and the choir in place and ready to sing, the meeting started at its scheduled six o'clock p.m. time. Again the auditorium was filled and remained so for all three meetings. To a congregation of about 355 members, that meets in the pastor's home each Sabbath, will soon be added more than 100 new members by baptism, with others continuing Bible studies. Under the leadership of their new pastor, Vladimer, the Nalchik Church has made arrangements to rent an auditorium for their Sabbath services and weekly Bible study, since the pastor's home is now too small.

When the time for departure from Nalchik comes, there is a bond of family fellowship which has developed between the team members and the people of all three cities which will not be broken. To meet again is the desire of both groups, and if not on this earth, then surely in the earth made new.

John Gatchet, principal of Gem State Adventist Academy, had said upon our departure from Boise, Idaho, that this would be a life-changing experience. He was right! All through the North Caucasian Conference the harvest was in full swing, and although we had tasted of that harvest on many occasions, we had been involved in a harvest that

was far more rewarding, filling and life changing. "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth laborers into His harvest" (Matthew 9:37, 38).

Again we look down upon Greenland from our flight as we return to our families in Idaho. Our prayer is that soon we may sing the final stanza of its hymn:

"Waft, Waft, ye winds, His story,  
And you, ye waters, roll,

Till, like a sea of glory,  
It spreads from pole to pole;  
Till o'er our ransomed nature  
The Lamb for sinners slain,  
Redeemer, King, Creator,  
In bliss returns to reign."

(From Greenland's Icy Mountain, verse 4) 

Gary Dennis writes from Nampa, Idaho. He is head teacher of the Eagle School.



This Russian group came to say farewell to the team from Idaho. Among them was a former KGB agent, now an active layman in the Adventist Church, a Moslem professor from Grozny University accepting Christianity for the first time and several young people who wished to join the church.

## New Television Program Showcases Healthful Living

By Gerry Chudleigh

"When you hear a response like that, you know you've got a winner."

That was Adventist Medical Center president Glenn Aufderhar's reaction as Faith For Today's new "Lifestyle Magazine" show was previewed before an audience in Georgia.

Their enthusiasm resulted in contributions of more than \$200,000 — the largest single offering in Faith For Today's history. It is making possible production of 13 addi-

tional shows for the 1992 schedule.

Faith For Today's "Lifestyle Magazine" now gives the Seventh-day Adventist Church a half-hour weekly program wholly dedicated to the Adventist health message. "The Adventist Church has done a good job of delivering quality healthcare through its institutions," Aufderhar remarks, "but it has not done a good job of communicating the health message to itself or the general public. In 'Lifestyle Magazine,' Faith For Today has found its special niche to accomplish something for the church that is not being done in

and his wife, Young, are currently training the members so that they can give personal Bible studies at each small group.

During 1992, the Korean Company will have two evangelistic meetings, two stop-smoking programs, and will continue its weekly broadcast of the television evangelistic program.

Currently, the Korean company is hoping to organize into a full-fledged church in

July and to have 100 members by the end of 1992.

The Korean Company is sponsored by the Northside Seventh-day Adventist Church under the leadership of Pastor Jim Osborne. The sponsorship of the pastor of the Korean community is a joint effort of Omega Ministries, a Korean evangelistic entity of North America, and the Alaska Conference.



The newly organized Anchorage Korean Company with Pastor Sang Jin Baek on the second row, right side; his wife, Young, on the fourth row, right side.

## Alaska Woman Attends Ministry Retreat

Alaska Conference Women's Ministry director, Rosa West, attended the recent Atlantic Union Conference Women's Retreat. She reported receiving spiritual growth and blessings from attending this event which was organized by Women's Ministry commissioner for the Atlantic Union, Junell Vance.

Main speaker at the Sabbath services was Rosa Banks, field secretary and director of the Human Relations Department of the General Conference. Her sermon focused on how precious God's children are to Him.

Juanita Kretschmar, director of the New York Van Ministries, presented the Sunday morning devotional, admonishing the attendees to be more aware of the fulfillment of Bible prophecies and the signs of the soon coming of Jesus.

Rosa West



Rosa West and Juanita Kretschmar, left, chat after the Sunday morning worship service.



Rosa West of Anchorage, Alaska, left, enjoys fellowship with Rosa Banks, center, and Junell Vance, right.

## OREGON

### American Christmas Cheers Russians

Practical matters have a way of finding resolution. Sometimes they even bring new friendships. Such has been the case of the Vancouver, Wash., Church.

The arrival of people from the former USSR has opened practical doors of friendship. These newest people of America, like other nationalities who have come before, were in need of basic supplies. So where did they come? To Vancouver's Community Services facility.

But there was a challenge. English and Russian language translation was often reduced to simple sign language. That's when Mabel Storz, the center's director, came up with a practical solution. If Americans could go to other countries and teach English as a second language, why couldn't the Vancouver Church do the same thing in the U.S.? Now instead of teaching English in a foreign country as she had done as a missionary, she would teach those who had come to her homeland.

Soon the classes grew to more than 50 students in each of two weekly language classes plus a smaller Sabbath afternoon Bible study. Some students have also started attending Sabbath worship services and enrolled their children in church school.

Last December the Vancouver Church hosted a Christmas party for its new American friends. For some like five-month-



While Nadezhda Zagariya sings Christmas carols, Olga clutches gifts from her new American friends.

old Christina Vereshchagin it was their first Christmas in America. For others like the Mishchuk family it was their second holiday season that could be celebrated openly rather than in the private and quiet of a Russian home.

Tables overflowing with home cooking, boxes and boxes of surprises, and Christmas food baskets greeted the 260 new Americans on a Sunday evening. There were Christmas carols in two languages and recitation of the manger story in Russian-flavored English. But most of all there was friendship.

Mabel Storz had shown unconditional friendship. The rest of the Vancouver Church family had shared a kind of love that knows no international borders. And the spirit of heaven that had been His message on earth had affirmed the season. Were angels singing once again?

Jay Prall



### Shovelsful of Honor

On Nov. 26, William L. Golden, 94, was honored at a special Thanksgiving assembly for his contributions to Tualatin Valley Junior Academy. He has spent more than 60 hours working as a volunteer landscaper at the Portland, Ore., area school. His work includes trimming shrubs, cleaning flower beds, spreading bark, thinning trees and edging the lawn. A member of the Forest Grove, Ore., Church, which is a TVJA constituent congregation, the World War I veteran and father of five is active in his church activities, reads heavily, cultivates his own garden every year, cans and freezes produce, cooks, repairs and recently repainted his own home and carries on active correspondence with church and civic leaders.

... Prayer is the key in the hand of faith to unlock heaven's storehouse. ... Steps to Christ, p. 94

## Springfield Pathfinders Serve Community

Despite the departure of long-time Pathfinder leaders and the illness of another, the Springfield, Ore., Pathfinder Club remains active and creative in its activities.

Previous district coordinators Hew and Carolyn Lipscomb accepted a pastoral assignment in Alaska some time ago, leaving local leaders Wimpy and Franke Stebbeds to serve double duty, whereupon Wimpy suffered a heart attack, his second. The club agenda, which had already been planned, had to be curtailed.

Instead of taking a two-week trip to Canada, a shorter four-day excursion to Astoria and Illwaco, Wash., took place, with

the added activity of "Adopt-A-Block," which involved the debris and weed removal from a dividing strip on a major city boulevard.

Flowers and shrubs were planted on the divider, as well, and this service to the community came in addition to a "Trash-A-Thon" the club had taken part in earlier in the year.

The club has collected 2,338 food items in their annual food drive for the needy, roughly one-fourth of which was brought in by Pathfinder Bryce Cornwell, a repeat performance from his achievements in former years.

This year, the club elected to donate their usual amount of money normally spent on exchanging gifts among themselves to buying gifts for the needy through "Toys for Tots."

Virgil Phillips



Four Springfield, Ore., Pathfinders prepare food boxes for delivery, left to right, Bryce Cornwell, Michael Ward, Jason Kriegelstein and Danny Hayden.



### Religious Accommodation Given

Maria Martinez was recently accommodated for her religious belief and practice by her Gresham, Ore., employer, a microelectronics company. She eagerly shared this faith-building experience with David Allen, pictured, and his senior Bible students on Nov. 7 at Columbia Adventist Academy. Martinez's presentation was part of a seminar on avoiding Sabbath employment problems and securing exemptions from labor union membership presented by Diana Justice, associate director of the North Pacific Union Conference Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department.

results from last year's specific fund raising programs and a plan for next year. Walla Walla College received the \$15,000 Silver Award for its development plan. In individual categories, Walla Walla College received \$1,500 for the young alumni program, \$3,000 for the volunteers program, and \$8,950 for its work with businesses.

Of 13 Adventist institutions participating in BECA P.S., Walla Walla College places second. Southern College in Tennessee placed first, receiving a total of \$35,950.

Half of the grant money is earmarked for the general operating budget. The remaining half will be used by the Advancement Office for fund raising programs.

Rosa Jimenez

## Business Students Tend to Business

For the second straight year, Walla Walla College business students have ranked high on a national business examination.

The Business Achievement Test is administered by the Educational Testing Service and covers the areas of accounting, economics, management, quantitative business analysis, finance, and marketing.

As a school, Walla Walla College ranked in the top 30 percent in five of the six areas, and in the top 10 percent in accounting. The average WWC student achieved the 60th percentile nationally.

Over 10,000 students representing 157 schools such as the University of South Carolina, University of San Diego, University of Missouri at Kansas City, Southern Illinois University, Linfield College, Queens College, and Atlanta University participated in the test.

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## GENERAL NEWS



### Chinese Church Growth

Built within the past few years in Zhenjiang Province, China, this church was constructed with funds raised by the believers. With 2,000 believers in the congregation, the church which seats 1,000 is already too small. According to recent statistics, there are an estimated 80,000 Seventh-day Adventists in China. A study by Beijing University estimates that there are more than 200,000 Sabbath keeping Adventists scattered throughout China.

## Presses in Russia To Print Bibles

Bibles will soon be easier for Russian believers to find, thanks to The Source of Light Publishing House that will be capable of printing an estimated 1.5 million Bibles a year.

Presses and other equipment for the Seventh-day Adventist Publishing House have arrived on site in Zaoski, Russia, according to Richard Wilcox, who works with Soviet Affairs for the Adventist Church.

Arriving from Germany, the shipment includes a web press, two two-color presses, and a one-color press. When completed, the publishing house will be capable of seeing a job through from start to finish, from setting type to printing and binding.

Still to arrive are a set of prepared printing plates for the Russian language Bibles which were purchased in Germany. By using prepared plates, the Publishing House will drastically speed up production of the Bibles.

Funded by private donations, The Source of Light Publishing House is believed to be the first private publishing house in the USSR, Wilcox says.

Rick Kajima and Shirley Burton



### Congressional Record Award

Neal C. Wilson accepts a framed copy of the statement from the U.S. Congressional Record honoring him for more than 50 years of service to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Making the presentation on behalf of Congresswoman Constance Morella, Mary Brown read the statement which noted Wilson's selfless devotion to improving the lives of others. Morella went on to thank him for his friendship and the good example he set for others to follow. Presented in late October, the tribute was part of General Conference ceremonies honoring Wilson.

# North Pacific Union Conference Focuses on Space-Driven Radio

By Ed Schwisow

The sound of KGTS-FM radio, owned and operated by Walla Walla College, and now a station carrying the most-highly-listened-to programming in its market, may soon blanket North America.

In an action backed by three years of ongoing study and hours of recent presidential and technical-level deliberation, the North Pacific Union Conference Executive Committee voted in regular session on Jan. 30, 1992, to accept, in concept, a proposal for placing a signal originating at KGTS-FM in College Place, Wash., on satellite, where it can be picked up anywhere in North America for rebroadcast.

The availability of such a signal will encourage local churches and institutions to foster Adventist radio in their communities, the committee was told.

The satellite signal will be designed to encourage localization through the automated insertion of local voices, local call letters and local announcements, including worship services, the committee learned.

The satellite broadcasting of such a signal, while costly, would be far less than the annual average programming costs for even one fully-manned, self programming radio station in North America, according to cost analyses presented to the committee.

A steering committee, chaired by Jere Patzer, president of the Upper Columbia Conference, has been authorized to lead out in planning for satellite broadcast of the KGTS-originated signal.

## Anglo Evangelism Expo

In further action, the committee voted to encourage Alf Birch, church ministries director and coordinator of Operation Bearhug, to spearhead a plan to conduct a council on Anglo-American evangelism in the Seattle area in late summer or fall of 1993. Noted was the relatively slow growth of church membership among Anglo-Americans, and the challenge of reaching largely Anglo-American-populated Northwestern cities.

The council will bring participants from throughout the North American Division.

## Operation Bearhug Update

Birch informed the committee that one shipment of 20 tons of food had been sent to St. Petersburg, Russia, under a plan, underwritten in full by write-in donation response to a recent Food for Russia notice in the GLEANER. A second shipment will have followed immediately on safe arrival of the first shipment, Birch said.

He confirmed some apprehension that such shipments of food may be appropriated in acts of piracy in the strife-ridden region, and indicated that special measures are being taken to ensure safe passage of the food to Adventist Russians, under the auspices of the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA).

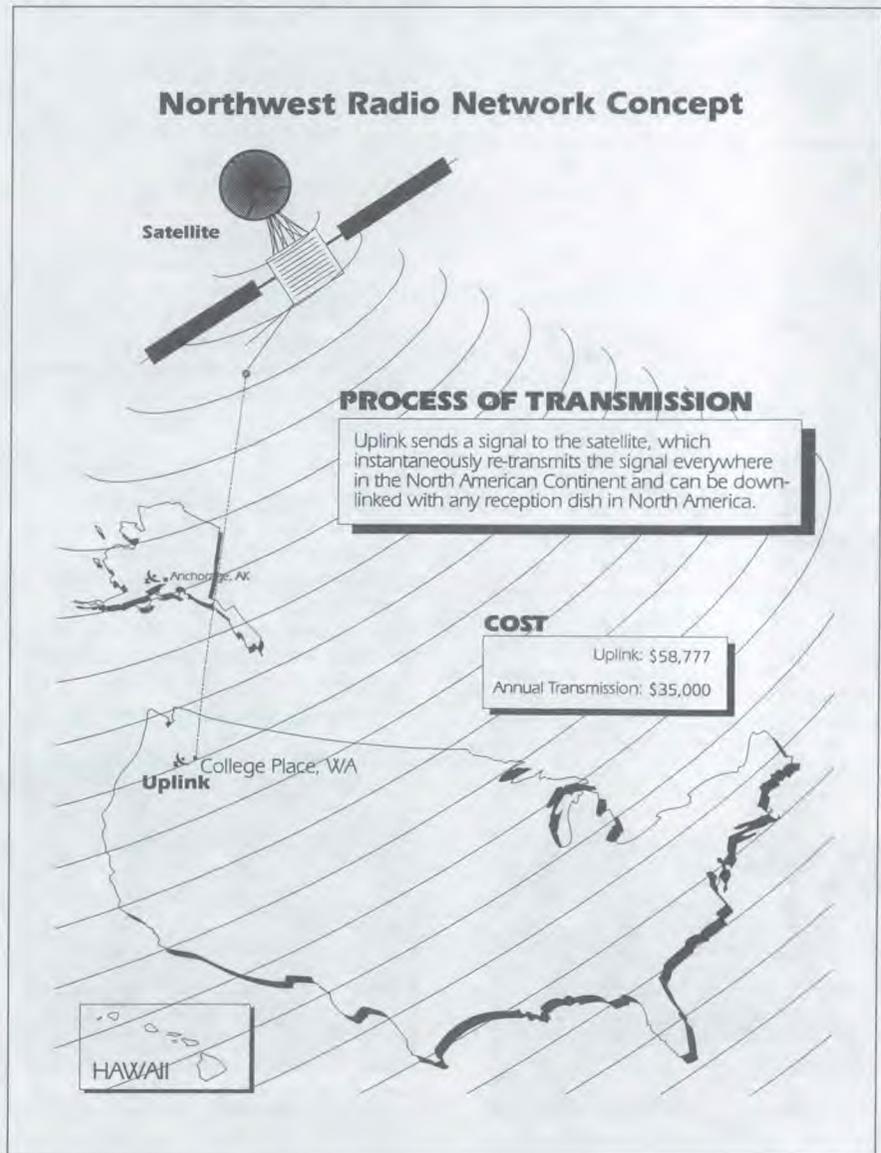
## Membership Increases

Paul Nelson, executive secretary of the North Pacific Union Conference, reported that 1991 accessions to membership in the union exceeded those for 1990. Accessions (baptisms and professions of faith) for 1991

totaled 2,419, up from 2,359 in 1990. The net gain for the year 1991 was also higher than for 1990. Recorded membership at the end of 1991 stood at 71,742.

## Member Benevolence

Benevolent gifts, including tithes and mission offerings for church operation and outreach, increased significantly during 1991, reported Robert Rawson, North Pacific Union Conference treasurer. Tithe for the territory increased from \$42,384,633 in 1990 to \$44,989,666 in 1991, a percentage gain of 6.31 percent. The Upper Columbia and Washington conferences led all other



conferences with a tithe increase, each, of more than 7.5 percent.

### Outstanding Educators

Outstanding Northwestern educators will continue to receive performance awards each year, thanks to an authorized appropriation of \$49,300, to be allocated over six years time, to co-sponsor Zapara awards. (See previous article.)

### GLEANER Underwriting

An estimated \$20,000 in annual expense is being saved at the North Pacific Union Conference level due to consolidation of the GLEANER/Communication Department staff, noted Rawson. It was voted to apply this amount to maintain or reduce current subscription rates assigned to local conferences for members' subscriptions to the GLEANER.

### Publishing Gains

Mel Lyon, director of the North Pacific Union Conference Publishing Department, noted that sales in January, under direct North Pacific Union Conference supervi-

sion are surpassing levels for 1991. The committee voted to express appreciation to all district leaders, and especially to former leaders Neil Busby and Alan Radke, who have elected to return to sales positions in preference to relocation to other leadership posts.

In recent years prior to 1992, local conference personnel coordinated door-to-door book distribution in their territories.

### Religious Liberty Action

In further action involving a department operated directly by North Pacific Union Conference personnel in local conference territories, Richard Lee Fenn, director of the Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department (PARL), presented a plan for organization of the Religious Liberty Association of the Northwest, a new entity which will encourage non-Adventist involvement and will add new latitude to efforts to safeguard religious rights in the Northwest. The committee authorized the plan. This does nothing to alter the activities of PARL, which remains as a department directly representing the church, Fenn said.

### Other Reports

In a report of progress in Alaska, Jim Stevens, president, noted that 1991 was a year of one of the highest growth rates for that territory in its history. Duane McKey, pastor of the Pendleton, Ore., Church and Duane Bietz, M.D., reported their impressions of the advance of the church in Russia. Both accompanied Bruce Johnston, North Pacific Union Conference president, during his evangelistic campaign in Leningrad/St. Petersburg last summer. McKey conducted a baptismal class during the campaign and served as general evangelism assistant, while Dr. Bietz and he conducted a stop-smoking class. Dr. Bietz also spoke to assemblies of medical students and faculty while in Russia.

## Help for Russia

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is gearing up for large-scale food distribution programs in several of the former Soviet republics, according to Ralph Watts, ADRA's president.

ADRA, through a grant worth about \$12 million from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), plans to distribute 10,780 metric tons of food to people in the Ural Mountain region of central Russia. This region is difficult to reach and is an area with some of the greatest needs, according to a USDA official.

Food will leave U.S. port cities in March and is expected to arrive in Russia in April. Distribution to more than 385,000 people will last four months.

In another initiative, ADRA Germany is seeking a grant to provide food to the European parts of the former Soviet Union including the Baltic republics, Belorussia, Georgia, Moldavia, the Ukraine and western Russia, including Moscow. The project is proposed to run from February to April and is worth close to \$3 million.

"The needs in the former republics are extremely critical," says Watts. "Food shortages have not been exaggerated. There is no question that people are hungry."

Last December, readers of the North Pacific Union Conference GLEANER gave nearly \$50,000 toward "Food for Russia," a plan to help alleviate the needs of thousands of brand new Adventist members in the former Soviet republic.



*From the Pastor's Desk*

## Pastoral Prayer Partners

By Chad McComas

Debi, my wife, and I have discovered a Biblical principle in the last two years that has changed our ministry! We have found what it means to have pastoral prayer partners supporting us as Aaron and Hur supported Moses on the mountain in Exodus 17.

We can agree with this statement:

"Happy the minister who has a faithful Aaron and Hur to strengthen his hands when they become weary and to hold them up by faith and prayer. Such a support is a powerful aid to the servant of Christ in his work and will often make the cause of truth to triumph gloriously," Ellen G. White, *Testimonies*, vol. 4, p. 531.

Satan tries to get the pastoral leadership and the people of the church fighting among themselves rather than fighting the enemy together. When this happens, leadership focuses on the problems rather than on the problem solver. Discouragement sets in and the church suffers. Pastoral Prayer Partners are developed to hold leadership up in daily prayer. Prayer partners support the leader-

ship of the church no matter what! Prayer partners are committed to daily prayer for their own life and accountability to another prayer partner.

The Biblical principle works!

If you'd like to learn more about developing prayer partners in your church to support your leadership, order the Prayer Partner Ministry Manual from the Ministerial Association of the Oregon Conference, 13455 S.E. 97th, Clackamas, OR 97015.

It includes all you need to plan a retreat to develop prayer partners in your church. There is also a video available with a presentation by Debi and me on the prayer partner program and a message from our prayer partners about what the program means to them.

This ministry will give vital support to the spiritual leadership of your church; it will help develop people of prayer and it will help the church move ahead in victory.

*Chad McComas is pastor of the Medford, Ore., Seventh-day Adventist Church.*

# Adventism: From Crisis Crutch To Conscious Conviction



Ed Schwisow

By Ed Schwisow

"We need Jesus in times of crisis," echoes through our Christian culture.

For many, the "myth of God" or the hypothesis of heaven has become, not a way of life, but a crisis-survival routine.

Crises lead to introspection; introspection to discovery of spiritual need; need to a return to childhood faith; faith to an ethic for a new beginning.

Conversions occur, "The Lord had to wake me up. It was a blessing," we hear.

Evangelists say: "Those in crisis or in social or geographical transition respond best to the gospel."

Which leads to an amazing concept. If growth in faith is fertilized by crisis, then, should we not PRAY for crises, that the church may thrive?

## Ethical Dilemma

We wouldn't be the first to try it! Take the colonization of America, the all-time epic of crisis conversion carried to its diabolical extreme. Christians had learned that if you destroyed a society and killed a significant number of the population, you could bring about mass conversions.

Priests grew piously proud of their "good God, bad God" routines. Thousands of trembling heathen cowered beneath the cleansing flood.

Atheist revolutionaries of this century played a similar game, offering, this time, a sickle in one hand and socialism in the other. You took your pick: you lost your spirit or your life.

## New Crises, New Creeds

Future political and religious movements will become even more adept at engineering crises to bring change. Prophetic faith and human history foretell it.

But if we Adventists use our faith merely to gain material, physical or psychological advantage over our neighbors in crisis, have we not, too, descended to the lowest ethical levels, to the santeria cellar of voodoo and Simon the Sorcerer?

## A Deeper Look

Perhaps it's time we recognized some straight facts about who we are and why we

are. For one, this church was not created so that Adventists could save themselves, temporally or spiritually. That can happen instantaneously, without baptism, without a church, without a preacher. You don't have to join the church to be saved.

We do not package salvation, though we urgently market it. Our business is a bit less heady.

What we are is a church which, for reasons known best by God, have been given profound answers for a world caught at crunch time with no visible means of escape. God wants to wind things up His way; the world seems on course to biological, economic and political implosion.

Yes, there's a crisis, and if the polls are right, it doesn't take the church to spread the word. What people want to know is the answer to the Pentecost question: "Men and brethren, what shall we do?"

## The Answer

To answer that question, we unflinchingly offer: "Fear God and give glory to him. . . ." It's the prime directive at crunch time. It's an uncompromising message, but we know it's the right one. It fits world conditions perfectly. And so, as a church, we pattern our outreach to spin it right, to connect it to thousands of audiences with amazingly diverse receptor points. Full well we know that without supernatural help, all we have is an unpopular message at a tough time, scheduled in an impossible time frame. We realize our weakness; we sense the gargantuan task. And so we turn, hopeless, to the Lord. And He invites us to give it a go, anyway. "Try a lifestyle that makes sense," He challenges. "People will laugh at first, but in the end, I'll work it to our advantage. Someday, everyone will imitate you."

And so, as a group, feeling alone and weak, we organize and make solid choices. We raise the level of healthful living; we answer any doubts about Creator allegiance by observing the Seventh-day Sabbath; we wax outspoken to a fast-deteriorating world; we carry the message beyond the geographic comfort zones; we seek focus in reviewing the life, death and character of Jesus; we place our children in fast-track schools to mission; we make no bones about life, death and the hereafter; we welcome change that leads to better dialogue with our audiences; we meet frequently, and read frequently, for information and encouragement; we absorb the peaceful blessings of fasting and prayer.

Because of our mission, we decide that

we WILL NOT seek salvation by lifestyle; we WILL NOT expect a decaying world to materially enrich us; we WILL NOT gloat as a people in any measure of temporal prosperity; we WILL NOT dress, drive, or develop a lifestyle that contradicts the spirit of our message; we WILL NOT divert ourselves in frivolous debate on obscure questions of faith; we WILL NOT tamper with our moral credibility by breaking sacred vows; we WILL NOT, in party spirit, provoke crises to promote partisan change; we WILL NOT be called aside from our mission.

Our mission is clear, today. Christ has not come, and we know why. Much of the world remains untouched by any warnings. The opening up of Russia has given us a foretaste of how massively unprepared we would be to reach the Chinese, were the

cont. on page 7

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# LETTERS

Letters to the GLEANER editor are welcome. Letters must be signed and should not exceed 150 words in length. Letter writers are urged to limit their letters to commentary on editorial matter appearing in this journal, and should specifically refer to the issue date and article in question. Priority will be given to letters received by the editor within 45 days of the cover date of issue in question. Letters which direct personal criticism at individuals will not be printed; conversely, letters which promote a person by name or description for gratuitous praise will be declined for publication. Highest priority will be given to letters which add information and commentary, pro and con, to material appearing in this journal. Address letters to Editor, Box 16677, Portland, OR 97216-0677.

## Trademark Puzzler

In the Jan. 6, 1992, issue of the GLEANER on page 25 under General News, The State of Religious Liberty, the article titled "Use of Church Name," I was appalled at the fact that the General Conference did not appeal Judge Mariana R. Pfaelzer's decision to let a Gay/Lesbian organization use the Church name Seventh-day Adventist.

What is the message being given here?

How is informing church members that homosexual practices will be subject to church discipline going to be right according to the Word of God when no appeal was made to stand up to this woman judge's decision?

Then right below this article allowing the Gay/Lesbian organization the right to use the name Seventh-day Adventist is a short article about John R. Marik in Hawaii denied the right to use the name Seventh-day Adventist in his organization.

Theda E. Edmondson  
Hamilton, Mont.

See article by Richard Lee Fenn on page 6 of this issue.

## Likes Disease

It's great to have Alden Thompson back! I thoroughly enjoyed his previous column, so am pleased to see a new column with a broader scope. Dr. Thompson has the unique ability to communicate intelligently yet with a simplicity that cuts through to the heart of a matter. I appreciate his insights on current issues and his willingness to tackle controversial subjects. May his "disease" never be cured!

Nancy Barnett  
Renton, Wash.

## GLEANER Behind Bars

I received my January issues of the GLEANER. I enjoy sharing the GLEANER among fellow Christians here at O.C.I. (Oregon Correctional

## Operation Bearhug Please! Can You Help With These Russian Projects?

Yes, you and a friend, or several friends, or your Sabbath school class, youth group, or local church, can sponsor the following much needed projects in Russia:

### Projectors and Slides for Pastors:

For \$100 a church in Russia can be equipped with a projector (halogen lamp), a screen, and a set of 24 evangelistic subjects (with sermon outline manuscripts), each of which are illustrated by means of beautiful slides featuring Bible texts superimposed on magnificent landscape and nature scenes, as well as other illustrative material.

Yes, by providing such equipment for a Russian pastor, you will help him attract large audiences in his community who are still receptive to the everlasting gospel and could become part of our world Adventist family.

We need 150 units of this equipment immediately!

### Revelation Seminar materials:

Revelation Seminar material, beautifully presented in the Russian language in four colors, and comprising 24 lessons to a set, is now available for the use of pastors and evangelists. In order to place a bulk order of at least 25,000 sets within 30 days of this appeal, \$12,500 (at 50 cents per set), is needed!

Would you like to share in sponsoring this project? If you act NOW you will help our Russian pastors and evangelists to have this captivating material available this coming summer to present to fellow Russians, who in their bewilderment over recent events in their country are looking for spiritual road maps.

## Operation Bearhug

Yes, I would like to help sponsor evangelistic equipment/materials for Russian pastors:

Projection equipment unit(s): \_\_\_\_\_ unit(s) @ \$100 per unit \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Revelation Seminar materials: \_\_\_\_\_ sets @ \$.50 per set \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Street/Box \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Make your check payable to Operation Bearhug, and send it with this coupon to your Conference President's office, or North Pacific Union Conference, P.O. Box 16677, Portland, OR 97216. Thank you for being part of Operation Bearhug!

Institution) who are confined. It has turned many to Jesus over the months. In (the) January (Jan. 20, 1992) issue on page 11, I read an article about calendars; so has the fellow SDA brother who lives here. We are glad to see that Jim Miller has printed up calendars for staff members who work here. It will spread the love of Jesus to them, and hopefully bring them the joy and peace of Jesus. Hopefully, some day these calendars will be available to inmates and their families who visit O.C.I., and reach every man's heart in and outside of prison. In Jesus love and kindness.

Michael Robert Haynes  
Salem, Ore.

## Leadership Blamed

A Call for Unity — Jan. 6 GLEANER & Kinship S.D.A. The Adventist church (used to have) unity. . . .

The blame should be put on those persons responsible for starting these movements and on the church leaders who allowed this divisiveness to come into our midst. . . .

Why were these folks not disfellowshipped immediately by those churches who held their membership? Why did not the conference leaders take action to (sic) the churches that held them as their members? To disfellow (sic) for grievous sins and apostasy is proper. If this would have been done, we would not need to feel the embarrassment and humiliation of this group and we could have won the case, because they would no longer be considered SDAs. . . .

We must hasten to do God's will and put these evils away from us before God's judgments are put down upon all of us for their sins.

Dorothy LaVallee  
Central Point, Ore.

The ellipses in this letter are unusual in that they indicate deletion of a substantial number of other groups and/or practices with which the writer disagrees. This lengthy letter, in keeping with letters column policy, was edited to include reference only to those groups specifically mentioned in the Jan. 6 articles.

*Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.*  
Philippians 4:4-6 (NIV)

# ABOUT THE COVER

"Fisherman's Paradise," — cover photo for the March 16, 1992, GLEANER, was taken at Prince William Sound, Alaska. Photographer Randall Mayberry is a dentist for the U.S. Coast Guard Air Station at Sitka, Alaska. A photography hobbyist for 24 years, Mayberry used his Olympus OM-2 camera, ASA 100, with Ektachrome film for this picture.



## FOCUS ON OPERATION BEARHUG

# Bearhug Embraces Russian in America

By Jay E. Prall

Operation Bearhug, the Northwest's outreach to fellow church members in the Russian Commonwealth, is usually an export business. Bibles, preachers, and a host of other evangelistic resources have been sent to the former Soviet Union. Late last year, however, Operation Bearhug came to the United States.

Last year, Marina Mikhalyova, a vice president of the Adventist media center in the Commonwealth, accepted an invitation from Walter and Gertrude Emori, Medford, Ore., to come to America where she could undergo cataract surgery, receive dental care, and have access to other medical resources.

Why Mikhalyova? She had become very familiar to Northwest Adventists during Operation Bearhug evangelism. During the first portion of last year's trip to Russia by Oregon Conference President Don Jacobsen, Dr. Emori, and Vancouver, Wash., Pastor Ed Gienger, she had been their translator. Others had also benefited from her language skills.

In addition to receiving an estimated \$9,000 in complimentary medical care, Mikhalyova was also able to share the needs of this burgeoning mission field during her visit. Churches all along the West Coast heard about the challenges of Adventists a continent away.

And in the spirit of Operation Bearhug, Americans opened their hearts, their checkbooks, and their cupboards. Mikhalyova carried, on her return to Russia, enough donated dollars to purchase one year's worth of television air time to blanket all republics in the Commonwealth. Clothes, food, Bibles and religious literature filled 26 boxes with American love.

A special collection of letters, gifts and photos from the children of the Medford Church were earmarked for their young counterparts in the Commonwealth.

"If young people begin to be friends, there is a great future for our church — unless interrupted by the Second Coming," Mikhalyova declared during her U.S. visit.

The American Bearhug also included an opportunity for the Russian broadcaster to visit the denomination's Adventist Media Center in Southern California. A side trip to Disneyland was sandwiched between a series of appointments in the Pacific Union Conference.



In a circle of love with her American friends, Marina Mikhalyova (in white sweater) shares one last prayer before departing for her homeland and Oregon's adopted mission field.

But it wasn't Disneyland or America's shopping meccas that were on the mind of Mikhalyova as she prepared for departure in the lobby of Portland International Airport. It was people. People who had given her 20-20 vision and other medical care. People who had shared their prayers. People who had given their material possessions. People who had put life into a Bearhug slogan.

With her 26 pieces of luggage checked

without charge by Alaska Airlines, there were a few last-minute phone calls to new friends. Parting photos, tearful prayers and warm hugs closed another chapter of Operation Bearhug. The global community of Seventh-day Adventists had grown one bearhug tighter. 🐻

Jay E. Prall is director of the Oregon Conference Department of Communications.

## Food for Russia Report

By Alf Birch

In connection with this appeal, the services of Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) International were requested in December. A supplier in Europe was soon contracted with by ADRA on behalf of the North Pacific Union Conference. On Jan. 20, ADRA informed the NPUC that a container carrying 20 metric tons of food had been shipped from the Netherlands to St. Petersburg on Jan. 16. The shipment contained:

White rice — packed in 50 kg bags (6 tonne)

White beans — packed in 25 kg bags (6 tonne)

Dried skimmed milk powder — packed in 25 kg bags (4 tonne)

Cooking oil — packed in 20 litre tins (3 tonne)

Sugar — packed in 25 kg bags (1 tonne)

On Feb. 12, news was received from St. Petersburg that the food shipment had arrived and been distributed to our very grateful believers in St. Petersburg and environs.

The Food for Russia Appeal that was featured in the GLEANER on Dec. 17 yielded \$47,437.81. The first shipment cost \$21,317.59. A second shipment of food to Russia has been negotiated with ADRA for the balance of the funds received.

We all rejoice that God made it possible for us to share in this project. We thank our GLEANER readers and those who responded so magnanimously for their support. 🐻

Alf Birch is Operation Bearhug Coordinator

# FOCUS ON OPERATION BEARHUG



## Zinaida's Miracles

By Max C. Torkelsen II

Twelve-year-old Zinaida isn't like other Russian girls her age. She suffers from a severe case of scoliosis. The curvature of her spine has reached 90 degrees and could be life-threatening because of its effect on her breathing. Medical help for such problems has not been available in her country, but even before she knew to ask Him, God seemed to know the desires of Zinaida's heart and put a plan in motion.

Zinaida Koloskova and her family live in Tula, Russia, where the Seventh-day Adventist Church is establishing a media center to provide radio and TV production for the entire Euro-Asia Division. Zinaida's mother, Olga, met some Adventist people, and their Christian witness had a lasting impact on her life. The Holy Spirit warmed her heart until she accepted Jesus Christ and was baptized in June of 1991.

Because of Olga's fluency in the English language, she was immediately hired by the Division as an interpreter for evangelistic meetings and other projects throughout the former Soviet Union.

On the other side of the world — in Upper Columbia Conference, based in Spokane, Wash., — 17 Operation Bearhug representatives worked with Conference President Jere Patzer and his wife Sue to organize a trip to the city of Magadan in Eastern Siberia. It would seem unlikely that Olga should come in contact with the Upper Columbia Conference group, but God's plan for Zinaida would not be thwarted!

In spite of the fact that other translators were available and that Olga had to travel more miles to reach Magadan than the

Americans did, in God's providence she was sent by the Division to work with the Bearhug group in Magadan.

In Magadan, (the former center for Stalinist "gulags," now turned political and cultural center), the Operation Bearhug team worked with Pastor Kirill Movelyan, Olga and a congregation of 42 Adventist members. Initial objectives included helping the local church lay the groundwork for a medical clinic and church. The commitment of the Upper Columbia Conference to this project is long-term.

In spite of the failed coup attempt in Moscow during that time, afternoon and evening programs went on, attended by capacity crowds. As Olga became better acquainted with the team members, they shared stories of their respective families and Zinaida's plight became known. Although Olga had not meant the conversation to be a request for help, Operation Bearhug members soon began to plan how they could resolve this critical need.

God seemed to have a hand in the selection of Glyn Marsh, M.D., of Clarkston, Wash., as a part of the project. On his return home, he contacted a colleague who "coincidentally" knew personally one of the four top scoliosis specialists in the nation, John Lubecke, M.D., of Chicago.

Miracles then began coming with domino-like effect. Dr. Lubecke of Illinois was contacted and readily agreed to provide the necessary surgeries and follow-up treatments free of charge. Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children in Chicago offered to provide all hospital services at no charge. Illinois Conference President Bjarne Christensen accepted responsibility for providing lodging for mother and daughter during the extended months of physical therapy. Upper Columbia Conference is providing coordination of the overall effort and all transportation. The cost of airfare

alone is an amount equal to 65 times Olga's annual salary.

Renee Harms was a youth member of the Operation Bearhug team that went to Magadan in August. She was instrumental in encouraging her fellow students at Tri-Cities Jr. Academy in Pasco, Wash., to help Zinaida. Instead of the usual Christmas gift exchange at school, the first through 10th-grade students put the cost of gifts into a travel fund. The students raised about \$300 which was added to by students at Spokane Jr. Academy and many other conference members.

Even though there has been great turmoil and unrest in the Russian government, miraculously, all necessary clearances, passports and visas were promptly issued. Olga and Zinaida arrived in Chicago on Jan. 16, and treatment of her case has already begun.

Olga and Zinaida (when out of the hospital) will be staying at the home of the Adventist pastor who is located closest to the Shriners Hospital. Pastor Ned Maletin was called out of retirement to serve a nearby congregation. When Germany took over Yugoslavia during World War II, Pastor Maletin was conscripted into the German army and sent to the Russian front. Captured by the Russians, he spent two years in a Russian labor camp near Moscow. So he speaks Russian — a coincidence?

A group of friends including the Patzers, Christensen, Renee Harms and Dr. Marsh greeted Zinaida and her mother at the airport. They gave her gifts, including a Walkman with a set of story tapes, a *Precious Moments Bible*, and a Barbie doll, which is a greatly sought-after toy in Russia. Zinaida commented in her infrequently used English that she felt she was in "seven skies" (seventh heaven)!

In a few months Zinaida will have completed her surgeries and physical therapy and will be able to stand straight and tall, thanks to a series of miracles made possible through cooperative people. 

Max C. Torkelsen II is Communication director of the Upper Columbia Conference.



Zinaida and Olga Koloskova upon their arrival at the Chicago airport



Zinaida (with back to the camera) is being greeted by left to right: Renee Harms, Sue Patzer, Olga Koloskova, Dr. Glyn Marsh, and Elder Jere Patzer.



Zinaida and Olga Koloskova, eating their first meal in the United States, were especially amazed at the availability of fruit.

**Adventism** *cont. from page 2*

mainland to open tomorrow. The task, as always, seems impossible.

And yet, we carry on. We seek new members, challenging them to accept the vision and to add their voices to the worldwide Adventist anthem.

We seek thinking people who will confess: "We ask not what the church can do for us, but what we can do, through it, for the world."

We seek members who will add to the storehouse of inspiration. Members who, by sowing their ideas and insights through the church, they germinate to the billions.

People who will fear no crisis and need

no crisis as they join, testifying, "Ethically, I can do nothing less than to add my voice to this movement."

People who will neither ask for nor expect an Adventist crutch; whose only request will be: "Teach me to live as Christ would live in the world at crunch time."

Adventism helps in crises. Its traditions may benefit some more than others. Let us not dwell on these side-benefit questions. Rather, let us look beyond the traditions to the essences of our faith — a faith that invites us: "Ask not what the church can do for you; ask what you, through the church, can do for a world." 

*Ed Schwisow is editor of the GLEANER.*

3. The focus of your video must be on the theme of service to others.

The videos will become the first part of the program for Mission Safari. A panel of judges will determine the winners.

Scott Wesley Brown known for his Christian music and heartfelt lyrics, will top off the evening with a concert directed to celebrate service in the local and global community.

Mission Safari is free. A suggested \$3 donation at the door is requested, though not required. Canned food is being accepted for local food banks.

For more information call (208) 459-0522 for Pastor Fred Comforth.

*Shelly Harmon*

# CONFERENCE NEWS

## IDAHO

### Legal Notice Southern Idaho Corporation Constituency Meeting

The constituency meeting of the Southern Idaho Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists will be held in connection with the Idaho Conference Session, which begins at 8:00 a.m., Sunday, June 7, 1992, in the Gem State Adventist Academy gymnasium located at Caldwell, Idaho. The purpose of this meeting is to elect a board of trustees for the ensuing triennium, to make Constitutional revisions, and to transact such other business as may come before the session. The bylaws of the corporation provide that the delegates to the Conference Constituency meeting are also the delegates of the Corporation session. The first meeting will be called at the call of the chair on Sunday, June 7, 1992, at 11:00 a.m.

*Stephen L. McPherson, President  
Reuben Beck, Secretary*

### Video Contest Leads Off Musical Youth Festival

Mission Safari, a combination of community outreach, music by Christian artist Scott Wesley Brown, and plenty of fun and enthusiasm for sharing Jesus Christ with others, is scheduled for April 11, 1992, at 7 p.m. The location will be Albertson College of Idaho Activity Center, in Caldwell, Idaho.

To contribute to the adventure, youth groups that attend are invited to take part in a video contest. Contestants should tape their youth group in ACTION — on the spot helping others! Put the theme to music by choosing a Christian song that captures the style and flavor of the video. First prize brings \$300; \$150 for second and \$50 for third. Send in your entries postmarked by March 27, 1992, to: Fred Cornforth, Idaho Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, P.O. Box 4878, Boise, ID 83711. (No extensions or exceptions!)

Rules for the Contest are as follows:

1. Videos must be less than five minutes long — no exceptions!
2. Because of copyright laws, the conference has entered into an agreement with Word, Inc., to use music from their label. Word Inc.'s label includes the following companies: Word, DaySpring, Myrrh, Rejoice, and Everland. You must identify the song you will be using and notify the Idaho Conference by letter postmarked by March 20, 1992, to obtain permission to use the song. If you wish to use a song other than one under Word Inc.'s label, you must get permission yourself and submit it to us in a letter postmarked by March 20, 1992.



### Growing Churches

Members of the Caldwell, Idaho, Church attended a church growth seminar presented by Conference President Steve McPherson and Conference Secretary Russell Johnson at the Caldwell Church on Jan. 18.

Emphasis was placed on using methods that have been researched thoroughly and are compatible with Biblical principles and methods outlined in the book *Evangelism*.

The speakers said that Adventists need to know why their church exists and what their image is in the community.

Churches should ask the community, "What do you need from me?" and ask themselves, "Is the church a fort or a hospital?" they said.

Six basic points were made:

1. Adventists need to understand the difference between maintenance and mission.
2. Adventists need to know the difference between theology and methodology.
3. Adventists need to have a philosophy of ministry and know how to formulate it.
4. Adventists need to understand the differences between strategy and system.
5. Adventists need to understand the concept and application of spiritual gifts.
6. Adventists need to know the difference between single-cell and multiple-cell churches.

Attendees were challenged to use these principles to foster church growth.

*Sylvia E. Jarrett*

### Idaho Conferencewide Federation

Sunday, April 12  
10 a.m.—2 p.m.

Gem State Academy Church  
Caldwell, Idaho

**Guest Speaker**  
Alf Birch, NPUC

*Lunch provided by Idaho Conference*

### VBS Workshop

Sunday, March 29

10 a.m.-Noon

Conference Office  
7777 Fairview  
Boise, Idaho

# LETTERS

Letters to the GLEANER editor are welcome. Letters must be signed and should not exceed 150 words in length. Letter writers are urged to limit their letters to commentary on editorial matter appearing in this journal, and should specifically refer to the issue date and article in question. Priority will be given to letters received by the editor within 45 days of the cover date of issue in question. Letters which direct personal criticism at individuals will not be printed; conversely, letters which promote a person by name or description for gratuitous praise will be declined for publication. Highest priority will be given to letters which add information and commentary, pro and con, to material appearing in this journal. Address letters to Editor, Box 16677, Portland, OR 97216-0677.

## Striking Contrast

The March 2 issue (p. 12, 13) GLEANER offered, side by side, articles on Camp Mivoden's "Christian Adventures" and Country Haven Academy's vocational training program in "Literature Evangelism." Although it would appear that "Christian Adventures" is something akin to the nationally famous Outward Bound program, designed to build in wayward children strong feelings of self-worth and esteem, MCA obviously and justifiably operates in a lighter vein.

Each of these programs may be deemed to have their place in building a Christian child. But I wonder about the preferences of the brethren. If they were offered a choice, would they rather use their freewill offerings to buy for a child a 14-day summer vacation or buy and support for their school a year-around vocational program designed to reveal to the student the thrill of soul winning and instill in the heart a burning desire to serve Jesus Christ.

John F. Jaeger  
Fairfield, Wash.

## Not Too Late

My heart is greatly sorrowful for the people you described as (we) in your editorial "Adventism: A Crutch for the Marathon Runner?" (March 2, 1992) I went to school with some of you, who never experienced the joy of obedience to God and His commands. Your sad fate is described in *Early Writings*, page 37.

Fortunately, there is still a short time for you to turn from your wordly ways and be converted like I was one year ago; by giving up all for Christ. But do not delay. Time has almost run out.

Harry A. Knopper, M.D.  
Pasco, Wash.

## Operation Bearhug



# Russian Appeal for Bibles

A recent message received from the Russian Union is for a cash advance to enable them to buy and have a supply of Bibles on hand for our evangelists to draw on for their evangelistic campaigns this summer. Until recently Bibles could be obtained for \$1 or less per copy. We'll appreciate your response to this appeal.

## Operation Bearhug

Yes, I would like to help sponsor Russian Bibles for distribution during evangelistic campaigns. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Street/Box \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Make your check payable to **Operation Bearhug**, and send it with this coupon to your Conference President's office. Thank you for being part of **Operation Bearhug!**

## Unconditional Support?

I have learned over the years to appreciate Elder Chad McComas' ideas on church order and administration. But this last article in the March 2 (1992) GLEANER regarding "Pastoral Prayer Partners" needs clarification.

The sentence in question reads, "Prayer Partners support the leadership of the church no matter what!"

Does this mean "support" with prayer "no matter what?" Or does this mean support with vote and action "no matter what?" . . .

Mel Phillips  
Walla Walla, Wash.

✎ Pastor McComas responds, "It's hard not to support the people on your prayer list." That pretty much sums it up; total agreement is not needed for prayerful "support."

## Unequal Sources

Anna Anderson's letter intrigued me (Feb. 17). She pleads for "equal time" for the Bible and Ellen White's writings. Very good!

However, if the unique authority and inspiration of the Bible, relative to Ellen's writings, is to be expressed by the space given to each, it would be consistent to allot more "time" to the Bible, which is as much superior to the *Testimonies* as the sun is superior to the moon! The 1951 edition of the *Church Manual* is correct in saying that the Bible is "the only unerring rule of faith and practice" (p. 29).

Since the unique glory of inerrancy and canonicity belong only to the Bible, it would be appropriate to show it more distinctly, not only in the GLEANER, but in all other Seventh-day Adventist publications, Sabbath School lessons, sermons, personal usage, etc.

Anna Anderson is pointing to the right direction, but we need to go further than that.

Lauri Onjukka  
Gold Hill, Ore.

✎ The quotes in question are designed for inspiration and to add a devotional dimension to this journal of Northwestern happenings. The incidence of use is no mathematical indicator of priority given to either source, and varies from issue to issue.

## Lacking Weight

In a recent GLEANER (Feb. 17 issue, p. 5) you talk about diet, a fairly good article. I feel it lacking so thought I would mention this. Please put it in the GLEANER.

I find instead of a grain fed diet mention a fruit fed diet instead especially for the breakfast time.

I changed from near 300 pounds to 175 pounds in just no time.

This was God's plan, I'm sure. I'm 80 years old and we have a big garden and flower bed.

Theora Jemmings  
Rogue River, Ore.

# ABOUT THE COVER

In commemoration of Walla Walla College's centennial year, the April 6 GLEANER cover features two images of the oldest building on the campus. Known today as the Administration Building, in 1882 it was called the college building (as pictured in the inset photo, ca. 1910) and housed the classrooms, offices, kitchen and dining area, gymnasium, library and living quarters for both men and women. After a fire destroyed the cupola and fourth floor in 1919, the Ad Building was remodeled and expanded to near its present appearance. Photos courtesy of Walla Walla College.

**GOD  
LOVES  
YOU**

# CONFERENCE NEWS

## ALASKA

### Conference President Visits Delta Junction

The Delta Junction Church recently welcomed Jim Stevens, Alaska Conference president, for special Sabbath services. During the worship hour he challenged them to be aware of the times in which we live; he further encouraged the group to a Christian walk empowered with the strength and vigor of the Holy Spirit.

After a fellowship luncheon, Stevens focused on the condition of the conference and on its needs.

The group was encouraged to ask ques-



Jim Stevens addresses Delta Junction constituents.

tions, and a lively discussion followed. Group members were encouraged by Stevens' confidence in the future of the conference and look forward to a repeat visit.

*Don Gibson*



Children holding Bible banks are Kathleen Neal, age 5, Brandon Culbertson, age 3, and, far left, Patrick Nel, age 8, depositing money in the bank.



Delta Junction members during a special afternoon information session.

## IDAHO

### Baker City Team To Go to Russia

A spirit of unity and singleness of purpose pervades the Baker City and Richland churches this spring season, as they make plans to raise funds for an evangelistic effort in southern Russia.

Pastor Roger Martin and wife Nancy, with assistants Jerry and Toni Nickell, will leave the last of August to begin a four-week series of meetings in Sochi, on the Black Sea. Jerry and Tony, a talented husband-and-wife team, will provide the music.

Foremost in the fund-raising effort are the younger children of the lower Sabbath school divisions. Each Sabbath, by a name drawing, a girl and boy are selected to walk

down the center aisle of the sanctuary, wearing Russian costumes and carrying Bible banks. These chosen ones take their places before the pulpit as the others go forward for their story time, collecting offerings as they are passed to the end of the pews, and depositing them in the Bible banks.

The banks, replicas of the Holy Bible, and so inscribed, one in English, the other in Russian, were devised and made by the clever fingers of Wreatha Hudson and Debbie Lindsay.

The plan, begun Sabbath, Feb. 29, has proven worthwhile, and the children are happy to be a part of the outreach plan.

A benefit concert and a combined yard and bake sale are planned to add funds to the project.

*Stella Carter*



### Hearty Banquet

The Caldwell Women's Ministries Group hosted a Valentine banquet for couples and singles of the Caldwell Church on Sunday evening, Feb. 23. Following the dinner, served by seventh-, eighth- and ninth-grade young people, a musical program was presented. Mike Agee, manager of KTSY Radio in Caldwell, and his wife Wanda served as Masters of Ceremony.

*Sylvia E. Jarrett*

### Start a Fire in Your Life

The possibilities are almost as endless as the future itself, so if you're between the ages of 16 and 31 and would like to get started on your future now, consider spending a small part of that future as a Task Force volunteer.

Contact your conference youth director, campus chaplain, or your pastor.

### Adventist Youth Task Force



**Neigh Sayers**

Glacier View School, Ronan, Mont., one of the 13 Adventist elementary schools in Montana, began the year with 21 students. Here grades five through eight are working on a horsemanship honor, learning to care for their equipment and animals. Not just horsing around though, these same scholars recently attended a trial by jury at the county courthouse. Officials of the court were pleased to take the time to talk with them about the process of the law enforcement system.

No byline given

**Legal Notice  
Montana Conference  
Association Session**

Notice is hereby given that there will be a legal meeting of the Montana Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists, Incorporated, under the laws of the State of Montana, in connection with the regular session of the Montana Conference, which will be held at the gymnasium-auditorium at Mount Ellis Academy, Bozeman, Montana.

The first meeting of this Association will convene at 1:00 p.m., April 19, 1992. The purpose of the meeting is to elect officers and trustees and to transact any other business that might come before the Association at that time. The delegates of the 55th Session of the Montana Conference of Seventh-day Adventists are the delegates of the Association meeting.

*Perry Parks, President  
John Rasmussen, Secretary-Treasurer*

Featured in the program were the Milo Academy Drama team, Youth to Youth, and Prodigal, a youth-oriented gospel music band.

High attendance and enthusiasm has resulted in plans to schedule a monthly Praise Fest of music, youth-oriented speakers and special features which will begin immediately following Sabbath school. Those interested in a church service planned around their youthful interests and needs can call (503) 654-1676 to find out when the next monthly Praise Fest is scheduled.

*Scott Altman*



A drama team presents a message against drug use during a recent Praise Fest.



**Clear Vision**

The Medford, Ore., Church congregation recently enjoyed hearing firsthand the story of how Marina Mikhalyova of Russia, came to regain her sight after having cataracts since she was seven years old.

Last June, Walter Emori, M.D., of the Medford Church, traveled to the Soviet Union on an evangelistic mission. Marina was his translator. Upon hearing of her handicap, Dr. Emori determined to help Marina restore her sight, though the necessary medical procedure is only 50 percent effective in Russia.

On returning home, Dr. Emori contacted Gordon Miller in Salem, Ore., who agreed to do the surgery, (which is performed with high success in the U.S.) and the Medford Church agreed to supply the finances on her trip.

The picture above shows Pastor Chad McComas questioning Marina while she looks out at the congregation with 20/20 vision and speaks in excellent English. Dr. Walter Emori stands at her left.

*Amber B. Steers*



**Milo Minds**

Kristelle Reed and Chad Gessele, students attending Milo Adventist Academy, were named as Commended Students in the 1992 National Merit Scholarship Program. Commended Students have shown exceptional academic promise by placing among the top five percent of more than one million program entrants. Chad placed in the top one percent and Kristelle placed in the top one-half percent. Pictured from left to right: Chad Gessele, Kristelle Reed and Jim Eisean, presenter of the awards.

**OREGON**

**New Life Church Plans  
Monthly Praise Fest**

The second successful Praise Fest for junior and senior youth was recently held at the New Life Church in Milwaukie, Ore.



**American  
Red Cross**

**Be the first on your block  
to learn how to save a life.**

**Take the Red Cross CPR  
course.**

# A Word to the Wealthy

By Dennis R. Carlson

God wants you to be wealthy! Yes! God wants every one of His children to be wealthy, just like human parents want their children to be healthy, wealthy and wise.

## What is God's True Wealth?

Does wealth consist of owning things such as large houses, land, cars, bank accounts, retirement plans and lots of money? Yes, but is this true wealth? These material things are neither moral nor immoral. There is nothing inherently spiritual about poverty nor is there anything evil about riches. In 1 Timothy 5:10, notice that it is the attitude about money, not money, that is the root of all evil.

God's wealth is eternal. The things listed above are very temporal. Genesis 3:19 not only states that we shall work to eat, but that we will return to the dust from which we were made.

John D. Rockefeller's accountant was asked by a journalist how much John D. left when he died. The accountant replied, "That's easy, he left it all." If we can't take it with us, then it must not be true wealth.

The possessions that are the most valuable are the gifts of salvation and promise of eternal life. Those who have this wealth are eternally wealthy.

If God gives each of us true wealth, then the abundance or lack of money should not affect our relationship to Him. What

should our attitude be concerning the temporal possessions of this life?

## God Owns Everything!

Yes, if God owns it all then we do not have to sweat how much or little we have. We just need to be the wisest stewards of the portion of God's resources that He has entrusted to our care (parable of the three stewards, Matthew 25:14-20).

Psalms 127:2 puts our materialistic society in perspective. "In vain you rise early and stay up late toiling for food to eat — for while they sleep He provides for those He loves" (NIV footnote).

## Wealth Refines Character

Job is the best example of how God used temporal wealth to test the true motives of a believer's character (Job 1:21, 2:10). Job stood firm through riches to rags to riches. His material wealth did not change his position with God. That is the kind of character that God wants to develop in each Christian.

## Christian Gold!

The assurance of God's love for us, salvation leading to eternal life and the firm resolve of a character to trust in God is the pure gold of true wealth (John 3:16).

Dennis R. Carlson is manager of the Washington Adventist Book Center.

# LETTERS

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## Thompson Tribute

(March 16, 1992, GLEANER p.6: 3 Testimonies, p. 492 [1875], (together with G.C. (Bulletin) for 04-03-01. In the first instance White called G.C. "the highest authority." In the latter, the first idea was now (1901) passé, that now "We want . . . a different principle." By comparing the two sentences it is readily seen that whereas we serve an unchangeable God who cannot change His mind, His prophets are free to change theirs as often as they want, apparently. This is not to say right or wrong, but is only an observation. (I always have a lot of fun reading our papers!)

Continuing with "change," some things seem unchangeable. . . . For years I felt as rancored as the person in Central Point and a great many who believe the same way. . . . Same thing — "apostasy." Recently something happened: Jesus came and made the dark world brighter! When He comes to today's rancored saints, Ephesians 5:11-13 will suddenly change into Philippians 4:8 for them, too! May it be soon.

R.E. Robinson  
Milton-Freewater, Ore.

P.S. Your editorial was superb, as usual.

Editorial response: The Thompson article in question is a part of a series. A word to readers: It is often well to consider a series as a whole when responding. Thompson frequently introduces a topic by posing difficult questions; those questions generally find resolution by series' end.

## Cool Water

(I am responding to) Leadership Blamed, by Dorothy LaVallee, March 16 GLEANER. Asking about disfellowshipping groups. Read Acts 5:38-39. We too need to be careful so we won't find ourselves fighting against God. In Matthew 13:29-30, Jesus said, let wheat and tares grow together until the harvest. Wheat grows where the farmer plants it, but the tares will grow on both sides of the fence.

People oppose change. In the 18th century the hymn writers came on stage and met strong resistance from many congregations. They called the songs "Human hymns." Today we just love those same hymns.

Now in the 1900s, we have more ideas and problems on the horizon. I think we all need to spend more time praying. Will all those that know exactly how God wants us to serve Him and worship Him (without any interferences from man's commandments) please stand up.

I must go now, someone out there might need a glass of cool water or something. Matthew 10:42.

Cornelius M. Dyok  
Spokane, Wash.

# Operation Bearhug

Some have been asking about telephone calls and letters they have been receiving from organizations outside of this union asking for funds for work in Russia.

Please be advised that this is not a part of our Union's Operation Bearhug, nor is this recent appeal coordinated with the General Conference. We do thank you again for the generous support you are giving to the ongoing evangelistic outreach of Operation Bearhug.

Operation Bearhug continues to progress

successfully with God's blessings for His work in Russia!

May the Lord continue to bless as we unite our hearts to uplift Christ to the peoples of Russia during this Providential time of opportunity!

Paul W. Nelson, Secretary  
North Pacific Union Conference



# ABOUT THE COVER

Photographer Harold Wilson of Anchorage, Alaska, is a GLEANER cover photo winner nearly every year. His cover picture of a Dall ewe and lamb for the April 20, 1992, GLEANER, was taken on Primrose Mountain in Denali National Park, Alaska. Wilson, a business consultant and the owner of Marketing Resources International, has been taking photographs for more than 30 years. He shot this scene with a Canon F1 camera and 300mm L lens, using Kodachrome 64 film.

## FOCUS ON ADVENTIST HEALTH

# When Employees Care

By Brian J. Costa

It had been three days since the electricity had been shut off at Daisy's home in northeast Portland. Today, the fourth day, was the day she had been waiting for. It was payday. Now, Daisy would be able to pay the past-due balance and get the power turned back on.

Or so she thought.

When Daisy went to pay the bill, she found she was being charged an additional large deposit just to get it reconnected. And she didn't have the money.

Her three children already had done their best to understand and make do—rationing the remaining hot water in the tank, reading books in the evenings by candlelight, eating food kept in ice chests to stay fresh.

But now, how was Daisy going to get the power back on?

Struggling with a debilitating physical condition and the demands of a single parent raising two young daughters and a handicapped teenage son, Daisy didn't have resources that would have given her options to solve the problem even temporarily.

There had been a series of "bad news" circumstances for Daisy. This latest blow seemed like the last straw, and she felt she had exhausted all possible resources. "I was at a dead end," she says.

Daisy had begun working at Portland Adventist in 1981, most recently in the patient business office. Her years of service at Portland Adventist have been interrupted with bouts of a painful illness, fibrositis (also called myofascial pain syndrome).

First diagnosed in 1983, Daisy remembers suffering from symptoms of the condition—pain, depressions and fatigue—since her teenage years. Fighting against the illness, she had continued to work full time, until a back injury suffered at home on Mother's Day in 1990 had forced her to near-complete bed rest.

"I tried to come back to work, but I was in so much pain I only lasted 20 minutes the first day," she says. Her coworkers from the hospital had rallied around to sustain her. They had brought food, run errands and even after her six-month struggle with recovery, remembered her family at Christmastime.

"They brought presents for the kids, and

even for me," says Daisy. "Otherwise, it wouldn't have been much of a Christmas for us."

But now, five months later, the power was off, and the welfare check wasn't coming for a couple weeks. Food stamps helped keep food on the table, but it was tough keeping perishables from spoiling.

Daisy didn't know anyone she felt she could ask to borrow money from because she didn't know if she'd be able to pay the money back when she promised she would. She had heard of the Employee Emergency Fund at the hospital. In fact, it had helped pay her rent just the month before.

"I remember saying to myself, 'I can't keep asking for help, everyone's already done so much,'" says Daisy. "But I really just couldn't see any other options at that point."

Dorothy Kuehnel, coordinator of the Employee Assistance Program, says the emergency fund can be accessed in two ways. "A person can submit a request directly for assistance," says Dorothy, "or others can turn in a request for funds to help someone they know. Either way, it exists to help people going through a time of great need."

Daisy's situation was one of those times.

"I was really depressed," says Daisy. "I made it through by allowing myself to cry—and then praying and being thankful that worse things hadn't happened, because it could have been the water that was shut off, or worse yet, an eviction notice."

The emergency fund helped pay Daisy's electricity bill and helped her buy groceries. And once again, her coworkers chipped in with precooked meals, detergent, canned goods and so on.

"I didn't really know who all was involved," says Daisy, "but to me it was everybody."

As the months have passed since then, Daisy slowly has been able to come back into work in the business office. During most of that time, she's been caught in a classic Catch 22—too much pain to work full time, but too many work hours to be eligible for welfare benefits. Nor does her condition qualify her for Social Security disability benefits.

Recently, however, Daisy was able to attain full-time work status, even though many days she still must deal with a considerable amount of pain.

"You've got to have a hopeful attitude," says Daisy. "When things take a turn for the worse, first I feel bad and sad, then sometimes frustrated and angry. I cry and pray and get it all out, but then I come to realize how God and the people around me are so good to us. It always makes me thankful for the wonderful people I have in my life."

The Employee Emergency Fund was established a little more than a year ago. Since then, needs similar to Daisy's have been recognized by many of the hospital's own employees.

During the employee fund-raising campaign held last summer, \$29,137 in donations and pledges were earmarked exclusively for the Employee Emergency Fund. The accumulation of these employee contributions was recently augmented by the hospital with an additional \$10,000 matching fund.

But for Daisy, helping hands at Portland Adventist have played a role in her life for much longer than just during the past year. "The assistance program at the hospital existed long before it was set up on paper," she says.

In fact, two years ago Daisy herself played a part in an informal campaign conducted among a number of hospital departments to help needy Russian families with food and goods for Christmas. At that time, little did Daisy know that just a year later, she and her family would be the ones in need.

"The compassion and humanity at the hospital shown by each person is different than anywhere else I've worked," says Daisy. "The people here are my 'home away from home.' They're why I'm still here." ➤

Brian J. Costa is a free-lance writer living in Portland, Ore.





### Fresh Apples at Tualatin

Ten new Macintosh LC computers, with StyleWriter printers, went into service this February in the new computer lab at Tualatin Valley Jr. Academy, Hillsboro, Ore..

Money to purchase the computers was made possible by fund raisers. One was a magazine campaign sponsored by the Home and School Association. Sally Wilson, a parent, coordinated a letter writing campaign with most of the students sending letters to family and friends. The response from these projects amounted to about \$16,000.

Two in-service training sessions have been provided by the computer manufacturers.

## Sharon Members Air Views on Future

"How can Sharon Church be all it can be?" That question was put to the members of Portland's Sharon Church in its first "Town Hall" meeting held March 14. The response was overwhelming. Church members responded with more than 120 suggestions on projects and activities the church can accomplish in the months and years to come.

Church members were divided into small groups for a short "brainstorming" session. Then they gathered in the fellowship hall for an open discussion on the ideas gener-

ated. Young people and adults talked about ways to help Sharon make an impact on their church, their community and the world mission field. Now, the church's planning committee will summarize the findings and present them to the pastoral staff and church board.

Overall, the membership felt "it was about time."

"We want to see our church serve the community," and "I feel the meeting was very positive, with a lot of good ideas coming out," were frequent sentiments.

With the town hall approach to building, Sharon members hope to be able to step forward boldly into the '90s.

Regina Watson

## UPPER COLUMBIA

### Across The Bear- ing Straits

Launetta Rea, an 88-year-old member of the Umapine, Ore., Church, displays the stuffed bears she made for Operation Bearhug, and which were delivered to Russian children last summer during the Jim Reincking Evangelistic outreach to Catherinesburg.



## Grangeville Rooted, Not Rutted, in Past

Grangeville, Idaho, Church members were practically on the edge of their seats, on Feb. 15 as they listened to visitor John Johnson tell how their church building came to Grangeville.

Johnson, presently living in Ferdinand, Idaho, came to share the special story. In 1947 some men came to Johnson to ask his help in moving an abandoned schoolhouse six or seven miles.

Trees were cut down to use as skids the length that was indicated by one of the men who had "stepped off" the proper length of the schoolhouse. However, when the freshly-cut logs were laid by the side of the schoolhouse in readiness for the big ride, the logs were eight feet too short! So another trip was made to the woods to secure longer skids.

With the longer logs in place, the men chained the school to two D4 Cats (bulldozers) to tow it. But the building would not budge.

They found a farmer, (a Mr. Green) who had two D6 Cats, and since it was to be used for a church and not another beer hall, he agreed to help the men move the schoolhouse. He hooked on along with the two D4's and away they went to Grangeville! The skids made deep ruts in the road, so the county road grader followed behind them, repairing the road as they went. By the time they arrived in Grangeville, the skids — which had been two feet in diameter at the start — were worn to half that size.

The building arrived in excellent condition and has been serving adequately for the last 45 years as a place of worship for the Adventist members of this Idaho prairie.

The time has come, however, to replace the beloved "schoolhouse-church." Enthusiasm is mounting in this tiny congregation, and building a new Adventist church in town will arouse much interest among the friends and neighbors of Grangeville.

In the meantime, however, the original building continues to receive upkeep attention with the recent addition of paint and preparation for new carpet. Also installed recently was a ceiling fan to aid in heat dispersal in the sanctuary.

Carolyn Chandler

*If we would humble ourselves before God, and be kind and courteous and tenderhearted and pitiful, there would be one hundred conversions to the truth where now there is only one.*

9 Testimonies, p. 189

## Leaving a Lasting Impression in Magadan



A Response of Northwest Adventists  
to Global Mission

Would you like to be part of a miracle  
in action?

Operation Bearhug has begun another  
project. Our goal is to build the first  
Seventh-day Adventist Church in  
Siberia.

We would like everyone to participate.  
The project is sponsored by the Upper  
Columbia Conference in cooperation  
with Maranatha Flights International.

Location: Magadan

Dates: July 5-18 and  
July 19-Aug. 1

Costs: Spokane Departure — \$1,700  
Seattle Departure — \$1,500



### Ways to be Involved:

1. Go as a missionary  
This project calls for people with experience in one or more of the following areas:  
Carpentry  
Common Labor  
Concrete work  
Electrical  
Finish Carpentry  
Masonry  
Medicine  
Painting  
Plumbing  
Welding
2. Be a sponsor of a missionary
3. Help to fund this \$65,000+ project
4. Be part of the "Support Staff" and keep the project in your prayers

Application Due: May 10, 1992

### For More Information Contact:

Upper Columbia Conference  
Operation Bearhug  
Box 19039  
Spokane, WA 99219

## College Place Students Earn Math Awards

In February, a team of Rogers School junior high students in College Place, Wash., earned second place among 10 schools participating in the regional MATH-COUNTS competition sponsored by the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE). The second-place finish qualifies them to compete at the state level.

In individual standings, team member Bradley Nelson earned a sixth-place finish among the 40 members of participating teams. Other Rogers team members were Joe Danielson, Mark Hall, and Rudy Scott. Due to a schedule conflict, alternate Heidi Thompson will replace Danielson in the state competition. Other alternates are Austin Anderson, Richard Anderson, Ronn Kakazu, and Nathaniel Whitney. The team is coached by Martin Scott, who teaches MATHCOUNTS as a junior high elective course.

NSPE has issued certificates to all participants as well as trophies for the winning team members.

Joyce Lang

## Palouse Hills Board Find Food for Thought

What would you order from a menu that offered Montazuma's Revenge, Mt. St. Helens, Dentures Doom and Molded Mud?

Such was the dilemma that recently faced the combined school board of the Palouse Hills Adventist School. Staring at 28 items to choose from none sounded like the Exciting Edibles the Educator's Menu proposed.

Teachers Joanne and Jim Rasco and Mark and Kathy Law entertained school board members and their spouses at a dinner at the school. None left hungry, especially if they had ordered The American Way as the last of the four-course meal. Such innovative ideas have been the vein of the Palouse Hills School. Students come from Pullman, Wash., Moscow, Troy and Bovill, Idaho.

Elaine Drury

## Special Communion Held in Grangeville

Soft candlelight and special music accented a recent Agape communion for the members of the Grangeville, Idaho, congregation.

After the ordinance of humility by families, an introduction was given by Pastor Steve McCandless, before the taking of bread and grape juice.

The women of the church had set the tables with fine china and crystal, and served special breads, fruit and nuts from baskets and crystal bowls. Fresh flower centerpieces and candlelight completed the table settings. For the 23 Grangeville members, it was a cherished memory held close to the heart.

Carolyn Chandler

## This Summer Catch the Mivoden

### Olympic Spirit

Be Part of a Winning Team

The sad fact is that lots of kids can only dream about going to camp. We asked why they would like to spend a week at camp. Here are some of their replies:

"To skateboard and do fun things and get a blessing out of it."

Wesley Spears

"I would like to go to camp because I've heard so much about Camp Mivoden and it's all been good. I would also like to learn more about God.

Clarisa Haynes

For those who have been to camp there are warm and exciting memories, like the following:

"I really enjoy the worship services. The banquets and waterskiing are great too. I like the way the staff helps you feel included."

Carrie Mastronarde

"I like my counselor the best and the worships. Especially the drama on Sabbath night."

Stephanie Christensen

"I liked the classes. My favorite part was worship at night."

Heidi Olbekson

For your free brochure call (509) 838-2761.

## Russian Project Needs Volunteers

By Max Torkelsen II

The Magadan Operation Bearhug Project sponsored by Upper Columbia Conference continues to produce a series of miracles. UCC representatives from a second trip have just returned after making definite plans to build a church in Magadan this summer.

The group carried \$70,000 worth of medications which had been gathered by Glyn Marsh, M.D., consisting largely of samples which were donated by physicians and pharmaceutical companies. These medications virtually restocked the Magadan pharmacy, which had been reduced to a limited supply of certain chemicals for mixing compounds. One Russian lady commented: "Some of our people have been waiting two years for medicines. Now we have told them to come."

Marsh was able to give instruction to some physicians on the use of certain medications with which they were unfamiliar.

Conference president, Jere Patzer; treasurer, Ted Lutts; Clarkston physician, Glyn Marsh; and Walla Walla contractor, Larry Goodhew and his wife Jacque were able to negotiate with the city of Magadan for a free 97-year lease for eight acres of property in an excellent location near the university campus. This gift will provide plenty of space for the development of a church compound to be the center for Adventist work in the entire eastern Siberia region.

Eventual plans call for a medical clinic and a school, in addition to the church facility. The mayor of the city has written a letter thanking the church for all it is doing and assuring us of full cooperation in expediting all necessary permits and acquisition of building materials.

In a symbolic gesture, the mayor of Magadan took his registered lapel pin — which symbolizes his personal authority — and gave it to Jere Patzer. It is unusual for a government official to express his esteem and friendship in this way.

Agreement was also reached on church building plans, with the local church pastor and congregation fully supporting the proposed plans. The structure will include a 400-seat sanctuary, several Sabbath school classrooms, and a fellowship hall. Originally it was thought the building could be erected for \$8,000. However, rampant inflation has increased the estimated cost to \$60,000 still is only \$4 per square foot.

Eighty dedicated volunteers are now being sought who would be willing to take two

weeks this summer to go to Magadan and to give of their time and skills to build this church. In addition to unskilled people who are willing to work hard, special skills which are needed include: carpentry, finish work, electrical, plumbing, concrete and masonry workers.

The first group will leave from Seattle on July 5 and the second group will leave July 19. Alaska Airlines will be offering direct flights from Seattle to Magadan during the summer. Volunteers will be responsible for their own air fare and related expenses, which are estimated to be \$1,500 per person. The deadline for applying is May 10, 1992. Please contact Upper Columbia Conference by phone, (509) 838-2761, or by writing to "Operation: Bearhug — Magadan," P.O. Box 19039, Spokane, WA 99219.

An important part of the plan is for Jim Reinking, Upper Columbia Conference evangelist, to hold meetings as soon as the building is ready with a baptism and church dedication scheduled for Aug. 15 this year.

*Max Torkelsen II is Upper Columbia Conference director of Communication.*



Glyn Marsh, M.D., and the prison surgeon who received some of the medical supplies



Jere Patzer receives lapel pin from Leonid M. Musin, mayor of the city of Magadan, after successful negotiation for church property.



Left to Right: Ted Lutts, UCC treasurer; Glyn Marsh, Clarkston, Wash., physician; Jere Patzer, UCC president; Kirill Movelyan, pastor of the Magadan Church; Valery Ivanov, secretary of the Far Eastern Russian Union Conference.



Portion of the eight-acre property site for the new church to be built in Magadan this summer.

# Understanding the Unchurched Adventist



Stephen L. McPherson

By Stephen L. McPherson

Imagine, if you will, the background and experience many people feel they have had in the Adventist Church. How would the following affect your relationship with the church if it had happened to you?

If you had grown up in a very strict home with perfectionistic-type parents who always seemed to know what was best in every aspect of your life; if nearly everything in life was determined by strict rules, and you had never felt you had any say about what you did—where you went and how you spent your time?

As you became a little older, your desire for autonomy, perhaps mixed with a little rebellion, began to cause some tensions between you and your authority figures: parents, teachers and church leaders. You were then told that to be rebellious and to go against any of the rules under which you chafed was going against God. Every time you wanted to do what you chose, you were shown scriptural and Spirit of Prophecy proof as to why you shouldn't. You knew you had weaknesses, but no matter how hard you struggled to be good, it seemed an insurmountable task. Maybe at certain junctures you managed to overcome for a few days, but, in the end, the human tendencies and drives would win out.

## Flawed Authority

Then you began to notice that not only were you having struggles with evil, but so was everyone else around you—even the authority figures that seemed so intent on keeping on the pressure. You even noticed that (perish the thought), the very people admonishing you had flaws themselves—some of them very serious ones. Parents, pastors and teachers would seem to play down or ignore their own flaws while keeping the religious pressure on you. The more you rebelled and questioned, the less you were trusted, so a struggle developed between you and the authority figures to see how much you could get away with.

## Trouble Enough

During this whole process, you began to develop some conclusions about the One

behind all this. Because of the absolute terms in which God has been described, you decide, "What's the use? I can never be good enough to please God. Why try?"

Mix this scenario with the temptations that affect humanity along with the rebellion that occurs in natural man, and you have young people just waiting for a chance at freedom. When they leave the academy or parental control, they leave the church and never look back.

"The church? Who needs it? I've got troubles enough."

This is the way they reason. This scenario, with some modification, can describe not only people who have grown up in the church, but also some new members and some not so new. They have come to the conclusion that the church is more of a burden than a blessing.

## Two Million Unchurched

Those who've had this experience are out there by the thousands—some think hundreds of thousands. An estimate that we hear bandied about quite a bit is two million former members in the United States alone. Certainly if you ask your pastor or listen to your fellow church members describe their families, you will hear about them—the unchurched Adventists.

Can they be reached? I think they can. There is a lot of Good News about God and the church they haven't heard yet. They still know that the truths the church attempted to help them learn are true. But it takes a lot of love broken down into its component parts—patience, tolerance, acceptance, long-suffering and mercy to win them back.

It takes time, mostly one on one, while slowly but surely demonstrating the great principles Jesus used in His dealings with rebellious people. If ever we are to win them back, it will take great skill, and tact will need to be practiced until it becomes second nature to all of us, church and unchurched.

## There's Hope

Does it work? There once was a young couple who fit into this category of unchurched Adventists. Caught up in the world and indifferent to the church, they had good-paying jobs and a future. A young Adventist couple visited them every Friday evening, for months. They studied Ephesians, but mostly they just talked. Through

the loving interest shown, the first couple returned to the church, studied for the ministry and are now one of our young pastoral families in the Idaho Conference.

I believe strongly in Operation Bearhug, but while we hug the Russians with one arm, maybe we should remember to hug the lost sheep of the House of Israel with the other. 

Stephen L. McPherson is president of the Idaho Conference.

... *Prayer is the key in the hand of faith to unlock heaven's storehouse.* ...

*Steps to Christ, p. 94*

May 4, 1992

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North Pacific Union Conference

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## Operation Bearhug: Preview Of 1992 Projects



The following Operation Bearhug projects and activities are being sponsored by conferences, or churches and individuals, in various places in the Russian Union during the next several months.

### Leadership Training Programs

Leadership seminars for pastors, local church, and conference leaders were held in six locations during April. Those participating were Kurt Johnson and Graham Bingham (Oregon Conference); Dennis Seaton and Dan Appel (Montana Conference) and Alf Birch (North Pacific Union).

A Youth Ministry University will be sponsored during July, offering leadership training in Pathfinding, youth, and children's ministry. Participants will be Wayne Shepperd (North Pacific Union); Fred Cornforth (Idaho Conference); Wayne Hicks (Upper Columbia Conference); Roscoe Howard (Washington Conference); Steve Case (Northern California); Debbie Case (Maranatha Volunteers International); Margaret Taglavore and a support team (Texas Conference).

### Transportation Vehicle

Several California business and professional people are sponsored the purchase of an eight-passenger vehicle for the benefit of the Russian Union. It was officially presented by them in April, when the same group also met with physicians and business professionals in Tula.

### Evangelistic Campaigns

The cities listed below (with the general and Adventist population figures respectively indicated in brackets), are being evangelized this year by the evangelists (first listed) and participating team members (where available), as follows:

Irkutsk (.8 mil; 75), April/May: Monte Church (NPUC), John and Astrid Bridges (Oregon); James Botting, M.D., (N. California).

St. Petersburg (3 mil; 464), May/June: Duane McKey (Upper Columbia), Duane and Eunice Bietz, Michal and Matthew Bietz (Oregon), Don and Joy Stewart (Upper Columbia).

Oremburg (.8 mil; 41), May/June: Dave Weigley and Bob Fetrick (Washington).

Krasnodar (.7 mil; 133), July/August: Don Driver (Idaho).

Sochi (.3 mil. to 1 mil (in summer); no Adventists. August/September.

Belgorod (.4 mil; 215), September: Perry and Gloria Parks (Montana).

Krasnoyarsk (1 mil; 57), September: Clifton and Mary Walter (Oregon).

### Other Projects

The following projects are also receiving ongoing attention by organizations as indicated:

The Magadan project (medical clinic, church building, school): Upper Columbia; Volga River boat project for evangelism: Washington; pastoral exchange initiative between Trans-Siberia and Alaska: Alaska; establishing an English language school: Walla Walla College; and Education task force to guide in establishing future schools: NPUC. As to the supply of projectors, slides,

screens — for pastors and Revelation seminar materials: Whosoever can help, may!

### Your Help Is Needed

Your assistance to help sponsor Operation Bearhug projects will be appreciated.

Mark your contribution Operation Bearhug, and send it to your conference president's office, or to the North Pacific Union, P.O. Box 16677, Portland, OR 97216. *Alf Birch*

## ADRA Airlift of Milk Benefits Needy Russians

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) teamed together to airlift 47,000 pounds of powdered milk to the Ural Mountain region of central Russia on March 29, according to Ralph Watts, ADRA president.

This airlift is the beginning of a large-scale food distribution program that was to continue for the next four months, Watts said. A U.S. C-141 cargo plane flew the powdered milk to Ekaterinburg, capital of the Ural Mountain region. Russian soldiers unloaded the plane and transported the milk to a warehouse near the city. The food was distributed later that week to about 21,000 people.

"We gave the milk to the elderly, families with three or more children, orphans, and single mothers. These are the people with the most critical needs," Watts said.

The shipment of powdered milk is only a small preview of what is to come. Through a \$14 million grant from USDA, ADRA planned to distribute food to one and a half million people, April through July.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## GLEANER Material

All GLEANER news except advertisements (see advertisement section) must be sent through your local conference communication director. The deadline schedule listed below is the date the information must reach the NPUC office.

Put your material in the mail one week before the date listed below so it will reach your conference office in time to process it.

### Deadline Schedule

Issue Date	Material Due at 11 a.m.
June 1	May 7
June 15	May 21

## GENERAL

### Community Services

The North American Association of Community Services Directors announce the fifth annual conference to be held at the **Sunnyside Church, Portland, Ore.**, May 13-17. The topic is "Empowering Leaders for Service and Equipping Clients for Life."

For more information contact Monte Sahlin, Church Ministries, North American Division, (301) 680-6439, or Marilyn Renk, Oregon Conference, (503) 652-2225.

## OREGON

### Brass Concert

Trumpet ensembles, horn quartet, trombone choir, brass/organ ensembles, as well as a large brass choir will be heard in concert at the **Portland, Ore.**,

**Sunnyside Church**, Sabbath, May 16 at 7 p.m. The Sunnyside Brass and the Advent Trombone Choir of Portland will be joined by other Northwest brass players for this vesper concert.

Special guests will be former members of the Walla Walla College Brass Choir and Percussion Ensemble. Organizer is Melvin West and conductor is H. Lloyd Leno.

### Adventist Widowed

Adventist Widowed of Oregon, a support group for widowed men and women, will meet Sunday, May 10, 3 p.m., at the **Oregon Conference Office**, 13455 S.E. 97th Ave., **Clackamas, Ore.** "Time to Heal" will be presented by Pastor Dick Hansen. Also featured is a special Mother's Day Tea and talk by Ginny Allen. All

## SABBATH WORK PROBLEM? LABOR UNION HASSLE?

NPUC Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department can help.

\* \* \* \* \*



(503) 255-7300

*I love you, O Lord, my strength. Isaiah 18:1 NIV*

# WALLA WALLA COLLEGE

## WWC Students Help Build "Batman House"

Walla Walla College's emphasis on recycling took on new proportions during spring break. Fifteen students, under the direction of Aaron Mountain, associate director for enrollment services, spent their vacation in Southern California recycling sets from the Warner Brothers movie "Batman Returns," pulling out nails and sizing woods for construction.

Warner Brothers has agreed to donate all the wood from the movie sets to Habitat for Humanity, an organization that develops low-cost, volunteer-built housing for the poor. By the time all the sets have been recycled, there should be enough wood to build four or five homes for low-income families.

Student volunteers also helped to ready the lots for building, according to Casey Wolverton, junior theology volunteer. Armed with jackhammers, sledgehammers and shovels, they broke up old foundations and hauled away trash that had built up in the empty lots.

"This was a great opportunity for WWC students to reach out to people who are not associated with the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and to act as Christ would and help meet the basic needs of families in the lower income range, says Mountain.

Construction on one "Batman" home has already begun. Following Habitat guidelines, Ricardo and Martha Gonzales and their four children will have to donate 1,000 hours of

"sweat equity" on Habitat projects to qualify for the home.

Habitat is a national non-profit organization and solicits applications from prospective homeowners through church newsletters, minority publications and news articles. Applicants are chosen by a board of directors who consider factors such as income stability and family size.

Steve Dunston



Habitat workers help recycle lumber.



Gloved hands use chainsaws to rapidly size lumber.

# GENERAL NEWS

## Church Sees Abortion As 'Tragic Dilemma'

Acknowledging that abortion is "one of the tragic dilemmas of (today's) fallenness," General Conference Committee members are reviewing the latest document on a "Christian View of Human Life."

In its ninth revision, the paper generally affirms the sanctity of human life, while also recognizing that the community of faith must assist those who are in crisis and considering alternatives.

The latest document continues to condemn abortion as a means of birth control.

Final action is set for Annual Council.

## Scholarship Targets African Americans

Loma Linda University scholarship endowment fund for black students has been established from \$60,000 in gifts and pledges, according to Don Prior, vice president for advancement.

Began in early 1991, the fund will benefit African-American students in the six schools: Allied Health professions, Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, Public Health, and the Graduate School.

Contributors to the fund included alumni and university administrators, according to Prior. In addition, an \$800,000 charitable remainder trust has been established which, when it matures, will go to the fund.

Plans are already under way for a similar program benefiting Hispanic students to begin sometime this year.

## Red Square Station To Broadcast Adventism

On Monday, March 2, a contract between the church and Russian officials secured six hours a day for broadcasts to Europe, coordinated from a studio installed at the edge of Red Square in Moscow.

"We live in a day of miracles," Kenneth Mittleider, AWR board chairman, commented. "Two years ago such a possibility would have been laughed to scorn, yet today it is a reality." The Red Square AWR broadcasts began May 1, 1992.

Peter Kulakov, director of the Voice of Hope Media center in Tula, Russia, assures church leaders that facilities are available in Russia to reach all of the Middle East and Africa through short-wave broadcasts. These possibilities are being evaluated with a view to commencing broadcasts on Jan. 1, 1993.

## You and Your Trust Services Types of Charitable Gifts



By Dale R. Beaulieu

While most people just think of writing a check when they give, charitable gifts may actually be made with many types of property. Exploring the assets you own may lead you to less familiar, but highly economical, forms for your gifts.

Please consider the following types of charitable gifts:

**Cash**—A popular choice! Cash, usually in the form of a check, is probably the most common and popular type of property given.

When you itemize your deductions, your gifts of cash may be deducted on your federal income tax return. Amounts up to 50 percent of your adjusted gross income may be deducted; any excess can be deducted over the next five years. Your actual savings depend on our tax rate and other factors. Generally, the higher your tax rate, the greater your savings.

**Non Cash Property**—Property other than cash such as stocks, mutual funds, real estate, life insurance, collections of value, works of art, antiques, and other assets may help you make gifts at lower costs.

**Giving Through Revocable Living Trusts** is a popular idea. More people are using living trusts to manage and make final distribution of their assets. Using all or portions of the remainders of their living trusts to make charitable gifts can be a rewarding addition to their plans. A single

amendment to a living trust can be all that is required to arrange a gift.

**When property has increased in value.** If you have property that has increased in value and you have owned it long enough to qualify as long-term capital gain property, it might be wise to consider using such an asset to make charitable gifts. When you give appreciated property, you receive a deduction for the full value of the asset, while you avoid the capital gains tax that would have been due if you had sold it. With capital gains taxes as high as \$.28 per dollar of gains for federal tax purposes, this can be a significant savings. You may generally deduct gifts in the form of appreciated property up to 30 percent of your adjusted gross income. Any excess can be deducted over the next five tax years.

**When property has decreased in value.** If you have securities that have dropped in value, it is usually best to sell them and give the cash proceeds. You may then be able to claim the capital loss and deduct the charitable gift of the cash proceeds of the sale.

**Giving Through Your Will**—can be a convenient way to leave a lasting legacy to benefit causes. After first providing for your loved ones, you may decide to give a specific amount, or all or part of what remains after others have been provided for.

*Dale R. Beaulieu is associate director of Trust Services, North Pacific Union Conference.*

## Adventist Laymen Propose TV Net

Imagine having the General Conference or the Division president presenting messages in every North American Adventist church at least once or twice a month.

Consider the possibility of having a professionally produced seminar on soul winning or some other subject with the latest information and techniques in your church twice a month.

How would you like to have a weekly Sabbath morning on-the-spot report with the latest information (within 24 hours) about such subjects as:

- Evangelism in Russia and how Adventist members there are coping with food shortages.
- The effects of civil war on Adventists in Yugoslavia.
- Progress of Maranatha Volunteers in building 25 churches in Santo Domingo in 90 days.
- How an academy combined a baptism with graduation exercises.

It may be closer to reality than you might think. Here's how it can happen and the steps involved.

At the annual convention of Adventist-Laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) in Denver last summer the new ASI officers and board asked the General Conference and North American Division presidents the question, "What can ASI do that would make a significant difference in helping the church accomplish her mission?"

ASI is a worldwide organization of Adventist business, professional and supporting ministerial people who think big and are committed to sharing Christ in the marketplace.

Robert S. Folkenberg, General Conference president, responded that one of the greatest needs of the church in the 1990s is an enhanced communication system that utilizes current technology to link our churches together more effectively. North American Division (NAD) President Al McClure agreed.

In response, ASI leaders set up a task force to develop a television satellite network to include any church, school or institution equipped with downlink equipment. Chaired by ASI general vice president Dan Houghton of Hart Research Center, Fallbrook, Calif., the task force has developed an initial plan concept which has been approved by both the ASI board and the NAD officers and union presidents.

Other denominations, including the Assemblies of God, Mormons and Catholics are already using similar satellite network systems to communicate with their members. The Mormons, for instance, have 25,000 downlink entities in their system. David Rose, a Nashville, Tenn., layman, was one of the first to propose the idea to the Adventist leadership several years ago.

### Developing the Plan

The Adventist Media Center, Thousand Oaks, Calif., was designated to develop the project and give coordination when it is up

### North Pacific Union Conference Association

P.O. Box 16677 • Portland, OR 97216 • (503) 255-7300



### Food to Russia

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The shipment of powdered milk is a small preview of what is to come. Through a \$14 million grant from USDA, ADRA will distribute food to one and half million people in the next four months.

*Nina Martinez*

# A Russian's Testimony

By Vladimir Pravdenko  
As told to Jennie Belko

**Editorial note:** Vladimir Pravdenko, his wife and three sons, are Russian refugees who came to Walla Walla, Wash., more than one year ago. At that time, he wrote this testimony in Russian. It has been translated by Jennie Belko, who writes from Walla Walla.

I come from Zhadou, near the Black Sea. My real parents were put into prison for their religious beliefs. I was born in the prison hospital. The government took me out and put me in a state children's institution.

I don't know what happened to my real parents. They must have been killed. I don't know if I had any brothers or sisters. When I was one year and 10 months old I was adopted by a couple. I called them my father and mother. They were not Seventh-day Adventists, but Christians.

When I was five years old, I prayed to God in the way the Greek Orthodox Church prays to heal my father, who was paralyzed. At that time no one could persuade me that there was no God.

In my growing childhood days I deter-

mined to get a Bible, although at that time it was hard to get a Bible. One day some Christians came into our village. I asked my mother to invite them to our house. She asked them in and gave them something to eat. Mother didn't ask for a Bible, but I asked them if I could look at the pictures in their Bible. They loaned me the Bible.

So I quietly tore one page out and hid it until I went to school and learned to read. There in the Bible I read how the disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray. And I learned to pray. All this time when going to school I was praying quietly so nobody would hear me and put me in prison.

After I finished school I went to the Medical Institution to study. There I got acquainted with some Seventh-day Adventist Christians. They were fined and told to leave. I prayed to God to show me the truth and what to do.

And this is what God revealed to me in a dream: "Satan is trying to discourage you. The whole world is in Satan's hand. If you don't come to me this Sabbath at church you will never accept me."

I prayed to God and He gave me strength to overcome temptation. I accepted the Seventh-day Adventist faith and was baptized on May 27, 1977. I felt I was the

richest man anywhere because I had the Bible in my life.

After that I was not afraid of people. I began to preach to them the Three Angels' Messages. But Satan was working, too, and I was laid off from my job. But that did not stop me. I preached more about God.

I lived through many hardships. But the love of God comforted me. Then, during Gorbachev's rule, Christian people were given more freedom. I believed it was God's plan to put Gorbachev in power.

I was giving out religious literature, but the devil wanted to stop this. Many people were asking Gorbachev to stop this freedom of giving out literature. I was called to the police office to see a KGB high official. I was told, "When Gorbachev is out of power, we will arrest you and put you in prison."

Night and day I was praying to God. I came to the point where I felt I had no more strength and I prayed that God would let me die. Where I worked, lies were being told about me. The people there wanted to kill me, but God was with me.

In my dream God heard my prayer and said, "I will take you out from this place." And I asked him where to? God answered, "To America, in the fall, and you will be with my people." This has been fulfilled.

It was God's leading that brought me to Walla Walla. 

## LETTERS

Letters to the GLEANER editor are welcome. Letters must be signed and should not exceed 150 words in length. Letter writers are urged to limit their letters to commentary on editorial matter appearing in this journal, and should specifically refer to the issue date and article in question. Priority will be given to letters received by the editor within 45 days of the cover date of issue in question. Letters which direct personal criticism at individuals will not be printed; conversely, letters which promote a person by name or description for gratuitous praise will be declined for publication. Highest priority will be given to letters which add information and commentary, pro and con, to material appearing in this journal. Address letters to Editor, Box 16677, Portland, OR 97216-0677.

### Grain of Truth

This is a comment on the letter titled "Lacking Weight." (April 6, 1992)

Theora Jennings says that the Feb. 17 issue

had a "very good article on diet but it did not mention omitting grains," then goes on to say that she lost 105 pounds "in just no time," by eliminating grains and eating only fruit for breakfast.

And I can say that I went from 150 pounds down to my normal weight of 125 by eliminating wheat. No problem. Theora Jennings says grains. That not only means wheat, but oats, rye, rice, corn, etc.

Give it a try.

Trudy Christensen  
Shelton, Wash.

 Letters which suggest medical or nutritional strategies are printed here only as responses to GLEANER editorial material. Readers should consult with health-care professionals before adopting any medical suggestions contained in letters to the editor.

### Better Off Unchurched?

Reaching Unchurched Adventists (GLEANER, April 20, 1992) has an upside and a downside. Some former Adventists feel lonely, isolated,

guilt-ridden, empty. A return to familiar beliefs and worship customs may bring a great sense of relief and acceptance — a step forward.

Other former Adventists feel their non-Adventist friends are more empathetic than Adventists; they feel relieved of guilt and sense God's acceptance. They look forward to the hereafter. For them, returning to Adventism may indicate declining mental health — a step backward.

As a "caring people," shouldn't we lay aside our traditional bias and impartially evaluate former Adventists' needs rather than presume they would be better off re-churched?

We Adventists have no corner on spirituality. "The great body of Christ's true followers" (*Great Controversy*, p. 390) are not Adventists. That may be providential. It may protect them from the spiritual hubris that assumes conversion to Adventism would improve a true Christian.

R.E. Cook  
Portland, Ore.

 Tragically, church leaders, including Ellen White, frequently, and correctly, state that some congregations may be in such spiritual disrepair that God may spare His unchurched people membership in them. Your reference to "less empathetic," R.E., is absolutely apropos. Nevertheless, this editor holds that spiritual Adventism, in terms of mission and exposition of the character of Jesus Christ, remains unchallenged in its vision for individuals and its offer and promise of deliverance at this time in his-tory. The GLEANER will suggest no alternatives.

## ABOUT THE COVER

For the June 1, 1992, GLEANER cover picture, photographer Harold Wilson of Anchorage, Alaska, used a Canon F1, with 500mm L lens and Kodachrome 64 film to record his autumn encounter with this caribou at Denali National Park, Central Alaska. Wilson is owner and business consultant of Marketing Resources International in Anchorage.

# Facing the Roaring 90s In Adventist Broadcasting

By Ed Schwisow

The ascetic, bespectacled evangelist with the slick-backed hair and the golden voice-pipes first entrusted his sermons to the tinny microphone of radio in 1926.

With as careful a feel for the well-turned title as for the lilt of divine authority injected into his reading of Book of Daniel verses, *The Voice of Prophecy* must have sounded to many as if God Almighty Himself were proclaiming everlasting truth from the clouds of heavens.

Others, more cynical, denounced the new method of evangelism (which, by its very trial, critiqued tried-and-true tent evangelism as insufficient in "these modern days,") as a co-mingling of truth with Satanic agencies of the air. H.M.S. Richards, they predicted, would fail.

To some, Adventist broadcasting offers near-ecstatic promise of world evangelism. Christ could come, some say, if *only* the message of His judgment and return could be broadcast-imprinted on every accountable human mind, once and for all. A strong enough signal could reach everyone at once.

Diagrams which show megawatt-potential transmitters and graphs that prove radio receivers to have nearly saturated every world culture, create impressive cases for General Conference ministries such as Adventist World Radio, now broadcasting primarily from Guam, Costa Rica and Russia.

While the "magic" of radio has given way to the "science" of broadcasting (thereby eliminating the argument that the "medium" is in cahoots with Satanic powers), still, other voices of debate vane posit that it's better to "enter" than to "talk at."

And, indeed, evidence seems to show that "conversions" from radio or television broadcasts are much more the exception than the norm. The lay or professional evangelist who enters a community, lives there, ministers to the people and bids them follow Christ, or the friend or relative who prays, writes, visits, helps, weeps with, laughs with, and finally worships with a non-believer are still the best-traveled bridges to Advent Christianity.

Radio and television, it seems, do best what H.M.S. Richards probably dreamed of least. In today's world, where a metropolitan listener/viewer can tune into a choice of scores of programming channels, electronic media has become a surrogate companion—a friend with complementary interests.

While, originally, radio and television spoke either as God or demigod, today it speaks as an unthreatening friend and coach, and this it is expected to be. Announcers learn in Day One of broadcasting school that "the listener, singular" is your audience. It's "you, the listener," not "all you millions of people out there." Radio and television no longer "Lift Up the Trumpet," as they once did. Now they may just help lift the monotony.

Today, some of the most effective radio and television evangelism seems to take place when the electronic message is used as a "mingling presence" backed up by personal contact.

In the Yakima Valley of Washington state, for example, where in past years the

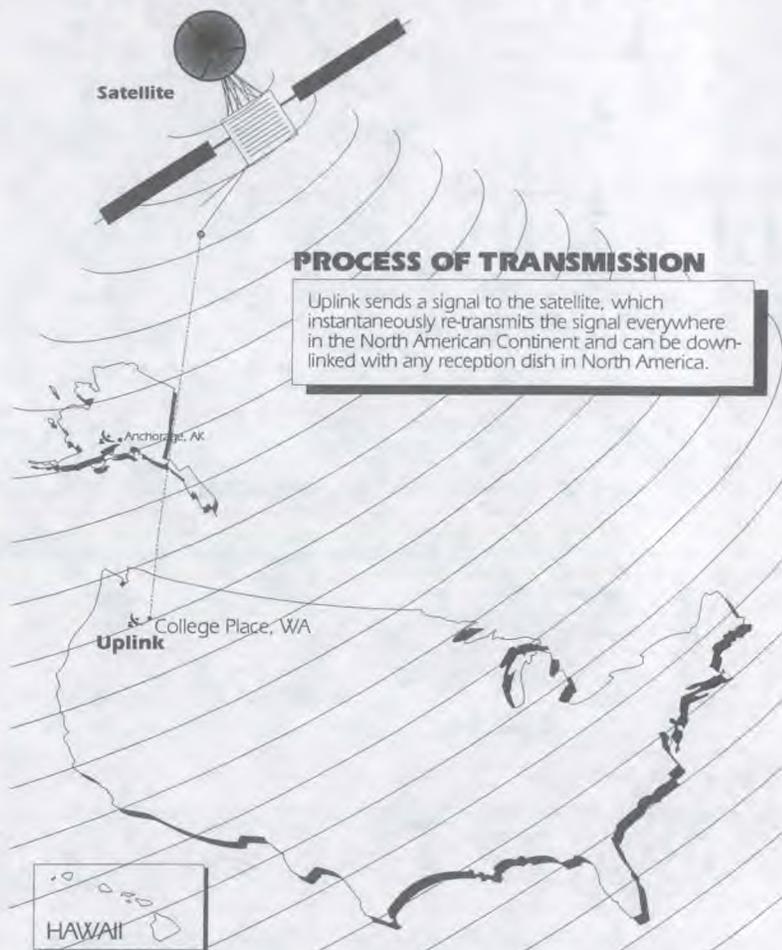
Hispanic community has been difficult to reach through door-to-door ministry and public proclamation, now, because of the intensive radio ministry of the pastor, Joaquin Cazares, M.D., (who speaks primarily on health topics) Adventists are accepted and invited into homes, he says, because they are seen as good people.

Conversions are taking place in public halls and in Bible study circles. But more of them are taking place, says Dr. Cazares, because of the mingling, get-acquainted, we're-not-bad-people ministry accomplished through radio.

Adventist radio station KTSY-FM 89.5 in Caldwell-Boise, Idaho, has modeled its ministry on this strategy, according to its manager, Michael Agee. The strategy may not be as apparent as in the Yakima Valley, for Agee is not a gospel minister, in the traditional sense, and the get-acquainted, wish-you-well topic is not health, but Christian music.

While a side-issue (a central one, in some minds) besetting the station has been an

## Northwest Radio Network Concept



## Triennial Sessions Northwest

# The Church at Worship *Business*

By Ed Schwisow

As the Northwestern church emerges from the 1980s and its shadow—a decade which Doug Johnson, former GLEANER columnist and author on Northwest history, calls “the worst decade in Northwest Adventist history, bar none,”—the tone and content of constituency sessions held this spring in the Montana, Upper Columbia, Washington, Oregon and Idaho conferences (in that order) begin to lay down a pattern of sentiment among Northwest Adventists, and offer insight into what we may expect to see happening—and not happening—in the church during the remainder of this decade.

During the 1980s, so powerful and unremitting were the strikes against the church (ranging from a poor timber economy to a crisis of credibility in leadership) that the mere fact that people still sang hymns in most churches on the right day of the week and made valiant efforts to keep their churches and their conferences solvent in those lean years brought tears of thanksgiving to the eyes.

But these years of bullet biting did nothing to assuage the restless, perhaps spirit-driven, Adventist insistence on clearly-defined progress. The Northwestern church had nearly ceased to grow, except among ethnic groups. An academy, once one of the largest in the territory, closed at mid-decade. A health system seemed—or so some said—ready to sink in an emphysematous stupor onto the laps of parishioners, creating yet another “Davenport case.” The restless did what they could to break the flow of adversity. Never had the call for “repentance” echoed so widely in the Northwest. Constituency session time ended several administrative careers. But healing was taking place. Laymen were insisting on becoming a part of the system, and they backed up their election to committees by not only joining the process in name, but by participating in presence and parlay.

With this backdrop, we begin to look at constituency sessions, 1992. (We will follow this up with Part 2, featuring Washington, Oregon and Idaho Conferences, in our next issue.)

The church economy continues to show strength—even amazing growth, with few exceptions, even as once-dissident, estranged Adventists take a second look at the organized church and find it still to be an amazing piece of Divine craftsmanship. Russia, our closest off-continent neighbor, has opened its arms to the embrace of Christianity, confronting us with “a window of opportunity” where once we huddled against an iron curtain in insular self-questioning and despair.

Times have changed, and constituency sessions of 1992 may be strong indicators of what to expect ahead.

### Montana Conference

Some of the most erudite, thoughtful, and, yes, some of the most pointed statements of this constituency season emerged from the floor of the April 19 session held on the campus of Mt. Ellis Academy.

Though meager in membership, this conference makes no apologies for dreaming Big Sky dreams and of expecting great things. Though faced with a financial statement worthy of communal and full-throated doxology, sentiment on the floor came through clearly: The financial aspect is fine, but adjustments are still needed. Small churches seem to be dying. Dissidence is still active and eating at the fringes. Big churches still languish in comparative growth stagnation (though encouraging church-growth reports were heard at the session, specifically from the Great Falls, Billings and Missoula congregations.)

One major item that has weighed heavily on past constituency sessions was absent this year: debate on the viability of Mt. Ellis Academy. Thirteen years ago, the school was awash in debt, collapsing physically and in morale, and on the verge of closure.

Today, the bills are paid, the plant is repaired, enrollment is climbing, and a long-term plan is in place; Mt. Ellis is in Montana to stay. However, several prepared speeches from the floor noted concerns regarding the philosophical direction of the school—the question of its mission. (The question of mission seemed to pervade the session, but was applied most succinctly to the academy report. Some delegates pled eloquently for

a more open-ended, less traditional format of instruction with stronger idealism and student self-determinism at its core. Others said, yes, fine, but, please, let's not throw out organization and discipline. In a departure from sessions of the past where youth delegates sat quietly by, or, at best, asked tentative questions, delegates from the Senior Class of the academy joined in the floor discussion with gusto, though, at times, with youthful nerves on edge.)

All incumbent officers and incumbent departmental directors were elected by large margins. Nearly a month earlier, the nominating committee, chaired by Bruce Johnston, union president, had met in Bozeman to prepare the slate.

The election of the president by a strong majority was followed by the election of John Rasmussen, secretary/treasurer and the departmental personnel, with the exception of the offices of Sabbath School, Family Life, Trust Services, Development and Stewardship director, all of which had been held by Dennis Seaton.

Because Seaton was in transition to a new assignment outside the Montana Conference, the Nominating Committee referred the naming of his replacement to the incoming Executive Committee.

In a departure from past sessions, little time was spent on constitutional amending or revising.

Considerable time was given, however, to a topic that had infiltrated discussion from the meeting onset: how to deal with the redemption and/or discipline of groups of members who withhold financial and moral support from ordained church leadership while claiming all rights and privileges associated with membership.



Montana delegates gather in Mt. Ellis Academy gym, the morning after the home basketball team defeated visiting alumni.

## Triennial Sessions Northwest



Perry Parks, incumbent Montana Conference president (left) and wife Gloria are presented by Bruce Johnston, North Pacific Union Conference president (background) upon reelection of Parks to the Montana presidency.

Brought to the floor for discussion was the question of the Troy Church, a small congregation in the northwestern corner of the state, where lay leadership and, indeed, a major block of the congregation, seemed determined, and in lengthy discussions with conference leaders, had made clear, that they would not be subject to the church manual in certain points; that they would choose to whom they would return their tithes and offerings; and that they would seek self-determination as to the future of the Troy Church, holding services either in the church or elsewhere, and inviting whomever they chose to address the church body, with or without the counsel of the assigned pastor.

The constituents voted to ask the executive committee to "continue to work with and take whatever actions necessary to try and promote unity and harmony between the Troy church and the Montana Conference," and "after 12 months, a special session of the constituency delegation be called to decide on the Troy issue."

A corollary vote was taken to apply the same motions to the Yaak Church, a small congregation not far from Troy, whose active membership seems depleted, and whose remaining members appear, at times, unable, or unwilling, to conduct regular Sabbath services in the local, dedicated, Seventh-day Adventist church building.

The session ended at 5:30 p.m.

### Upper Columbia

With an incumbent president who had written, as his doctoral dissertation, an analysis of constituency sessions in the Seventh-day Adventist church, the April 26 Upper Columbia Conference session, held on the campus of Upper Columbia Academy in Spangle, Wash., seemed destined to a better-than-even chance of bringing consensus.

This it did, but not before many heavy issues were brought to the attention of the

delegates by the incumbent president, Jere D. Patzer.

In a 54-minute video report from the president, Patzer led off the session with a frank assessment of strengths and weaknesses in the conference, noting, especially, the handling of crisis situations. He also devoted several minutes to a videotaped interview with a young Russian girl which the conference Operation Bearhug team had assisted in coming to America for a critical operation on her crippled spine. Patzer noted that the Upper Columbia Conference has set as its special response to the needs of the Russian people the establishment of a clinic and church in the former Siberian penal colony of Magadan.

In pointing to crises, Patzer noted the former desperate need of Upper Columbia Academy for a health education center and auditorium, and of the supportive attitude shown by the conference membership in helping to underwrite "Project 90," a development plan that has benefited not only Upper Columbia Academy, but all elementary and secondary schools in the conference, but especially has led to the completion of a new health education complex on campus. The surge in morale associated with improvements at the academy, and the increased emphasis on stimulating Christian growth among students, is responsible for a 20 percent surge in enrollment this year, Patzer said.

In a second phase of "Project 90," constituents voted later in the day to authorize construction of a new administration/classroom complex on the UCC campus, for an estimated cost "of 1.3 million dollars, (with) an estimated \$191,000 for Walla Walla Valley Academy and \$384,000 for the K-10 schools. And let it be further resolved that construction commence at the time when 65 percent of the estimated building cost is in hand as cash."

Patzer also addressed the issue of a church divided against itself, and pointed to reason for hope that this crisis, too, can find resolution. In his report, he interviewed Ty Gibson, a once-outspoken pamphleteer against organized Adventism, who has now disavowed his former stance as a church critic and has voiced his desire not only to rejoin a congregation, but to cooperate corporately in joint mission ventures. He has also gone on record prohibiting the acceptance by his organization, The Light Bearers, of any money marked "tithe."

The president also called for a recommitment and sensitization to the needs of Adventists who have lost touch with their local congregations. In an anonymous interview with a couple known only as "Ann and Allen," and shown on the screen with opaque faces and altered voice tracks, Patzer was able to

point to a pathway of reconciliation that local congregations can begin to take to open healing dialogue with alienated Adventists.

During lunch break, constituents met in four separate "commissions" to study and to prepare reports. Topics centered on evangelism, health, renewal/revival and media impact. Among prominent recommendations were calls for local churches to take evangelistic initiatives, including the establishment of small groups and the training of lay evangelists, and that the model for evangelism and discipling should be distinctively scriptural. In calling for a new look at health, the commissioners asked the conference to more closely intertwine health seminars with church ministry, to closely examine the feasibility of opening 12-step addiction-control outreaches, of better safeguarding denominational workers from the threat of burnout and of working more closely with young persons in their education regarding substance abuse, sex education, AIDS, eating disorders, homosexuality and pregnancy.

In the call for renewal, the report asked the conference, centrally, and churches, individually, to make renewal and revival issues of first importance, and that the influence of the Holy Spirit be acknowledged and emphasized. In media, the report commended efforts now in motion to extend the KGTS-FM radio signal from the Walla Walla College studios, via satellite, for capture throughout the Upper Columbia territory and beyond. It further recommended that a network of active local families be entrusted with follow-up responsibilities for those who respond to radio messages and that a coordinated plan of media outreach, designed to attract persons to participation in Seventh-day Adventist Church services, be implemented. Full commission reports with all recommendations are available from the office of the Upper Columbia Conference executive secretary.

All incumbent officers and departmental leaders were reelected. The constituency session concluded in mid afternoon.

### In Summary

From these two sessions, it becomes clear that the old days when "process" and "accountability," and "a balance of laymen and church employed" took up a major share of discussion time in editing of constitutions and the establishment of ad hoc committees, are largely passed. Perhaps we hear less about these issues because we have built them into the system where they do their checking and their balancing without comment.

Amplly taking their place, however, are soul-searching questions of "mission," of how organization should parcel that mission into administrable chunks, of how strategy should

## Triennial Sessions Northwest

be set to encompass that mission and of how to find and prepare enough people to do all that needs to be done. (Somehow, it all resonates with passages from early Adventist writers who bemoaned the enormity of the task and the paucity of the prepared work force.)

Evidence from these two sessions points clearly at a laity as eager to rejoin this dialogue as it was to argue fine points of constitution drafting, and it also brings evidence of young people unafraid to add their spirited insights.

Wrestling with mission is not always comfortable, but we should, perhaps, take comfort that it was clearly red-hot on the front microwave of discussion. And even more positive should be our acknowledgement that this discussion is leading to deeper soul searching (yes, even to prayer bands on constituency session floors) and to the study of early advent models of mission expression, as well as their more modern derivatives.

We've clearly left the 1980s behind, though we take with us their lessons. The 1990s may hold an altogether new brand of holy excitement, the kind we've been missing, and which expresses itself in bear hugs not only in Russia, but with unchurched Adventists, once-alienated dissidents and with vibrant young people eager to get busy with the business of mission.

Next issue, we look at sessions in Oregon, Idaho and Washington Conferences. 



Jere Patzer, left, prepares to give a plaque to Herb Douglass, center, in recognition of his leadership as principal of Upper Columbia Academy during its Phase 1 renovation of Project 90. At right, holding microphone, is John Wilkins, Project 90 director.

*The men of prayer are the men of power. Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 509*

### Montana Conference Elected Offices, 1992-1994

Perry Parks, President, Ministerial and Evangelism director  
John Rasmussen, Secretary/Treasurer, ASI director  
Gary Beck, Health/Temperance/ABC director  
Larry Unterseher, Education/Youth/Communications director

#### Executive Committee:

Perry Parks, chairman  
John Rasmussen, secretary  
Randy Barlow  
Morris Brusett  
Gerald Schulze  
Luther Harris  
Norman Boyd  
Rod Longfellow  
Karen Andregg  
Bill Montgomery  
Linda Nystrom

Sandy Eickmann

#### Constitution and By-Laws Committee

Dave Ballou  
Gail Harris  
John Rasmussen  
Morris Brusett  
Randy Barlow

### Upper Columbia Conference Elected Offices, 1992-1994

Jere D. Patzer, President  
Bryce Pascoe, Secretary/Church Ministries  
Ted Lutts, Treasurer/ASI  
Doug Sayles, Adventist Book Center director  
Ron Scott, Education director  
Max Torkelsen II, Health/Communication/Radio-TV  
Ben Maxson, Ministerial Association, Stewardship secretary  
Clayton Child, Personal Ministries director  
Jim Kilmer, Sabbath School director  
George Carambot, Trust Services director  
Gordon Pifher, Youth/Family Life director

#### Executive Committee:

Jere Patzer, chairman  
Bryce Pascoe, secretary  
Ted Lutts  
Niels-Erik Andreasen  
Rod Applegate  
Marvin Entze  
Phillip Ammons  
Aida Cazares  
Marlo Fralick  
Gerald Haeger

Arnold Kurtz  
Jay Magnuson  
Glyn Marsh  
Duane McKey  
Leroy Moore  
Collette Pekar  
Albert Schoepflin  
Sherle Skeels  
Larry Swisher  
Margaret Trautwein  
Stan Wilkinson



The Upper Columbia Conference Triennial Session features music from Upper Columbia Academy students.



StayWell

## Seeking God II

By Janet Wilkinson, M.P.H.

How do you find that close relationship with God for which you long? Here are a few more ideas to help you seek God . . . and to find Him.

**1. Concentrate on God before you pray.** "Bow quietly before Him to remember and realize who He is, how near He is, how certainly He can and will help. Be still before Him, and allow His Holy Spirit to waken and stir up in your soul the childlike disposition of absolute dependence and confident expectation. Wait on God till you know you have met Him; prayer will then become so different" (Andrew Murray).

**2. Listen.** "Be still and know that I am God." It's not easy to do that. There are 20 things each day screaming for your attention. And God's voice is only a whisper.

Give yourself permission to take the time to slow down. Then, after you pray, listen quietly, with your mind open to His thoughts. When you wait patiently, He will shoot into your mind, like an arrow, just the thought you need to hear.

**3. Take hold of His promises.** "Ask and it will be given you, seek and you will find." "Whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours." These promises are for you. When you pray, remind God of what He has promised you.

You will find Him when you seek Him with all your heart. Be still and go to Him today. He longs to reveal Himself to you.

Janet Wilkinson, M.P.H., writes from Yakima, Wash.

### Bearhug in the Skies

The March 16, 1992 issue of the GLEANER, page 5, contained a story of "Zinaida's Miracles," the account of a 12-year-old Russian girl who received life-saving medical care for a severely crippled spine through assistance from an Operation Bearhug team and from the Upper Columbia Conference. To that story we would like to add belated thanks to MTS Travel of Ephrata, Penn., and to KLH Airlines of The Netherlands for jointly underwriting \$2,376 of the \$3,376 ticket expenses associated with Zinaida and Olga Koloskova's flight from Russia to Chicago for the corrective surgery.

*Worry is like a rocking chair. It gives you something to do; but doesn't get you anywhere.*

Unknown

## CONFERENCE NEWS

### ALASKA

#### Legal Notice

#### Alaska Conference Constituency Session

Notice is hereby given that the Regular 10th Triennial Session of the Alaska Conference will be held in the Palmer Auditorium at the Palmer Campground on Maud Road, Aug. 9, 1992, at 9 a.m.

The purpose of the Regular 10th Triennial Session is to receive the reports of conference activities since the last triennial session in 1989, to elect conference officers, departmental directors, a new Conference Executive Committee, a new Constitution and Bylaws Committee, do strategic planning and to transact any other business that may properly come before the delegates in session.

Dr. James Stevens, President  
David D. Freedman, Secretary/Treasurer

### IDAHO

#### New Oak Desks Installed In Academy Boys' Dorm

Double oak desks, built by students of Gem State Adventist Academy under the direction of the academy Technology Education Department, will be completed and installed in the boys' dormitory by the end of June.

In an earlier phase of dormitory refurbishing, new bookcases were installed in the same facility. Phase Three will begin this fall and will consist of placing custom-designed closet inserts in the dorm.

According to Richard Lange, instructor, the systematic installation of quality furniture lies within the department philosophy of teaching lifelong skills and pride in craftsmanship.

Information by Richard Lange



#### Nampa Welcomes New Pastor

The Nampa, Idaho, Adventist church recently welcomed Stanley Hudson as head pastor. Hudson, his wife Cynthia (Cindy) and their two children, Daniel and Sarah, come to Idaho from Whittier, Calif.

Hudson was senior pastor there for nine-and-a-half years, preceded by two years as associate pastor in Lynwood, Calif., and Ventura, Calif., respectively.

He was graduated from La Sierra with a B.A. degree in theology in 1976; M.Div. from Andrews University in 1980 and is planning to complete a doctoral degree this December.

Cindy, a 1979 Andrews University graduate, served from 1980 to 1985 as director of clinical dietetics at Glendale Adventist Hospital. She spent 10 years, from age 2 to 12, with missionary parents in Nigeria, West Africa.

R. L. Johnson



## Be Ye Transformed by the Renewing of Your Mind

### Montana's Second Annual Christian Women's Retreat

- When:** September 11-13, 1992  
**Where:** Camp on the Boulder  
 South of Big Timber, Mont.  
**Featuring:**
- A spiritual feast
  - Main Speaker, Hazel Burns
  - Devotional speaker, Ruthie Jacobsen
  - Counseling
  - Sharing
  - Meaningful Christian Fellowship

For general and financial information contact Seidi Albertsen,  
 1414 Robin Lane, Bozeman, MT 59715  
 Telephone: (406) 587-3716  
*Come and bring a friend*



#### Commuting for Baptisms

At the end of a five-week seminar held in Spanish at the Hood River, Ore., church, four persons were baptized by Pastor Omar Flores. Pastor Flores commuted 150 miles, four nights a week, to conduct the seminar. He pastors the Hispanic congregation in Woodland, Wash., and the Spanish-speaking group in Hood River. Pictured, left to right, are Emilia Aguirre, Eric Mondragon, Yolanda Aldana, Aldana's mother Margarita Zamora, Pastor Ben Dale of the Hood River Church and Omar Flores.

Shirley Brewer

## Ashland Church Adopts Siberian Sister Church

A deacon's impression to urge his fellow members to help in the development of a church in Russia has led to the decision of the Ashland, Ore., church to underwrite the building of a church in Biysk, Siberia, and to sponsor its pastor in his final year of seminary training.

Head Deacon Don Smith began his campaign by writing to Alf Birch, North Pacific Union Conference Bearhug coordinator, who then responded by identifying a congregation in Biysk, Siberia, near the Mongolian border, which needed both a pastor and a church building.

Notified of the interest of the Ashland Church, the Russian Union Conference president had then sent a message to the church in which he noted: "Thank you very, very much to all people in the Ashland Church. Let God bless you. Here is the name of a final-year theological student."

Funds have been sent through to Birch's office to take care of the tuition for the student and his wife, Victor and Nellie Gomer, at the Russian Seventh-day Adventist Seminary. Nellie is studying in the music department.

After graduation, the Gomers will return to Biysk, their hometown, to begin their evangelistic and pastoral work.

The Ashland Church is now raising the funds for a new church in Biysk. Don Smith appealed to his church family: "We don't know what the future holds for our church in Russia. Let's do all we can while the doors of opportunity are open."

Andy Running

## Unexpected Gift Propels Glendoveer Remodeling

While remodeling a church may not seem to be an unusual project, starting such a venture at the southeast Portland Glendoveer Church has required unusual intervention.

For starters, though the church pastor was transferred out some time ago, the congregation has decided to move ahead and to remodel their church while they await a new pastor. They find that the project itself is drawing them together during this wait.

"The remodeling is drawing us all closer together," comments Dan Border, chairman of the Church Development Committee.

"We're making a statement about ourselves and our God," says another church member.

Finances, however, have been a matter of prayer among these members of modest means. One of the ways those prayers seem to have been answered has been through an unexpected gift from a friend.

## Marianna's Miracles

By Maylan Schurch

Marianna Oreshkin had been raised a communist, like most Estonians in the former Soviet satellite.

But when her youngest child Paul was born with Down's syndrome, atheism began to lose its grip as she searched for answers to the question, "Why?"

Gradually explanations began to come—not from the Soviet authorities, who consider such children uneducable—but from the Lord. About three years ago one of the builders of the Oreshkin's new home invited her to services at the local Adventist church, where she, then, continued to attend regularly.

But the Lord used her natural hospitality to begin to truly fulfill her dreams for Paul. One day Marianna and her daughter Maria were in a Leningrad subway station. Hazel Venable, an Adventist American tourist from western Washington, was standing nearby. Since Russian people were sternly advised never to talk to foreigners, Hazel was having great difficulty finding someone with the courage to give her directions.

She had just been rebuffed by a uniformed police officer when she noticed a neatly dressed woman and a child. Unlike the other people, this woman—Marianna—looked directly at Hazel and did not avert her eyes. Anxiously Hazel approached her and asked directions to the Hermitage, the Czars' winter palace. Glancing about her, Marianna quickly said: "I go that way. I take you there." And then began an adventure straight out of a spy movie, as Marianna indicated trains to take and directions to go by slight motions of her head.

What Marianna didn't know, as they

exchanged names and addresses, was that Hazel had been working with Down's syndrome children for 30 years, helping public schools develop special education classes.

But it wasn't until Marianna's sister's family came to Washington and met the Venables that Hazel learned of Paul and of his need. She wanted to return to the Soviet Union to evaluate the boy, and though it usually took many months to get permits for Americans to visit, this time it took barely three weeks. Later Hazel wrote a letter to Marianna expressing her professional opinion that Paul was educable, and Marianna took this letter to the American Embassy and began the process of emigrating to America.

The Friday evening before they were to leave the country, Marianna felt impressed to attend vespers at her local church. Several times in the past the pastor had announced baptisms two or three weeks in advance, but Marianna had never made her decision. That night, as she sat in the congregation, she regretted her delay. How lovely it would be to be baptized in the church she loved.

Suddenly, as if reading her thoughts, the pastor announced that there would be a baptism coming up—not in weeks, but the very next day. That Sabbath, a happy Marianna was baptized in a service she feels the Lord planned just for her.

Arriving on Seattle's east side, Marianna made contact with the Bellevue Church and began attending. Dale and Louise Bartholomew and their daughter Mardene (Mardene had traveled to Russia a few months earlier with Operation Bearbug.) took an interest in Marianna's daughter, Maria. Bellevue Church members are helping shoulder the financial burden as she attends Au-

burn Adventist Academy, where, in spite of her language barrier, Maria is a 4.0 student as well as a prize-winning pianist.

Thanks to a special academy class for young people wishing to be baptized, Maria's quick, questioning mind began to grasp what it means to be a Seventh-day Adventist Christian, and in late March of this year Marianna experienced the joy of seeing Maria baptized at Bellevue.

Her father, Slava, is still evaluating Christianity, and despite his limited English, is always ready for a lively, gracious discussion about God.

The Oreshkin story continues. Their pilgrimage from Estonia, by God's grace, leads them on in America and through the gates of New Jerusalem.

*Maylan Schurch is pastor of the Bellevue, Wash., church and writes from Bothell, Wash.*



On the day of Maria's baptism in the Bellevue Church, the whole family took part: From left, Slava, Maria, Marianna and Paul Oreshkin.

## Puyallup Members Active In World Hunger Relief

As in the story of Jesus multiplying the few loaves and fishes, so it has been as Puyallup, Wash., members have given to help others.

Five-hundred-dollars from a Puyallup knickknack sale was sent to the Adventist Development and Relief Agency for the starving children of three countries, but not before being matched three-to-one by the United States government, bringing the total to \$2,000 worth of surplus food for needy children.

In March, Puyallup community services had also sent \$400 to ADRA, which, with the government matching, brought the total to \$1,200. Also in March, \$600 was donated for bicycles in Africa. On April 27,

85 boxes of clothing were shipped for world-field use.

Puyallup community services outreach is made possible by volunteers who donate their time to help others in time of need.

*Marion Pattee*

*What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God.*

*James 4:1-2*

*Handbook of Scriptures to Grow On*



## Bee at Sunset Lake

In spite of rain and altered plans, 26 people went to Sunset Lake Camp in late February for a work bee sponsored by the Washington Conference Family Life Department. "It was a great time to spend time with the family, make new friends and accomplish something worthwhile as well," said one participant. Pictured is Perry Chinn, D.C., of Enumclaw, Wash., doing some repair work.

*Dawn Hayney*

Schofield Estate, from the Eleanor Schofield Trust, to be used for elementary and secondary teaching scholarships. The third gift of \$50,000 was half of a challenge grant by Andy Fisher, which will be used for the unrestricted annual fund.

"The weekend was beautiful and there were so many people," said Ciri Hansen Achord, Class of 1963, from Olympia, Wash.

"It was fantastic and wonderful to meet old friends and new," agreed Oscar and Irene Lottman, classes of 1939 and 1934, who now live near Pacific Union College in California.

Community families opened up small bed and breakfast accommodations to facilitate the many guests.

"This weekend was a high celebration of the past," says Linda Emmerson, events coordinator. "Now we will move from this into Walla Walla College's place in the future."

Cindy Chamberlain

## Collegiate Adventists Sponsor Health Fair

The American Heart and Lung Association, D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education), the Washington State Police and other health-related groups held Health Fair '92, April 14, on Walla Walla College front campus.

Thirty groups offered health information, held contests and gave door prizes. "We were pleased with the turnout of students and the organizations involved," said Loree Chase, assistant WWC chaplain.

The fair was sponsored by Walla Walla College Collegiate Adventists for Better Living (CABL). Other programs sponsored by CABL include an annual Drug and Alcohol Awareness Week and a health awareness fun run.

Steve Dunston

## Students to Attend LLU Post Graduate Schools

Several Walla Walla College students were accepted into the Loma Linda University Schools of Dentistry and Medicine for the Fall of 1992.

Students accepted into the dental hygiene program include: Yvonne Anderson, Corby Cumbo, Melanie Manweiler, Krishawn Murphy, Michele Tarter and Rachelle Winslow.

Students accepted into the dentistry program include Brenda Fullerton, Bryan Johnson, Jonathan Nash and Dwight Rice.

Students accepted into the School of Medicine include Ed Case, Marta Haeger, Troy Harris, Rod Hestdalen, Gina Jervey, Tony Lloyd, Lance Mohr, Brynn Stirling, Gary Underhill and Loy (Anderson) Witzel.

Jodi Larson

## Bearhug by the Book

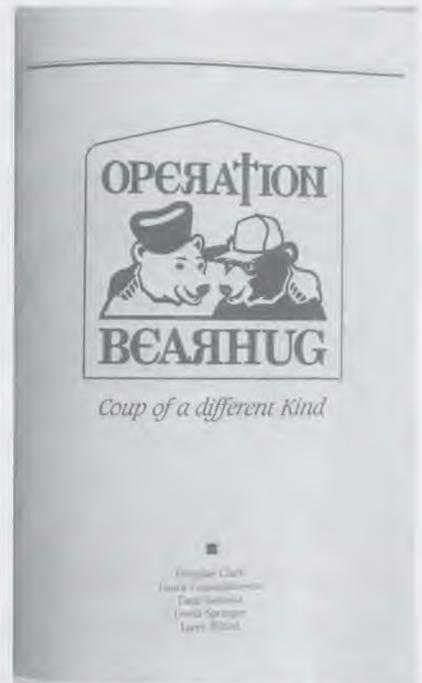
The Walla Walla College Operation Bearhug team has recently published a book entitled *Operation Bearhug: Coup of a Different Kind*, which follows their experiences in the then-Soviet Union and also reports on the other 1991 North Pacific Union Conference Operation Bearhug projects and teams.

The WWC team spent August, 1991, in a project with Russian Christians, sharing the gospel in Siberia. During this time they unknowingly walked into a coup against democratic reforms. The coup failed and communism collapsed soon after. The gospel coup has not failed however, and continues on in the lives and faith of millions of Russian citizens.

In their new book, team members Douglas Clark, Laura Constantinescu, Tami Galusha, David Springer and Larry Witzel tell their stories.

*Coup of a Different Kind* is available at NPUC Adventist Book Centers. All profits from the sales at the bookstore are dedicated to evangelistic work in Russia.

Melodie Parks



# ADVENTIST HEALTH SYSTEM/WEST

## Easter Drama Moves Hearts in Portland

By Paula J. Wart

"The Witness," a dramatic and musical reenactment of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, was seen by thousands in the Portland Civic Auditorium on Easter Weekend.

More than 150 Portland-area actors, professional and amateur, collaborated in the richly-staged production.

The production was sponsored by Portland Adventist Medical Center, The Oregon Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and the following Seventh-day Adventist churches: Beaverton, Gladstone Park, Glendoveer, Gresham, New Life Celebration, Orchard, Pleasant Valley, Rockwood, Sandy, Sharon, Stone Tower, Sunnyside, Tabernacle, and University Park.

Many, including a professional critic, gave the performances rave reviews. A significant number sent in contributions to offset the costs and to ensure its annual Portland production. But what pleases the cast most is the evidence of the work of the Holy

Spirit in leading cast and audience members to commit their lives to the subject of *The Witness* — Jesus Christ.

Persons missing from church for years have returned to their congregations; a cast member's co-worker has begun restudying the Bible after years of neglect; a spouse who had been resistant to joining her husband in studying the Bible told her pastor after the matinee, "I want to study about your church!"

"The story of Christ's life convicts and inspires," says John Kendall, associate pastor of the Rockwood Church and "The Witness" director. "What Christ said two millennia ago is no less true today, 'If I be lifted up I will certainly draw men to me.'"

The cast made this the object of their prayer sessions at each rehearsal.

James Peppers, who played Judas Iscariot, has been a professional amateur actor in Portland theaters for four years. He auditioned for "The Witness" at the urging of Jane Hoidal, a friend who also had joined

Continued on next page

journal called "Going Meatless" is the first special issue on vegetarianism produced by the church in almost 20 years.

In addition to topics on the benefits of a vegetarian diet, the magazine features a nutrition chart, popular vegetarian restaurants around the country, recipes, celebrities who choose a meatless diet, as well as articles on the environment and how to select the best fruits and vegetables.

To obtain a copy call 1-800-765-6955, contact your local Adventist Book Center, or write to *Vibrant Life*, 55 West Oak Ridge Drive, Hagerstown, MD 21740. Bulk prices are available.

### African Countries Face Century's Worst Drought

As many as 40 million people are facing the worst drought to sweep east and southern African countries in a century.

Reaching from South Africa to Egypt, the drought has hit even the nations which normally export food, according to Ken Flemmer, assistant vice-president for Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) International.

ADRA is preparing to have an action plan ready when the large-scale famine develops.

*Shirley Burton*

### College in India Needs Help

India, recipient of the first official Thirteenth Sabbath Offering the first quarter of 1912, now receives another honor 80 years later. The Southern Asia Division will benefit from the offering this quarter.

Two projects, both of which will strengthen educational facilities that graduate workers for northern India, will be supported by the June 27 offering. The recipients are Spicer Memorial College, for married students' housing, and the Adventist Training School in Assam and Lowry Memorial School near Bangalore, both slated for new dormitories.

The one-room metal structures in which Spicer's married students now live heat up like ovens on hot days, creating 120-degree



Inadequate dwellings like this for married students at Spicer College will be replaced with this quarter's special offering.



From the cover of the first MISSION quarterly. Credit: Linda McDonald.

hothouses without ventilation. With room barely for a bed and a table, the huts have no closets, cupboards or shelves. Dormitories have leaking roofs, are rat-infested, and have bricks placed over holes in the floor to discourage snakes from entering.

*Janet Leigh Kangas*



### Children's Russian Paper

This year marks the publication of the first Seventh-day Adventist journal for children of the Euro-Asia Division called *Angel Protector*. The 36-page paper, written in the Russian language, is printed in color and published six times a year. Ann Lahu, young editor of the new magazine, right, met Barbara Huff from Minnesota at the Adventist Seminary in Tula, Russia, where Ann's husband is a teacher.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Deadline Schedule	
Issue Date	Material Due at 11 a.m.
July 13	June 18
Aug. 3	July 9

### ALASKA

#### WWC Alumni

Members and friends of Walla Walla College Alumni Association attending the **Palmer, Alaska, camp meeting** are invited to a potluck dinner on Sabbath, Aug. 8, at 12:45 p.m. The location will be posted. Bring food plus table service. For information, contact the WWC Alumni Association at (509) 527-2632.

### IDAHO

#### Series for Couples

The Twin Falls, Idaho, church is offering a Couples Enhancement Series this summer, as follows:

June 19-21: The Engagement Expectation, for those (1) who consider that special someone seriously significant, (2) who are already engaged or, (3) who have been married six months or less.

## Triennial Sessions Northwest

# The Church at Worship *Business*

By Ed Schwisow

Northwest church business in the 1990s has changed.

The first inklings came during the recent Montana and Upper Columbia Conference constituency sessions covered last issue.

Discussion at those decision-making conference business sessions, which take place in every conference every three years, centered on mission, on the need for unity and on enhancing Christian education.

### Washington

The Washington Conference, with its largely-metropolitan territory comprising the western portion of the state of Washington beyond the Cascade Mountains, bucks the trend of Northwestern conferences such as Montana and Upper Columbia (its immediate predecessors in holding 1992 constituency sessions).

This conference unabashedly proclaims itself metropolitan, and, historically, has drawn leadership heavily from the Eastern Seaboard and Midwest.

The Washington Conference leadership, during the past six years, has advanced church growth by encouraging lay training interspersed with periodic high profile public evangelism.

In a move to dovetail the ebb and flow of public evangelism with the pulse of lay Bible ministry, the conference has also established a team of 10 young Bible workers under the direction of the Conference health director, Jim Brackett. Known as the RESTORE team, the group members, are selected for their desire and ability to share their faith door to door. Their contacts in the Seattle area now list in the tens of thousands.

This entire outreach package in the largest population center of the Northwest, has led to one of the highest growth rates of any conference in the Northwest, and this growth rate, coupled with added enrollment at Auburn Adventist Academy, the expansion of the Black, Samoan, Hispanic, Asian and Native American Adventist communities and a stable

conference economy, seemed to paint an impressive picture for the delegates to the Triennial Session on May 3 at Auburn Adventist Academy.

All incumbent conference officers and departmental leaders were reelected, virtually by acclamation.

Voted into churchhood was the Everson Church. Three ethnically-based congregations were also added: Seattle Spanish, Tacoma Korean and Tacoma Samoan.

The Freeland and Oakville churches, declining congregations once located in small communities, were disbanded because of lack of membership.

In his report, Lenard Jaecks, president, noted that had outreach programs such as RESTORE not been implemented, other churches in the conference might have eventually been endangered by the same fate as Oakville and Freeland.

In his report, the president called for unity, noting that a Holy Spirit prayer watch, originating in the Washington Conference, is now observed by many members. He invited the world church to join the Washington Conference at 6:15 each morning (their time or Washington's) to add their voices to the call for the unifying Spirit of God.

He also noted that the past three years "has been a time to give very intentional leadership to increase the role of women in the life of the conference. We wish we had made more progress," he said, but added, "As far as we know, we were one of the first conferences to involve a woman in the administrative team." He added that Ruth Komarniski, a Washington Conference member, serves on the world church General Conference Committee.

During the lunch hour, groups of constituents met with several ongoing presidential commissions to discuss reports prepared during the previous three years.

These commissions were titled: *Breakthrough Evangelism, Involving the 20-40 Generation. Proclaiming the Remnant Hour Mes-*

*sage with Love and Project Affirmation.* Copies of the reports are available from the office of the Washington Conference executive secretary.

Again, as in sessions held this spring in the Montana Conference and Upper Columbia Conference, emphasis fell on mission rather than on process, governance and constitutions. Unity, spirituality, nurture and evangelism came under close scrutiny during the commission sessions.

Without serious questions regarding the conference structural integrity and accountability, delegates made short work of confirming their incumbent conference leadership and in moving to a broad vision of what can be built on the foundations laid in 1989, 1990 and 1991.

Elected to departmental positions were Terry Bolton, Sunset Lake Camp manager and junior youth; Keith Boyd, trust officer; Jim Brackett, health services and RESTORE; Jerry Brass, trust services; Dennis N. Carlson, communications; Dennis R. Carlson, Adventist Book Center manager; Roscoe Howard, senior youth ministries; Dale Johnson, education; Robert Knutson, Sabbath school, family life, community services; Patti Revolinski, associate education; David Weigley, ministerial. Assigning of directorships of stewardship and personal ministries were postponed, and reflected a desire of the nominating committee to allow previous holders of those positions to concentrate more fully in ministerial and senior youth ministries.

Elected to serve on the Washington Conference Executive Committee were the following: Lenard Jaecks, chairman; Dennis Carlson, secretary; Roy Wesson, Audrey Anderson, Fred Anderson, Stan Beerman, Larry Benson, James Berglund, Dean Dietrich, Mike Edge, Carrie Falls, Gary Fresk, Esther Garner, Donn Leiske, Mickey Meyer, Hector Mouzon and Jeanne Nygard.

### Oregon

As in other constituency sessions this past spring, this session coincided with the peak performance levels of academy musical groups, coming, as they did, near the end of the school year.

On Sunday morning, May 17, all three Oregon Conference senior academies, Columbia, Milo and Portland Adventist academies, brought their musical talents to Portland, Ore., and displayed them in ensemble regalia at the Portland Adventist Academy gymnasium, site of the 51st constituency session of the conference.

Christian education, a top item at all triennial sessions in the Northwest this year, was addressed at this session, with an action approved to resume the Capital Gifts Cam-



Re-elected Washington Conference executive officers, left to right: Dennis N. Carlson, executive secretary and Ann Carlson, (Bruce Johnston, North Pacific Union Conference president, background); Lenard Jaecks, president and Lois Jaecks; Roy Wesson, treasurer, and Ramona Wesson.

## Triennial Sessions Northwest



Don Jacobsen, right, with wife Ruthie, are reintroduced by North Pacific Union Conference president Bruce Johnston after Jacobsen was reelected for a third term of service as Oregon Conference president.

paign and move with proper dispatch toward achieving the needed plant improvements on the campuses of the three senior academies.

In his report to the delegates, Don Jacobsen, president, noted the many expressions of ministry which take place in the Oregon Conference, and drew attention to the ventures into Latin America by Oregon lay builders and students, and evangelistic activities in Russia by administrators, pastors and laymen under Operation Bearhug. These ventures enrich growing ministries at home, he said.

Elected individually by secret ballot were incumbent officers Don Jacobsen, president; Clifton Walter, vice president/administration; Norman Klam, vice president/finance and Ed Boyatt, superintendent of education, by a cumulative 86 percent favorable vote. The selection of remaining department leadership, under Oregon Conference constitution, must be made by the constituency-elected executive committee within 60 days of the session, and, indeed, came before the committee on June 25.

Two new congregations were welcomed into the Oregon Conference sisterhood of churches: Lakeview, Ore., church, organized Feb. 9, 1991, and Your Bible Speaks Community Church, organized in 1991 in northeast Portland, which has become the second Portland church to serve a primarily African-American membership.

Disbanded was the Rainier Church, whose membership had declined to such a point that it was felt advisable to discontinue organized activity.

With the former camp meeting site, Gladstone Park, still in the process of sale, delegates were told that an offer backed by earnest money remains before the conference, but that closure of the sale may depend upon decisions on zoning yet to be made by the Gladstone, Ore., City Council.

A motion which would have directed the conference committee to "restudy" the decision to sell, with the intent of holding camp meetings once again on the site, was defeated. The defeat of the motion leaves the disposition of the property fully in the hands of the Oregon Conference Committee, which originally placed the property on the market, where it remains.

Elected to constitute the 1992-1995 Oregon Conference Executive Committee were the following: Don Jacobsen, chairman; Clifton Walter, secretary; Norman Klam, DeeAnn Ashcroft, Beth Coffin, Ed Boyatt, Denise Curnutt, Norma Dietrich, Larry Dodds, Ronald Franzke, Robert Graham, John Griffin, Gladys Lara, Edward Lassman, Al McCarthy, John McGhee, Steve McHan, Lois Mundall, Ron Oliver, John Peil, Karen Petersen, Steve Poenitz, Byron Roberts, Ralph Wyman. Herald Follett and Kim Schroeder will serve as non-voting members.

### Idaho

The 332 Idaho Conference delegates, meeting in the gymnasium of Gem State Adventist Academy, confronted a task no other conference has faced this Triennial season: the naming of a successor to a retiring conference officer.

In what proved to be the most time-consuming task of the session, delegates narrowly turned down the first nominee for treasurer presented as a successor to Reuben Beck. This sent the nominating committee back into session, to emerge several hours later with the name of Gary Dodge, treasurer of the Chesapeake Conference in the Columbia Union of the North American Division. Dodge was eventually confirmed as treasurer by acclamation.

A motion of appreciation to Reuben Beck for his 14 years of service as conference treasurer was passed by acclamation.

The Idaho Conference remains one of four Northwest conferences where the nominating committee prepares its slate of names on the weekend of the session. Two Northwest conferences (Oregon and Montana) call for the nominating committee to complete its naming of officers and to publish the roster several weeks before the session. The names are then brought before the full delegation for confirmation.

Another challenge faced by the conference was to make a decision on the future of the conference radio station, KTSY, which, while receiving 92 percent of its financial support from the non-Adventist community and operating well within income, has provoked discussion because of the feeling of a significant number of constituents that the sacred music played on the station is tainted by contemporary secular influences.

Clearly this feeling was not held by a majority of Idaho Conference delegates, however. After lengthy discussion, the current music format of the station was endorsed by a vote of 168 to 98.

During the session, Fred Cornforth, youth director and academy chaplain, outlined plans to involve the radio station in the promotion and establishing of a new church in East Boise, one specifically created to assist former Adventists in finding their way back into

fellowship.

The third area of concern brought before the delegates was the future of Gem State Adventist Academy, which, at current levels of operation, is facing increasingly difficult financial times.

Delegates voted to establish a "Blue Ribbon" academy operating board, chaired by the conference president, to study the situation and to assist academy administration in making financial decisions. Furthermore, they voted to continue strong financial support, this year, for the academy, and to reconvene in special constituency session to discuss the future of the academy in June, 1993.

Also voted was a plan to upgrade the conference youth facility, Camp Ida-Haven, for year-around use, and to immediately take measures to control lake front erosion at the facility near McCall, Idaho.

Reelected as officers were Stephen McPherson, president; Russell Johnson, secretary. Elected to departmental posts were Russell Johnson, communications and church ministries; Reuben Beck, stewardship; Fred Cornforth, senior youth; Dave Shasky, family life/summer camp director; Ed Scheresky, trust services; LaVern Opp, education; Stephen McPherson, ministerial; Don Driver, assistant, ministerial; Grant McPherson, chairman of conference Pathfinder board and Floyd Arnold, health/temperance.

Idaho Conference members elected to the 1992-1995 Executive Committee were Stephen McPherson, chairman; Russell Johnson, secretary; Gary Dodge, George Boundy, Jon Cathrell, Grant McPherson, Doug Roe, Don Driver, Jaymee Frimml, Doug Drake, Alix Mansker, Miguel Valdivia, Lenard Wittlake, Jackie Benwell, Floyd Arnold, Shelly Heid, Alvin Schnell, Cerda Fish and Terry Pflugrad.

### In Summary

For five of the six North Pacific Union Conference local conferences, the Triennial Session season is past. The Alaska session will be held in August.

But overall, the focus on unity and church mission shown in the five sessions conducted so far seem to point ahead to a turnaround decade in the history and progress of the North Pacific Union Conference. ➤

Ed Schwisow is editor of the GLEANER.



Stephen McPherson, reelected Idaho Conference president

# GENERAL NEWS



Eliseo Briseño  
Coordinador Español

**PRESENTANDO:** Predicación Cristocéntrica, Oración y Aconsejamiento Personal, Música, Informe de Progreso

## ¡Anuncio!

### ¡Convocantes de Cinco Estados Nacionales! CONVOCACIÓN 12TH ANUAL HISPANA

Patrocinado Por Las Iglesias Hispanas  
Del North Pacific Union  
**Julio 31-Agosto 2, 1992**  
Walla Walla College, College Place, Wash.

Lema: Atrévete A Ser Diferente  
TODOS BIENVENIDOS  
¡NO SE LO PIERDA!

Para más información,  
póngase en contacto con el  
North Pacific Union Conference  
Human Relations Dept.  
P.O. Box 16677, Portland, OR 97216  
(503) 255-7300 (Ext. 212)



Pastor Charles Vento  
Southeastern  
Conference of SDA

**(FEATURING:** Christ-Centered Preaching, Prayer and Counseling, Music, Soul-Winning Reports)

## Operation Bearhug — A Top Northwest Investment



If this was a business venture we'd be millionaires! This is how one might describe the returns on the church's investment in reaching people for Christ in

Russia today. And those who are commissioned by the church to personally visit Russia and share Christ with the Russian people do become 'millionaires', loaded with outpourings of blessings and responses of love.

At the end of 1991 *Operation Bearhug* had sponsored nine evangelistic teams to Russia. Close to one thousand people were baptized. By the end of June, this year, three evangelistic teams had returned from Irkutsk, Orenburg, and St. Petersburg, reporting more than a thousand people baptized into Christ and His body. (Reports on these campaigns will appear in subsequent issues of the GLEANER). Other campaigns sponsored by Northwest Adventists are still scheduled to be held in Saransk, Magadan, Sochi, Krasnodar, Belgorod, and Krasnoyarsk. Of course, many others besides those sponsored under *Operation Bearhug* are reaching out to the Russian people through evangelistic campaigns. Their efforts are yielding thousands of baptisms as well.

While these results call for our loudest amens and prayers of thanks, they create unique challenges that have to be addressed. Public meeting places have to be rented to

accommodate brand new congregations with membership of up to three or four hundred people. These new congregations need church buildings. They also require pastoral care and leadership, but alas, only a handful are being trained at their seminary. Moreover, the Russian Union and its four conferences are not yet financially strong enough to hire hundreds of pastors so badly needed right now to meet the membership explosion currently being experienced. (According to current rates of exchange, pastors receive about \$12 salary per month). Yet, they are planning ahead in faith to hire 150 lay pastors by January 1, 1993. *Opera-*

*tion Bearhug* has been requested to design and conduct a suitably accredited training program to equip these lay pastors with the necessary leadership skills. A projected budget of \$15,000 still needs to be capitalized to design and install this project.

Pastors already in ministry were targeted for in-service training recently. Kurt Johnson and Graham Bingham were sponsored by the Oregon Conference and conducted very successful training programs for pastors in Vladivostok and Novosibirsk. Dennis Seaton and Dan Appel were sponsored by the Montana Conference to Nizhni Novgorod, Rostov on Don, and Moscow where similar programs



Edward Buckley, right, in Tula, Russia, makes a presentation of \$15,000 on behalf of Janzen, Johnston, and Rockwell, Inc., and two business colleagues, Bruce Christian and Ed Buckley Jr., representing Metro Republic Commercial Service, and Select Home Health Management Services, Inc., respectively. The gift was received by Mikhail Murga, Russian Union Conference president, and will be used for the purchase of a much needed vehicle for the Russian Union.

were enthusiastically received.

Alf Birch (NPUC) and Edward Buckley, vice president finance of Janzen, Johnston and Rockwell, a Los Angeles medical corporation, conducted a leadership training program for the members of the Russian Union Committee in Tula. This event was also publicly advertised, and attracted more than a hundred business and professional people. Several traveled more than a thousand miles to attend. They represented financial planners, directors of small business enterprises, engineers, physicians, dentists, lawyers, computer technicians, nurses, students, gardeners, shoemakers, tailors, youth club leaders, musicians, farmers and educators. Their quest for learning is as unprecedented as their hunger for truth and righteousness. Each evening during the leadership seminar a public evangelistic meeting attended by a packed house of 600 persons was conducted by Alf Birch. As many responded to his call to accept Christ.

GLEANER readers will also be happy to know that in cooperation with ADRA, three further containers, each carrying 20 tons of food, were shipped to Nizhni Novgorod, Rostov on Don and Krasnoyarsk. The distribution of the food was coordinated by

### Operation Bearhug

Yes, I would like to help sponsor the following projects:

Projection equipment unit(s): ..... unit(s) @\$100 per unit \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Revelation Seminar materials: ..... sets @\$0.50 per set \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Lay pastor's training program: (\$15,000 needed) ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Other: (Stipulate your preference) ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Street/Box \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Make your check payable to Operation Bearhug, and send it with this coupon to your Conference President's office, or North Pacific Union Conference, P.O. Box 10225, Portland, OR 97216. Thank you for being part of Operation Bearhug!

the Russian Union Conference. This completes the food supply project for which \$47,000 was received as a result of the appeal for food for Russia that appeared in the GLEANER issue of December 17 last year.

The Upper Columbia Conference is in high gear this summer, focusing attention on Magadan where a 400-seat church will be built by

three crews of 40 people each. An evangelistic campaign will be held as part of the project.

Support for *Operation Bearhug* projects sponsored by individuals, local churches, conferences, and/or the North Pacific Union is appreciated. Various projects listed in the box below constitute some present needs.

Alf Birch

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Aug. 17	July 23
Sept. 7	Aug. 13

## IDAHO

### Women's Retreat

The Idaho Conference Women's Retreat will feature Rose Otis, Women's Ministries director of the General Conference. The event is set for Sept. 11-13 at **Camp Ida-Haven**. For information, write: Christian Women's Retreat, P.O. Box 685, Nampa, ID 83653.

## OREGON

### Members Sought

Anyone knowing how to contact the following missing members of the

**Beaverton, Ore., church**, please contact: John S. Lawson, 19568 S.W. Alderwood Ct., Aloha, OR 97006-2478; (503) 255-7300 (days).

Gary L. Brisco, Helen Brisco, William W. Conyers, James E. Crouchley, Karen Crouchley, Teresa J. Estes, Kereah Greaves, Marvin L. Hoover, Gary J. McCullough, Andrew C. Schumacher.

### Singles Campout

Adventist Singles are invited to the annual **Cedar Creek Campout**, located about a 45-minute drive north of Portland, Ore., on July 31-Aug. 2. Featuring old-fashioned camping. Singles with children will be welcome. Contact Marcia Miner for information, 40400 N.E. Christensen Rd., LaCenter, WA 98629; (503) 650-1949 or (206) 263-2557.

### Addresses Sought

The Oregon Conference has no addresses for the following:

Larry and Penny Brissette, Tresa and Trudy Carter, Vervia Haycock, Cecil Hughes, Ruth Lafreniere, Marilyn Nydigger Phelps, Sarita Tudor.

If you have address information on any of these individuals, contact Membership Records in care of the Oregon Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 13455 S.E. 97th Ave., Clackamas, OR 97015-9798, or phone (503) 652-2225.

### TVJA Homecoming

Former and present students of **Tualatin Valley Jr. Academy** (Baseline School), Hillsboro, Ore., faculty, parents and friends, are invited to a Homecoming, Sabbath, Aug. 8, 3 p.m., in the TVJA gym. Program will be followed by potluck supper. Bring salad, bread or dessert, blanket or lawn chairs. For information phone (503) 645-4101.

### Sojourners Concerts

You are invited to hear the Sojourners in concert:  
 July 18, 2 p.m., **Tillamook County Fairgrounds**; Aug. 1, 11 a.m., **Grand Ronde Church**; and 7:30 p.m., **Coos Bay Church**; Aug. 2, 6 p.m., **Winchester Bay Harbor Baptist Church**.

## UPPER COLUMBIA

### Homecoming

Annual homecoming for the **Pendleton, Ore., church**, 1401 S.W. Goodwin Place, will be Aug. 7-9. Featured speaker is Ralph Watts, president of ADRA. There will be a noon potluck at Harris Jr. Academy. Former members, families and friends are invited. For information phone (503) 276-0882.

### Lost Lake Camp Meet

Lost Lake Camp Meeting will be held July 29-Aug. 2 at **Camp Tokinawee** in the **Lost Lake National Forest Campground**, between Tonasket and

**Republic, Wash.** RV and tent campsites will be assigned upon arrival. Some dorm-type accommodations are available. Bring warm clothing. Walt Blehm will open the session Wednesday evening.

## WASHINGTON

### Federal Way Names

Addresses are needed for the following missing members:

David Burler, R.J. Davis, Deanna Davis, Roy and Suzie Garcia, Stephanie Matthews, Ron Poirer.

Send information to: **Federal Way Seventh-day Adventist Church**, 810 S. 312th St., Federal Way, WA 98003-4713.

### End-Time Seminar

Marvin Moore will be presenting his "Hope for the End Time" Seminar, Sabbath, Aug. 1, 9:30 a.m. at the **Bellevue SDA Church** located at 15 140th Ave. N.E. Call (206) 746-1763.

## GENERAL

### Harris Pine Reunion

The Harris Pine Mills (Everywhere USA) reunion will convene in **Pendleton, Ore.**, the weekend of Aug. 7-9. On Sabbath, 1 p.m., a potluck will be held at Harris Jr. Academy; a musical program with former HPM workers will follow. Special speaker: Ralph Watts, president of ADRA. A Saturday night program at 8:15 will feature videos, pictures and displays.

couraged by ASI. He meets with other Christian businessmen in his community weekly for a prayer group. He talked about the power of prayer when men pray together and the close relationship that they have developed.

This was no "macho" man. Instead, here was a man ready to be used by God and made sensitive to the needs of others by his sharing.

But ASI was much more than meetings. It was a Sabbath morning prayer walk in the crisp, mountain air of Sun Valley, Idaho. It was making new friends, persons who are on fire for their Lord. It was watching someone pray for the speaker before he or she spoke. It was hearing about Jesus, and Jesus only, the whole weekend.

And hearing about Jesus over and over again is what impressed me the most. This group talks about their love for Jesus and about their opportunities to witness for Him and about their vision of helping the church through ASI. This group doesn't have time to talk negatively about certain aspects of the Church—they are too busy talking about Jesus.

So I was profoundly impressed with ASI. And I wondered what other first-time visitors to ASI thought. I asked a few of them.

I talked with Loren Strode who owns Strode Refrigeration and Air Conditioning in Portland, Ore. He said what impressed him was that a group of business persons were gathered together and their total focus was on Jesus. They weren't bragging about the deal they just made or the new car they just bought. There was no controversy. I asked if he was planning to join ASI. The answer was yes.

Vernon and Linda Barton, a husband and wife physician/nurse team from Payette, Idaho, were impressed by the many testimonies heard throughout the weekend. They were also impressed with the tools for witnessing that were presented, as well as the sense of urgency about Christ's second coming that they felt. I asked if they were planning to join ASI. The answer, again, was yes.

Keith Hanson, M.D., of Brewster, Wash., another first-time attendee, said he was on a spiritual high. He is convinced that ASI is "an avenue where Adventist business persons can grow spiritually and reach out to our community." He, too, is planning to join ASI.

We had all discovered that ASI is a group where members are committed and visionary. They want to accomplish the mission of the church, supporting and encouraging church leadership. I came away with more enthusiasm for Jesus and for my church than



Jim McHan, North Pacific Union Conference ASI president, left, converses with Ray Hamblin, national ASI president, center, and Harold Kehney of College Place, Wash.

I have had for a long time. And, yes, I plan to join ASI.

For more information about ASI, contact your local conference office treasurer.

His office will help you contact the ASI representative in your area. ➤

*Alix Mansker writes from Boise, Idaho.*

## An Adventist Business Guild

By Ed Schwisow

As an organization, ASI has been active since the mid-1940s, but its impact on the church has never been greater than in 1992.

As a national body, it is working closely with General Conference planners to assist in establishing a satellite resource for church communication with local churches. ASI members envision the day in the not-too-distant future when the General Conference president might be able to address every church in North America, live, by satellite television.

The organization also has plans to work more closely with younger Adventists interested in business, perhaps those who have not yet been graduated from college.

"It's important that young business people understand early on in life that the church needs them. Independent business people mingle in a way a pastor can never hope to match. They can model the Christian ethics of honesty and faith in God. They can minister to their colleagues directly. This is

what it means to me to be an ASI member, and we want to reach young Adventists early in their business life," says Henry Martin.

Such organizations as Maranatha Volunteers are members of ASI, as are many health care managers and owners. Non-profit members such as Maranatha work hand-in-hand with the church worldwide, assisting in construction projects such as those now being carried on in Russia under Operation Bearhug.

"We need to establish contact with those people who are in business today and who sincerely want to become part of the ministry of the Adventist church. We can help them expand their influence for Christ in the marketplace," says McHan.

He believes that the time is ripe in this decade to increase ASI membership significantly in the Northwest, and to multiply the influence of Adventist business people in the ministry of the church.

"If we're serious about reaching our cities, then we must be serious about ASI," he says. ➤

*The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them.*

*Romans 1:18, 19 NIV*

## UPPER COLUMBIA

# Building on the Rock in Siberia

By Cindy Chamberlain

The first of four groups leaving to build a church in Magadan, Russia departed Sunday, July 5, from Spokane, Wash., Seattle and Fairbanks, Alaska.

The 22-member-group will be followed by 120 individuals leaving in groups at approximately once-a-week intervals and working about two weeks each.

The volunteers will construct a 400-seat church. The church will be near the future home of a new university in Magadan. It will be located within walking distance of the city center and on the city bus route.

Not only will the groups construct a church, but they will also hold a three-week evangelistic crusade. Jim Reinking, Upper Columbia Conference evangelist, will lead two meetings a night (including children's meeting) beginning July 25. Also during this time, a series on health will be given by Fred Hardinge, director from Total Health Lifestyle Center in Yakima, Wash. The group plans to give away 2,000 Bibles and to train members for church leadership roles in Sabbath school departments and Pathfinder clubs.

"I feel like God has opened doors and I want to be open to spreading the gospel in those areas," said Lloyd Perrin, pastor of the Spokane Linwood Church. "I want to come back to my North American brothers and

sisters who are glutted with goods and truth and to be able to share firsthand how others with so little are soaking up the message like parched earth."

The volunteers represent 43 Upper Columbia Conference churches and also come from the Colorado, California, Alaska, British Columbia, Michigan and Ohio conferences. Specialties include students, welders, teachers, doctors, carpenters, masons, farmers and housewives.

Ted Lutts, treasurer of the Upper Columbia Conference, is directing the project; Larry Goodhew, a contractor of Walla Walla, Wash., leads the construction; and Clayton Child, personal ministries director of the Upper Columbia Conference, serves as chaplain.

In 1990 the first Operation Bearhug team discovered that the city of Magadan, with a population of 300,000, had no churches of any denomination. They did find, however, 42 Seventh-day Adventist members, and a Pastor Kirill Movelyan, who, following a crusade, shepherded a study group of 160 people.

Later it was found that Magadan, a city the size of Spokane, had a shortage of antibiotics and other medicines. So in March of 1992, Jere Patzer, president of the Upper Columbia Conference, Ted Lutts, Glyn Marsh, physician of Clarkston, Wash., and Larry and Jacque Goodhew traveled to Magadan with \$70,000 of donated medicine.

They found the Seventh-day Adventist name well-known and respected. They returned with building permits. Containers were then sent to Magadan containing windows, carpet, plumbing and food supplies for the workers.

Extraordinary blessings have accompanied the project to this point:

1. The conference was able to secure carpet for \$4-per-sq.-ft. instead of \$20-per-sq.-ft.
2. A container company in Seattle let the conference use two 20-ft.-by-20-ft. shipping containers at 25 percent of normal price.
3. Tile for the bathroom floors was located for \$.50-per-sq.-ft. instead of the usual \$5.00-per-sq.-ft.
4. A special discount was given on the piano for the Magadan Church.
5. Paint valued at \$1,200 was purchased for \$500.

However, "Due to spiraling inflation in Russia, the church, once believed to be buildable for \$20,000 U.S., will now cost approximately \$200,000," said Patzer. "This amount may be small by U.S. standard, but it is unattainable by Magadan members. Continued prayer and financial support is greatly appreciated."

Future plans for the site include establishing an English language school and a medical clinic in cooperation with Walla Walla General Hospital.

For more information write the Upper Columbia Conference, P.O. Box 19039, Spokane, Wash., 99219, or call (509) 838-2761.

*Cindy Chamberlain is a summer communication intern from Walla Walla College for the Upper Columbia Conference and writes from Spokane, Wash.*



The first group journeying to Magadan, Russia, to build an Adventist church prepares to depart July 5 as Jere Patzer, conference president, asks the Lord to bless the group as they journey to Siberia.



Food for the construction crews is sent ahead by ship container.

## Washington Camp Meeting Breaks Attendance Record

By Dennis N. Carlson

A record attendance crowded the facilities at Auburn Adventist Academy for the annual, late June Washington Conference camp meeting.

"We put up all the family tents that we could," reported Lenard Jaecks, Washington Conference president, "but still our locating team had to turn people away. But next year," he added, "we will make more tents available."

In addition to the more than 200 family tents on campus, Witzel, Nelson and Gibson halls were full as were all full-service RV spots and the camping areas. It is estimated that there were more than 3,000 residents on campus during the week and more than twice that number on the weekends. One thousand two hundred and fifty adults attended one of the 23 classes that were offered.

Spiritual disciplines were the major theme of the Washington Conference Camp Meeting. Nine of the 28 pages of the camp meeting program booklet were devoted to a daily guide for spiritual disciplines keying from the text and topic of the early morning speaker, Phil Shultz of the Stone Tower Church in Portland, Ore. Campers had space provided for sermon notes, personalized meaning of the text, prayer based on the text and for responses to the question: "What difference will this text make in your life today?"

The morning speakers in Rainier Auditorium were Richard Davidson of the Old Testament Department at the Seventh-day

Adventist Theological Seminary, who spoke on the meaning of the sanctuary for the Christian life today, and Hyveth Williams, senior pastor of the Boston Temple, who spoke on the spiritual discipline of prayer.

Bob Spangler, who served nearly 20 years in the Ministerial Department of the General Conference, spoke each evening. Though now officially retired, he serves as evangelism coordinator in the former Soviet Union countries. Other speakers included Bailey Gillespie, who reported on the results of the Valuegenesis study and gave recommendations concerning strategies to meet the needs pointed out by the Valuegenesis research.

Reports from Russia were again a special feature for the second year. Ministerial director Dave Weigley had taken a team to Orenberg, about 1,000 miles southeast of Moscow. He was accompanied by Hal Gates, pastor of the Poulsbo Church, who specialized in addiction recovery lectures, and Nancy Jacobson, a lay member of the Kent Church, who provided child evangelism during the evangelistic series, which was attended by more than 1,200 people. Bob Fetrick, Washington Conference evangelist, taught the baptismal class which was attended by up to 900 people. Three hundred and thirty were baptized at the close of this series of meetings.

The Weigley team had invited some of the Russian leaders to come to America and to be at camp meeting. The Russian visitors arrived on the final Friday of camp meeting and were guests over the weekend, meeting

a number of special engagements, which included the modeling of typical Russian costumes and presentation of Russian music. The guests were Vasily Stolyar, president of the Volga-Ural Conference; Genadi Kasap, church music minister; Larissa Dahilouk; local church choir director, and Vladimir Zakoulodkin, tenor singer. Also on campus that weekend and traveling separately was Michael Oleinik, church ministries director of the Caucasus Conference.

Lenard Jaeck's sermon on the final Sabbath of camp meeting concluded with the distribution of 2,000 seedlings provided by Plum Creek Timber. Also during that weekend a special tree planting occurred just in front of the tower sign in front of the administration building at Auburn Adventist Academy. This was the launching of a special family life emphasis which will also feature a family camping event, Aug. 28-30, the Lopez Island bike ride, September 13, a Family Life Convention on September 25-27, and a call for Family Celebration Day in each church/area on November 14.

Another feature of this year's camp meeting was a picnic on Monday evening. Creators of arts and crafts displayed their wares for sale near the picnic site. Special guest artist was Darrel Tank of Meridian, Idaho.

Other featured speakers were Charles Knapp, Bruce Johnston, Arnold Plata, Mark Cockerham, Lonnie Melashenko and the 1962 Kings Herald Quartet, Joseph McCoy, Paul Haffner and Rick Johnson.

There were 28 individuals, most of them pastors, who served the youth during camp meeting from cradle roll through senior youth. More than 1,900 children and youth attended camp meeting services and programs this year. In addition, the young adult program, which featured Sabbath services and evening services, attracted overflow crowds in the academy church.

More than \$70,000 in cash and pledges was given by camp meeting attenders for Washington Conference evangelism. A major feature of evangelism for the second half of 1992 is the Breath of Life series beginning August 15, 1992, in the Washington State Convention Center in downtown Seattle. C. D. Brooks, speaker of the Breath of Life telecast, is the evangelist for the series. The crusade is being sponsored by and supported by all of the Seattle city churches.

"As long as support remains firm and adequate, camp meeting each summer at Auburn Adventist Academy can certainly continue into the foreseeable future," stated Roy Wesson, Washington Conference treasurer.



Believers visiting the conference from the former Soviet Union "welcomed" local conference officers by presenting "hats" from their country.

*Dennis N. Carlson is director of communication and executive secretary of the Washington Conference. He writes from Bothell, Wash.*

# A Time for End-Time Answers



Ed Schwisow

By Ed Schwisow

For Olympians who failed their "end-time" test in Barcelona, Spain, there's no next year. It's over.

"No tomorrow." Throughout human history, whether it's a boxing bout or a bungee-jump battle; an execution countdown

or a coup d'etat, the blood scent of "instant death" goads man to ecstasy. "The thrill of victory, the agony of defeat."

Since the early 1800s, Adventists have built the case that we are living in the very "time of the end" prophesied by the ancients. For years, it was our lead-off theme, "Maranatha," the Lord is coming.

The message cuts to the heart, carnal or Spiritual, sinful or saved. The final showdown is coming; it's time to choose your team! It remains the flaming arrow of Adventist proclamation.

## Changing Times

More recently, (and disturbing to some) with the strong promotion of a "rapture" end-time theme by some churches (and a host of even more-recent variants), we have been forced to introduce a more thorough Scriptural groundwork for the concept of judgment and the Second Coming than was necessary in the past century. Some see evidence in this of a "backing away" from Second Coming preaching.

Nevertheless, rumors of the death of the "Advent message" are highly exaggerated. Recently, I called on several of our long-time evangelists and effective soul-winning pastors. Without hesitation they stated that the message of the book *The Great Controversy* remains central to becoming and remaining an Adventist.

Church publishing houses turn out the book by the millions of annual copies. Robert Folkenberg, General Conference president, has called for its redoubled distribution and emphasis. Amen! But this is only the beginning of what we should be doing in the 1990s to take advantage of a heaven-sent opportunity (perhaps our last) to confront a restless nation and world with spiritually invigorating answers.

We should not, say I, lay the entire burden of the last-day warning on one book, as if the wholesale distribution of this 19th-century book alone were the only arrow in the quiver of last-day proclamation. It's the master script, but it needs modern-day worksheets.

## New Books

The publication of the book *The Crisis of the End Time* by Marvin Moore and Pacific Press

Publishing Association, helps fill this need. While based on the chronology and emphases of *The Great Controversy* it presents a no-frills, "that's the way it is" look at end-time events with emphasis on reassuring the righteous of their certain triumph in the end-time denouement.

The book is based on an examination of events since 1975 in context of biblical and *The Great Controversy* predictions. Most of its examples are drawn from world events of the past three years. It's not going to compete with Hal Lindsay on the best-seller list, but then again, Walter Cronkite never aspired to the fame of Jimmy the Greek. Speculation can be fun, but it also yields great disappointments.

A second recent publication worthy of review is the 1992 compilation of Ellen White material entitled *Last Day Events*. It's reassuring to note how well she understood our day; we are not alone in the 1990s. Our day was foretold, and well.

## Decade of Destiny

The decade is still young. Yet, it's a decade of destiny for the church. As in the days of the first advent, prophets of all persuasions are predicting an imminent event of amazing proportions. Part of it is numerologic hocus pocus: the turn of a century is trauma enough to the superstitious; a millennial turn packs 10 times the punch.

Yet, aside from millennial fever, we see evidence that the snowball of coercive religious-state alliance, so well hidden in its early stages, is ready to avalanche across the face of the Constitution.

The United States, though economically weak, remains the last superpower capable and willing to unsheath the international nightstick. Papal Rome, once mistrusted, is now seen as holding the mantle of world Christian leadership.

The lessons of *The Great Controversy* are being recited in the news analyses of the day.

To meet this challenge we need more than a few more million copies of *The Great Controversy* and a restudy of end-time chronology. What we need is a clear church strategy to define to a whole continent the underlying interpretation of current events. The climate is right, the numbers are on, the world is mind-set for miracles.

## "Every Agency"

We should focus "every agency" of promotion on setting before society a coherent, rational and, yes, inspiringly Christlike view of where we stand in history. Doors of freedom remain open even as society grows restless (an unusual historical combination usually of extremely short duration.)

What we must do, as a church, is to make the guiding message of prophecy clear to the people. Maybe it will take a feature film or two; perhaps working with a prominent author to prepare an authoritative and widely circulated book; maybe newspaper ads and feature stories; maybe renewed

efforts to break into print in popular magazines; perhaps these and a host of other communication efforts, including a special emphasis on public meetings and direct mail, can help exploit the moment, and fill the need.

The world is primed for such an information offensive. The decade is ripe for action in America as surely as it is in Russia. It's time to meet extreme present need with double servings of present truth.

As the world faces its own end-time, it senses that this may be the last showdown; that choices made now and teams selected today may mark eternal scoreboards.

The Northwest; a continent; a world holds its breath in sweaty apprehension. Where will the decade lead? The spotlight of history and the footlights of current events have flooded the stage.

It's time to deliver our lines in definitive performance, with authority, with assurance, with hope and with power. ➔

Ed Schwisow is editor of the GLEANER.



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# Evangelist Finds Unprecedented Hunger for the Gospel in Moscow

By Mort Juerg

Who could have imagined, even a year ago, that the Adventist message would soon be preached within the towering red stone walls of the Kremlin?

Who could have dreamed that soldiers would be on alert to protect those meetings?

It would have been pure fantasy to predict that Russians would threaten to break down the Kremlin doors to hear the gospel because no more seats were available in the auditorium.

All of these events, as unlikely as they may seem, took place in Moscow this spring. A team of Adventist evangelists and workers led by Mark Finley, speaker for It Is Written telecast from Thousand Oaks, Calif., and managed by Don Gray of Washougal, Wash., spent seven weeks in this historic crusade.

Others assisting were Gray's wife, Marjorie; Dan and Gloria Bentzinger, Reading, Pa.; and Alfred and Ruby Heitzmann, Eugene Ore.

The meetings began in the Kremlin Hall of Congress, which seats 6,500. It was here that in former days delegates from throughout the vast Soviet Union would gather to rubber stamp Communist proposals. But now for 10 nights Finley fed thousands of Russians hungry to hear a life-saving gospel. Because of the large crowds, two sessions, one at 3 p.m. and another at 7, were held.

"These were people between the ages of 18-40, who have come out of the communist system and were looking for something new and meaningful so they could have a philosophy of life to follow," says Gray.

A possible snag developed when members of the Communist Party, seeking to regain power, planned a mass meeting in Moscow to climax with a great rally in the Hall of Congress.

When informed that the Adventists had a signed contract, pickets marched with signs outside the Kremlin that declared, "Bush, leave our souls alone."

Gray notes, "They equated the Adventists to an adjunct of President Bush's foreign policy."

"Not wishing to cause difficulties, we contacted the army officials who control the Kremlin and offered to cancel that night's meeting," he adds. "They told us, 'you have a contract and if necessary we will have troops to protect those who attend the meetings.'"

The Word of God, so long suppressed under communist rule, proved to be a big factor in the success of the meetings.

"We purchased 12,000 Bibles and thought that would take care of our needs," Gray says. "We quickly ran out and purchased more. By

the end we had used 21,000 copies of the Scriptures."

For the average Muscovite to purchase a Bible meant spending the equivalent of a week's wages. But if they attended two of the meetings, on the third night they received a Bible and a Bible lesson.

"Some were very enterprising and had the spirit of the West," Gray notes with a wry twist. "They had three or four attendance cards and had them punched in an attempt to get Bibles so they could sell them."

A scientist attended one of the meetings and identified himself as one of the officials on the project to put Russian cosmonauts in outer space.

He wanted a Bible and asked Gray if he knew Neil Armstrong.

Gray replied, "Everyone in the U.S. knows who Neil Armstrong is."

"Neil Armstrong told me to tell you to give me a Bible," the scientist replied.

"I said, 'You know Yuri (Gagarin, a cosmonaut) He told me to tell you to come to the meetings two more times and we would give you a Bible! The scientist laughed because he knew Yuri had been dead for five years."

At the conclusion of the 10 nights in the Hall of Congress, the meetings moved to three separate auditoriums with Finley, Bentzinger and Gray as the speakers.

"We had trouble the first night in Plahana Hall, the site I had for my meeting," Gray says. "We knew we were going to have a big crowd but we had no idea how large it would be."

By the time of the 4 p.m. meeting the auditorium was packed and the doors were closed. But hundreds more demanded entrance.

"They pushed on the glass doors and the frantic auditorium manager called me, 'Mr. Gray, you have to do something or we'll have to end your meetings.'

"I asked my translator, Michael Kulakov, to talk to the people, to tell them we had a meeting at 7 and could schedule another at 9, if needed."

Half an hour later Kulakov returned saying he had solved the problem.

"How? I asked?

"I punched all of their tickets!"

At the conclusion of the crusade 1,340 people were baptized with several hundred more planning to join the church later. Naturally the question arises, were these seekers ready for baptism in only four or five weeks after their introduction to the message? Gray feels the people received adequate instruction.

"Mark Finley is a great preacher with a



Don and Marjorie Gray

logical way of presenting the gospel. Not only did they hear the sermon but they saw slides on the screen," Gray notes. "We gave people a lesson that correlated with each topic presented. When they returned for the next meeting Dan Bentzinger reviewed the lesson with them."

To reinforce the new beliefs, when people made a decision to unite with the Adventist Church, they joined a baptismal class. Here, in three sessions of an hour or two in length, they reviewed the 27 basic beliefs of Adventists.

This influx of new members poses problems of church housing. As Gray notes, "I began to understand the problems they had in early Christianity when they were integrating thousands of new members in one day into church membership.

"When we first held meetings in Moscow a year ago, there was one church that had existed for years, sharing quarters with the Baptists. We started a new congregation which meets in Plahana Hall. This year we added two more new churches. The membership last June was 900; now it is more than 2,700, a 300 percent increase in Moscow alone.

"When we opened the new church last year we recruited 30 stable members as the officer corps. The churches we started this year will begin with all new members.

"We need five new church buildings in Moscow right now. During my last week there I looked for buildings that could be purchased. The General Conference has funds for that purpose but no one knows who owns the structures or the land because of the confusion that arose from the breakup of the Soviet Union."

The Adventist pastors have been given tools to work with. They have each received a slide projector and slides and lessons. These are given to them with the stipulation that they hold two series of meetings a year, or the equipment and supplies will be given to someone else to use.

What of the future?

"The leadership of the church in Russia came to Mark and me just before we left and said, 'We want you to come back and hold a series of meetings where you can stay and not have to move,'" Gray says.

To meet that need the Olympic Stadium has been rented for meetings to begin June

25, 1993, and to run for five weeks. Seating 35,000-40,000, Gray sees it as a dream location for evangelism.

"It is a coliseum that is totally enclosed, with a perfect heating and cooling system and an excellent sound system."

The speaker will be Mark Finley and the series could be the largest evangelistic series

Adventists have ever held.

Again, Gray will be the campaign manager, and he's already planning for results of Olympic proportions.

"We believe with the blessing of God we can see 5,000 to 7,000 people baptized."

Mort Juberg writes from Boring, Ore.

## 'The Richest Blessing of All'

By Monte Church

*Editor's Note: Though news of achievements in Moscow evangelism has taken the Kremlin's share of publicity ink in recent weeks, on other less dramatic fronts, Northwestern Adventists continue to bless the Russian people through Operation Bearhug. The following is a firsthand account of God's blessing in another major Russian city.*

In Irkutsk, Russia, we found a city of culture and education renowned as the "pearl

city of Russia." Here is located one of the largest Russian medical universities as well as the Russian School of Language Arts.

Of topographical note, Irkutsk is located by Lake Bykale, the largest fresh-water body in the world.

But of even greater importance this spring was what we found spiritually in the city: a loving 72-member Adventist congregation and a dedicated pastor. Many of them had served time in prison camps and mental institutions because of their faith.

Together we prepared for evangelism, renting a beautiful opera hall that seated 1,200 people. Though we had evangelists' jitters the first evening, wondering how many would come to the large hall, we were surprised when people began arriving a full hour before the first meeting.

Soon the hall was jammed with people, so much so that police had to ask many to leave. Later we entered into an agreement with the city administration to hold two sessions a night, which alleviated the problem. Still we had more than 3,000 people attend nightly.

When the first call was made for those who wished to keep God's Sabbath holy and be baptized, local church members were incredulous when more than 750 took their stand. For years Adventists had been labeled as strange. Now everyone seemed to want a part.

Robert Nutter, M.D., gave a 15-minute health presentation each evening. John Bridges, crusade coordinator, taught a Bible

review class. His wife, Astrid, presented a children's story hour in an adjacent room. My evangelistic sermons were followed each evening by a baptismal class by Pastor Nikoli Venden, from which more than 1,200 took their stand for baptism.

Eight pastors were flown in to help us in visitation and preparation of candidates. Three hundred seventy-eight people were baptized before we left Irkutsk, and 50 more have been baptized since.

One of the thrills of the campaign was when our translator, Olga Kuznyitsova, was baptized. The Euro-Asia Division has hired several non-Adventist translators because of the shortage of Adventist interpreters. Today all of those who were hired to be translators at the Zaoski Seminary have been baptized.

The hardest part of this Operation Bearhug series of meetings, other than missing our families, was that of leaving Russia. In Russia we had felt God, seen God working, and had experienced the work of the Holy Spirit. We had been humbled, for we realized that the tremendous things that had happened in Irkutsk were impossible by our own strength and talent.

When we left, the members and many of the new converts saw us off at the airport, singing songs through their tears. We all praised God for the hope they now had in their lives.

Little did they realize that we, the evangelists, had received the richest blessing of all.

Monte Church is director of Native Ministries Northwest and writes from Portland, Oregon.



Monte Church baptizes Olga Kuznyitsova, his translator.



## Bearhug At Headquarters

By Todd Gessele

Bruce Johnston, right, president of the North Pacific Union Conference, and Vasily Stolyar, president of the Volga-Ural Conference, review plans for Operation Bearhug activities during Stolyar's recent visit to the offices of the North Pacific Union Conference in Portland, Ore. Alla Mironova (on the far right) translates for Stolyar and for other members of the Adventist Russian delegation, in back, from left: Vladimir Zakoulodkin, a tenor singer; Larissa Dahilouk, a Russian choir director and Gennadii Kasap, a Russian church music director. The touring group came at the invitation of the Washington Conference, and was hosted in its tour by David Weigley, ministerial secretary. The four-member ensemble performed Christian and folk songs in Russian, and helped to focus attention on the great needs and opportunities for outreach in Russia.

Todd Gessele is an intern in the North Pacific Union Conference office and writes from Portland Ore.

## Oregon Convocation Season, Part I: 'Camp Meetings That Come to You'

By Jay E. Prall

Oregon's 1992 camp meeting season opened in early June and concludes later this month. Two coastal sites, three along the Interstate 5 corridor and one in central Oregon make up the busy summer schedule.

"This is the camp meeting that comes to you," President Don Jacobsen has explained to his regional audiences: "Though the theme and general format for all six is similar, each has its own flavor. Thus it's a unique opportunity for camp meeting buffs to enjoy a different speaker in multiple geographic locations."

### Southern Oregon

Dan Smith, former pastor of the Cave Junction and Williams churches, returned to Medford as the featured speaker for the June 12-13, Southern Oregon Camp Meeting. He is now pastoring the Hinsdale, Ill., Church.

In his opening sermon, Smith explored what it means to have a daily relationship with Jesus. Quoting from Psalm 149 and Zephaniah 3 he described how God delights in us.

Smith also challenged the male stereotypes of God. "The Bible uses many metaphors to try to help us understand God, including an image of a mother hen who cares for her flock," he reminded.

"God's challenge is to help us feel his love though He is jillions of miles away, has never talked to us in person and though we can't see the twinkle in His eyes."

In the afternoon evangelism hour Don Smith (no relation to the guest speaker) told how he uses his tanning and beauty salon to witness. A literature rack, conver-

sations with clients and even sermon tapes to listen to while working on a tan are part of Smith's strategy.

Henry Zollbrecht, pastor of the Ashland, Ore., church, has seen Smith's enthusiasm cross international borders too. A sister church relationship has been established with the Russian congregation in Biysk.

### Central Oregon

On Friday, June 19, there was tremendous relief in Central Oregon. It had been a harrowing week as church members worked around the clock to complete enough of the new gym at Three Sisters School to get a temporary occupancy permit.

As church members gathered Friday evening to study the Word, the tools had been stowed, the kitchen cleaned and construction dust vacuumed. They were ready for a very special Sabbath in the new facility.

John Brunt, Walla Walla College vice president for academic administration, opened his weekend series by exploring how we can enjoy Sabbaths with Jesus rather than getting wrapped up in behavioral rules.

A New Testament scholar, Brunt explained that the Jewish rules were intended to protect the sacred time of the Sabbath. But the Jewish leaders discovered that "once you get sucked into a pattern of making rules for every situation, there is no end."

Quoting from Luke 13, Brunt pointed out how Jesus confronted the issue of proper Sabbath keeping. Not only did He conduct the non-emergency healing of a crippled woman, He intentionally crossed a gender threshold. In a society known for its "sons of Abraham," Jesus proclaimed the woman to be a "daughter of Abraham."

Brunt concluded by noting that if Jesus used the worship service in the synagogue to reach out and touch someone, our services should also be a time of healing. "Worship is a time to show compassion, not criticism; inspiration, not infighting and fellowship, not flogging each other."

### Southern Willamette Valley

The nostalgic aroma of shamburgers greeted early arrivals for the Friday session at Springfield, Ore., Christian Center, June 26 and 27. Before the evening meeting began, Emerald Junior Academy's Home and School leaders had raised more than \$400 in sales.

Inside the auditorium, other traditions of camp meetings past were evident. Lawn chairs lined the front row, reminiscent of Gladstone's main tent. Rudy Johnson, re-



Cast members from the Christian drama "The Witness" came to the back yard of Ashland's Shakespeare Festival to share a different message. Rather than a script focusing on tragedy, they dramatized the joy of spending a day with Jesus.

tired pastor and long time volunteer painter for camp meeting, had once again created directional signs for all divisions. And as old friends greeted each other and found seats, they carried with them the purchases of a hasty trip through the ABC displays.

Bob Bretsch, new pastor at Sunnyside in Portland, began his weekend series by drawing from the life of Elijah, and declared, "Unless we believe that God affirms us as we are, we will not believe in His grace, and we won't risk the journey with Him."

Sabbath morning, though the sun was shining brightly, it was raining in the Cradle Roll Division. As teachers held umbrellas and sprinkled water over their heads, toddlers and tinier tots huddled together and sang "The Raindrops Fall with a Pitter Patter Pit." And like Primaries and Juniors at past camp meetings, youngsters sang time-honored choruses.

Hometown-boy-turned-recording-artist Brett Barry, his wife, Karen, and six-week-old baby Lauren were flown in from Nashville, Tenn., by Emerald Junior Academy's 10th grade class to speak to the youth. His message, through illustration, testimony and song left no doubt about his convictions. Citing many of the negative messages today's society promotes, Barry told them, "Life does not get easier, but it can get better if you choose to do it with Jesus."

From a shamburger stand to late-night ABC bargains; from King's Heralds Quartet memento fans to lap robes; from "Jesus' Love is Bubbling Over" to "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus", the flavor of camp meeting had been preserved at Springfield.

Next: Camp meetings at Portland, Ore., Tillamook, Ore., and Coos Bay, Ore., will be reported in a future issue of GLEANER.



Matthew Campbell, a student at Three Sisters School, is baptized by Pastor Sid Nelson of Bend as his father looks on. The camp meeting baptism was held at Tumalo State Park.


 UPPER COLUMBIA

## Upper Columbia Camp Meeting: More Than Business as Usual

By Cindy Chamberlin

This year's Upper Columbia Conference camp meeting was held June 17-20 on the campus of Walla Walla College in College Place, Wash.

The main speaker for the event was Gordon Bietz, chaplain of Southern College and author of the academy textbook *Witness*. Bietz' focus for the convocation was "The Community of Faith." He spoke on the church's role in administering tasks, discipline, giving, power and structure.

"If people can learn to make their local churches attractive and more like healing communities for their large communities, I will feel rewarded," said Bietz.

A major highlight of the weekend was the appearance of 13-year-old Zinaida (Zina) Koloskova of Tula, Russia. Koloskova recently received surgery for life-threatening 90-degree lateral curvature of the spine. When the Upper Columbia Conference learned of Koloskova's disorder through her mother, (a translator for the Magadan project), they helped sponsor her travel expenses to Shriner's Crippled Children's Hospital of Chicago. Since her March 18 surgery, Koloskova has worn a brace, but is recovering smoothly.

Also featured during the weekend was Christine Rucker, author of the "Seventh Day Diet" by Random House, Inc. "We must

market the Adventist advantage," said Rucker. "The world is dying for it." Rucker demonstrated cooking without sugar, dairy products and refined foods and then gave a testimony of how God led her to write about Seventh-day Adventist beliefs for a secular audience.

Still another highlight to the weekend was provided by Christian musicians Ponder, Harp and Jennings. The group presented a concert and several special numbers.

"It was refreshing to listen to something with no rock and no roll," said Artist Smith of Springfield, Ore. "I bought five tapes."

For eight-year-old Tony Stanyer, the highlight of the weekend came when *Primary Treasure* editor Aileen Sox came to present the primary lesson study. "I wrote and asked Jere Patzer (conference president) if Mrs. Sox could come to camp meeting," said Stanyer.

The youth spent an afternoon cleaning tombstones as part of a community service project. "I just went and asked the Parks Service what 30 kids could do for four hours," said Ron Schultz, assistant director. The group cleaned several rows of World War II veteran tombstones. "It was nice helping some of the people who fought for our freedom," said Spencer Cobb, 14, of Walla Walla.

Jere Patzer, president of the Upper Co-

lumbia Conference, said of the weekend: "Since camp meetings have been held in the Walla Walla Valley for over 100 years, attendees today come with a real sense of history. This year's convocation was no exception, and in many ways similar to those before, except that there was an obvious realization that business can't go on as usual. The fact that Jesus is coming soon added to the significance of the presentations and the urgency to indeed be "One in the Spirit!"

*Cindy Chamberlin is a communication intern for the Upper Columbia Conference and writes from Spokane, Wash.*



When his hero "Mrs. Sox" (Aileen Andres Sox) editor of *Primary Treasure* walked into his Sabbath School, it was enough to knock eight year-old Tony Stanyer's socks off!



Ponder, Harp and Jennings performed for UCC Camp Meeting.



Are the youth in our church dead? These teens cleaning tombstones for a community service project don't think so!

# Magadan Builders Amazed and Blessed

By Cindy Chamberlin

The first group of workers which left for Magadan, Russia returned Monday, July 20, to Spokane, Wash., International Airport.

The group of 16 had spent two weeks completing the foundation for a 400-seat church. The church will be the first of any denomination to be built in Magadan, population 300,000.

"We went to share a blessing, but came back with a greater blessing," said Don Wesslen of Hayden, Idaho.

Besides working on the church construction, the group was also able to hold several children's story hours, hold a worship service for 120 people and demonstrate how to conduct Sabbath schools.

"Some tremendous friendships developed between the Russian and American workers," said Wesslen. "There was some tension when we first got there. They informed us that the next day we were going to have to work hard, and we sort of had to prove ourselves. By the time we left, they had initiated a farewell party for us. At that meeting they expressed their thanks and gave us each gifts."

One volunteer worker announced that as soon as the English language school was constructed, he would be the first student. An American worker turned to him and said, "How about being the first baptized in the new church?" The worker grinned from ear to ear.

"It was amazing how they knew why we

were there," said Rosalie Truby, "when we said we were Americans they would automatically ask if we were Adventists."

Because the food supplies had not arrived when the group got there, the cooks spent much of their time standing in food lines. "One day we waited for 50 minutes to buy tomatoes, and 20 minutes to buy cucumbers," says Truby. "One time we were lucky and found tomato paste and noodles for spaghetti all at the same time."

According to Truby, food is sold fairly randomly, and one can never count on finding the same thing at the same place every time. Bread, however, is sold in a bakery, but the pastries have no covering. "People just stick their bread under their arm and go," says Truby.

The group was able to spend many of their evenings visiting in the homes of the Russian people. "They are extremely hospitable," says Ralph Kerr of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho "but be careful you don't admire something too much or they will force you to take it!" One such gathering took them to the home of a Russian pilot. The pilot became so taken with the church project that he came to the work site himself and volunteered for a day.

For Kerr, a major highlight of the trip came the last Friday evening when Pastor Lloyd Perrin presented his "Sermon on the Mount" drama. "Even the interpreter was crying," said Kerr.

The fifth group left July 23. Among them was Jim Reinking. Reinking is conducting a three-week-long evangelistic crusade. Larre and Julie Kostenko provide the music, and Fred Hardinge of Total Health Lifestyle Center presents health lectures. Ninety others assist with the construction and presentation of the meetings.

Those interested in the project may write Operation Bearhug-Magadan, Upper Columbia Conference, P.O. Box 19039, Spokane, Wash., 99219, or call (509) 838-2761.



Russian and U.S. workers work side by side on the new church in Magadan.



The first phase of workers and their new Russian friends pose for a picture in the dining room where the group prepared meals. First-group workers include Cliff Dewees, Clayton Child, Mike Flerchinger, John Gruzensky, Donald Harvey, Ernie and Olive Harvey, Fred Harvey, Fred Hebard, Ralph Kerr, Ted Lutts, Cynthia and Larry Moore, Lloyd Perrin, Wendell Schroeder, Robert Smith, Rosalie Truby, Marilyn and Vernon Weis, Don and Evelyn Wesslen, Mike Woodson, David York, Larry and Jacque Goodhew. Larry Goodhew, a Walla Walla, Wash., contractor, serves as head of construction.



Cooking facilities for the group of workers

## Honeymoon Takes Couple To Magadan with Love

What to do when the call to wed coincides with the call to serve? This couple solved the dilemma by using the majority of the time allotted for their honeymoon to help build a church in Magadan, Russia.

Gale O'Dell and Gary Hanson of Spokane, Wash., were married July 4 in the South Hill Church. Later, members of that same church helped sponsor their mission trip.

The couple is part of the third phase of workers which left July 19 to build a 400-seat church in the Far Eastern city of Magadan, Russia. The church will be the first of any denomination to be built in the city of 300,000 people.

Cindy Chamberlin



### New Walla Walla Pastor

The new associate pastor of the Walla Walla, Wash., City Church is Mark Etchell. Etchell and his wife Susi have been serving the Fremont Church in Northern California Conference since 1985. The Etchells have two sons, Stephen and Daniel.

*If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive thier sin, and will heal their land.*

*II Chronicles 7:14*



Gale O'Dell and Gary Hanson of Spokane, Wash., wed just before going to build a church in Russia.



### Back to the Books

Herman J. Schreven has accepted the invitation of the Upper Columbia Conference Executive Committee to serve as assistant manager for the Adventist Book Center. This position has been open since July 1, 1989. Schreven served as director of list maintenance at the Review and Herald Publishing Association in Hagerstown, Md. He and his wife, Sandy, have two children: Jonathan, 4 and Mindy, 2.

## WASHINGTON



### Floating in Everett

The Everett, Wash. Pathfinder Club was the first club in the conference to raise more than \$500 for the Seventh-day Adventist Church float entry in the most recent Pasadena Tournament of Roses. Members are pictured with Anna-Belle, a rag doll which was part of the "Discover the World of Service" float.

Pathfinders in the Washington Conference, and across North America, are again raising funds for an entry in this year's parade. (See back cover of this issue for more information on "Witness Through Roses".)

Terry Bolton

*The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them.*

*Romans 1:18, 19 NIV*

mankind in fostering international understanding and upholding human rights, freedom of conscience and religious liberty." In accepting the award, Berisha pledged equal rights for every religion in Albania.

**ADRA First to Help South Americans:** Responding to the flooding of hundreds of South American villages this summer in Paraguay, Argentina and Brazil, the Adventist Development and Relief Agency has been the first non-government relief organization to bring assistance to the needs of the nearly 250,000 persons affected. Two tons of food and 10,000 pieces of clothing from the Buenos Aires warehouse have been distributed. Medicines valued at \$600,000 have been sent, as well.

**Greeks Grant Equality:** The Supreme Court of Greece has affirmed that the Seventh-day Adventist Church has rights equal to those given other Christian churches in the nation. The ruling came on a case in which the Greek Orthodox Church had declared that Adventists did not belong to a "known" church, and, hence, that their ministers could not claim privileges of conscience, as in exemption from military service.

**Earth Summit Delegates:** Seventh-day Adventists from the South American Division were joined by a representative of the General Conference at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in June. The delegation carried a citation which noted: "Our personal lifestyle choices, weekly Sabbath celebrations and commitment to improve the quality of life and health . . . testify to what we believe . . . (and) focus on human accountability to Him who made the heavens, the earth and the springs of living water."

**Lifestyle Magazine on Satellite:** Though Faith For Today Television has received word that the series is no longer included on the Three Angels Broadcasting Network program schedule, the series remains available on other satellite networks: ACTS, Family Net, Vision Interfaith Satellite and Vision Television Networks.

According to recent Nielsen ratings, the program, nationwide, tops the list of all 44 national devotional/religious programs for average viewing households per station, with its most impressive ratings coming from New York City, the nation's largest market, where more than 250,000 viewers watch the program each week, outdrawing the "Hour of Power" broadcast by Robert Schuller two-to-one. The programs are aired head-to-head in that market.

**Russians Just Say "No":** Eight Adventist students, including Lisa Ann Frankovich of Walla Walla College, recently went to the former Soviet Union as part of a group whose mission is to teach young Russians how to say no to drugs. According to Russian authorities, more than 40 percent of the former Soviet Union population (287 million) are alco-



## You and Your Trust Services

# Gather Up the Fragments

By Dale Beaulieu

In Matthew 14:14-21, Jesus taught us a lesson in prudence when He instructed the disciples to "gather up the fragments," which amounted to 12 full baskets of food, after feeding the 5,000.

Imagine having spent your entire life responsibly caring for the needs of yourself, your family and your church, and then having the residue squandered.

God is our heavenly Father. His Son, Jesus, anticipated His own mother's needs and saw to it that they would be met. So we are to provide for the needs of our families, even in death.

The Christian's goal is to: 1) serve Jesus with heart and life; 2) provide for the ne-

cessities of loved ones; and 3) support the outreach of the church to the larger family of God on earth. It is therefore natural, as well, for the Christian to benefit God's work even in death.

The ministry of Trust Services offers you qualified counsel as you make these important decisions.

Whether your fragments are large or small, Trust Services personnel are ready to assist you with information, as well as to work with your own selected professional advisors.

Don't delay . . . contact your local TRUST DEPARTMENT.

*Dale Beaulieu is associate director of trust services at the North Pacific Union Conference in Portland, Ore.*

North Pacific Union Conference Association  
P.O. Box 16677 • Portland, OR 97216 • (503) 255-7300

holic or experience severe health and social problems because of alcohol. The students will train 40 Russian students to hold similar programs in their own country.

**African Aid:** More than half a million refugees from Liberia and Sierra Leone who have fled to Guinea, West Africa, are being helped by the Adventist Development and Relief Agency. Eighty percent of the refugees are women and children under 15. ADRA is the logistics partner and is responsible for transporting food, clothing, blankets, cooking utensils and other supplies.

**Native North American Camp Meeting:** A camp meeting by and for Native North American Indians will be held near Hope, British Columbia, from Aug. 27 to Aug. 30. For information, call Kitty Maracle, (604) 925-9073.

**Large-Print Steps to Christ:** Christian Record Services has published *Steps to Christ*, by Ellen G. White, in 22-point type (letters approximately four times normal size.) The book is free to all visually impaired. To order a book, contact Christian Record Services, 4444 South 52nd Street, Lincoln, Neb., (402) 488-0981 or phone (402) 488-0981. To the non-visually-impaired, the book is available through Pacific Press Publishing Association.

**Book on Philanthropy:** Adventist institutions and the philanthropic work of the church and its leaders are the focus of a new

book recently released by Jossey-Bass Publishers, 350 Sansome St., San Francisco, CA 94104.

This book *The Makings of a Philanthropic Fundraiser: The Instructive Example of Milton Murray*, was unveiled at the annual convention of the National Society of Fund Raising Executives held March 8-11 in San Francisco. In this publication, Adventist author Ronald Alan Knott chronicles the professional fund raising career of Adventist Milton Murray.

**Low-Cost Witnessing:** For less than the price of most greeting cards, church members can share the book, *The Great Controversy*, and other witnessing publications, such as: *Happiness Digest*, *The Desire of Ages* and the *Ministry of Healing*. This is due to the combined efforts of Adventist Laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) and the church's publishing houses, Pacific Press and the Review and Herald.

The books are available in low-cost versions in quantity orders at local Adventist Book Centers. For information phone, toll-free, 1-800-765-6955.

**New Ministry in Middle East:** Training for a three-year Global Mission assignment in the Sudan are 24 young Sudanese men. Four more are being readied for new areas in three other countries — Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon — and six plan to minister in Turkey.

IDAHO



Idaho Conference  
**Christian Women's Retreat**  
 Rose Otis, Featured Speaker  
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For brochures or information, write to:

**Christian Women's Retreat**  
 P.O. Box 685  
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MONTANA



**Havre Canoe, Will Travel**

Despite the rain, Jennifer Vendetti, foreground in top photo, has a smile during a lunch break on the second annual Missouri River Canoe Trip sponsored by the Havre Church. George Walker, Leslie Griffin, Bob Griffin, Leo Beardsley and Annette Bohanan are shown visiting shortly before joining the other 11 canoers to continue down the river. In the second photo, Annette Bohanan, Mindy Walker and George Walker along with the other canoers enjoyed the warm sun on Sabbath afternoon.

**Can-Do-It  
 Story Stirs  
 Custer  
 Members**

By Shirley B. Bilbro

Lula Masters was canning beans from her garden. As she worked, she thought: "Lord, I just love canning beans. It would be really neat if I could teach someone how to can green beans."

The next day she got a phone call from her daughter saying, "Mother, how would you like to go to Russia?"

"What would I do in Russia?" Lula asked. Her daughter replied, "Can beans."

Lula had not spoken to anyone about her prayer; it was strictly between her and the Lord. But within three weeks (ripe vegetables wait for no one), Lula was in Russia where she would spend the next two months canning and freezing beans and other vegetables from the gardens of Jacob Mittleider for the Adventist Seminary.

This spring, Lula shared her experiences from Russia at the Custer, Mont., church with slides and other memorabilia from Russia.

The experience gave us, the Custer members, a greater sense of the urgency and of the dedication needed to be out and about doing the work the Lord has given us to do.

*Shirley B. Bilbro writes from Forsyth, Mont.*



Lula Masters, the little lady that cans.

*A well-balanced  
 character is formed by single  
 acts well performed.*

Messages to Young People, p. 144

## Oregon Camp Meetings, Part II

By Jay Prall

After pausing for the Fourth of July holiday, the Oregon Conference 1992 camp meeting season resumed the following week in Portland, Ore., and then moved on to Tillamook, Ore.

### Portland Metropolitan Area

Though Portland's camp meeting was in a new place once again this year, the new site had many of the Gladstone features of the past.

An estimated 2,000 adults jammed the gymnasium of Reynolds Middle School. Others stood in the hallway trying to catch even the faintest evidence of a cooling breeze. The youthful sounds of other divisions could be heard throughout the compact campus.

With plenty of grass and even a few shade trees, Sabbath picnic lunches were plentiful. In the afternoon the Youth Division headed for nearby Multnomah Falls for a hike complemented with watermelon, hot dogs and other goodies.

Camp meeting was also a time to share the musical talents that abound in the metro area, including the Sojourners Trio. "Now that's what I call camp meeting," exclaimed one enthusiastic voice as the trio concluded its second number.

Gordon Bietz, senior pastor of the Southern College campus church in Tennessee, brought a contemporary message based on old-fashioned values.

In his Sabbath evening services, Bietz noted that we are hearing a great deal these days about Spirit-filled churches. What are the manifestations of the Spirit? Is it healing, talking in tongues or other phenomena? Referring to Galatians 5:22, Bietz asserted that the evidence is seen in people who have love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

"A Spirit-filled church is nothing more than individuals who manifest the fruit of the Spirit — nothing more or less than a people who spend time with Jesus every day."

Sabbath afternoon's Evangelism Hour included a promotional appearance by Evangelist Kenneth Cox. Gladstone's historic campgrounds will be the site for a major Cox crusade beginning Oct. 3.

Early Sunday morning the Adventist Book Center in Clackamas opened for a camp meeting sale. Pathfinders served burgers, corn dogs and other treats in the lower parking lot, and shoppers jammed the store and sidewalk display tables, often standing in check-out lines for some time. It was the largest shopping day in the history of the Clackamas store, according to manager Duane Krueger.

Shoppers were greeted with live music, including another appearance by the Sojourners. The trio used the opportunity to market their Twentieth Anniversary cassette and CD, a musical tribute to the late Ray Haynes who had been a founding member of the Sojourners Quartet.

### Tillamook

"Greetings to the Seven Churches of the North Coast and other guests," proclaimed the weekend camp meeting booklet.

The meeting was a first in the rich tradition of Oregon Conference camp meetings and the first event to involve the coast churches from Lincoln City, Ore., to Ocean Park, Wash.

The coastal camp meeting not only attracted coastal residents; it drew Adventists from Portland, Salem, Ore., and Grants Pass, Ore. An inland heat wave, two familiar preacher names, and the lure of Oregon's beautiful coast were easy excuses many could adopt.

While adults and children gathered at

the county fairgrounds to hear Louis Venden, young adults congregated at the Tillamook Church to enjoy Greg Nelson. One thousand people opened their Bibles with the two preachers on Sabbath morning. Venden is on the staff of Pacific Union College, and Nelson is the senior pastor of the College View Church in Lincoln, Neb.

Venden's weekend series focused on the question of when Jesus will come again. Admitting that the issue is "sticky stuff" to Adventists, he cautioned his audience not to succumb to being "Seventh-day Eventists."

"Adventist theology points us to events such as the national Sunday law," Venden explained. "We're always tempted to say Jesus can't come today because Event X has not been fulfilled. However, Scripture cautions that all of us will be surprised at the exact time. That tends to discredit charts that say 'when.'"

Venden urged his audience to be on the alert, to live with a sense of expectation and to constantly share the news of Jesus' coming with others.

That cannot be accomplished, he admonished, by adopting a "fortress mentality" of walling oneself off 10 miles from the closest known sin or building a cabin in the woods and just waiting for Jesus to come.

"God's desire is for us to minister to people who are increasingly living in the city," he said.

The coastal camp meeting also provided an opportunity to talk about Operation Bearhug, the Northwestern Adventist link to Russian Adventism. Calling Russia "the new mission field of the nineties," Arnold Peterson, M.D., spoke of plans to establish an association of Adventist physicians there. Walter Emori, M.D., a Medford, Ore., physician, is also seeking to strengthen Adventist medical presence in the former Soviet Union and to link it with the church's evangelistic outreach.

During the weekend the professional sounds of the Lincoln City, Ore., (Church) Orchestra, Balcony Brass, Advent Joy Bells and a host of other musicians brought a rich repertoire to the camp meeting program.

Organizers of the North Coast Camp Meeting already have their eyes set on 1993. Even though the conference has not announced its plans for the next camp meeting season, the Tillamook County Fairgrounds has been reserved for another week of spiritual nurture.

The final look at Oregon's 1992 camp meeting season, which concludes in Coos Bay, will be reported in an upcoming issue of the GLEANER.

Jay E. Prall is communications director of the Oregon Conference, Clackamas, Ore.



Oregon's newest ordained pastoral families include, left to right, Omar and Phyllis Flores; Alvin and Barbara Glassford; Roger and Gail Walter; and Garrett and Cheryl Caldwell. Not pictured are David Flores, Sean Glassford, Seth Walter, and Tiffany Caldwell.

# Family Visit

## God Making His Appeal Through Us

Notice the startling thought given in II Cor. 5:20, "We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, *as though God were making His appeal through us*" (emphasis supplied). Over and over the thought of God making His appeal through us has been ringing in my mind. It is a deeply humbling thought as well as exciting. I believe the Lord would bring this concept to the forefront of our thinking right now.

What difference does it make in our conduct, our priorities when we realize that God really wants to:

Love through us? • Speak through us? • Teach through us?

From a practical point of view I learned a great deal from Pastor Vasily D. Stolyar, president of the Volga-Uralian Conference in the Russian Union. As he and some of his members visited our conference, we had opportunity to visit and pray together. Yes, things are different in Russia. They don't have much paper available to FAX, Xerox and print. They have little concern about institutions. In view of these points and others, it seems they focus on the love of the Lord and love for His church.

What could happen here if we took our resources and asked the Lord to organize, focus and prioritize the wonderful Seventh-day Adventist message? Dramatic growth can happen there.

Recently, we looked at the church-by-church growth for the first six months. When counting even one person as a growth indicator, we still have a little over 1/2 of our churches that showed no growth. In fact, 31 showed a loss. This pattern has been somewhat typical over the years. I believe this can change. It appears that new focus is coming into the churches of Western Washington.

Let me illustrate areas of progress, but also areas where continued focus and priority must be given.

1. **Personal work** — Giving personal Bible studies and being a part of small growth group. These need greater emphasis.
2. **Stewardship** — Because of stewardship education by pastors and local church leaders, we have not had to cut back yet on overall pastoral coverage in the field. People are seeing the need to return their tithe to the storehouse. This concept will need continued attention.
3. **Worship** — People are seeing that we must avoid the extremes of worship and also provide a really appealing worship experience.
4. **Education** — A development program at AAA and an emphasis on reaching out of one's self seems



to be drawing attention to our schools.

5. **Planning Together** — In our system of governance and our Bible understanding of the doctrine of the church, we are dependent upon each other. Therefore, in our efforts to carry on the work of the church we must work through local church governance, Lay Advisory Council, L.A.M.P.P., etc.
6. **Prayer Watch** — More and more of our people are in earnest about beseeching the Holy Spirit on a daily basis through the 6:15 program or other regular activities. People are being practical and asking for evidences of the Holy Spirit's work—that of unity and service—that is proper.

So now in this visit please consider the areas mentioned. Right now in prayerful contemplation join pastors, other conference leaders and me in asking God to bring focus like never before. Let the thought of "God making His appeal through you" really be the changing force for service in and throughout our church work.

Let's enjoy our God and His work! We can learn from our Russian friends; we can learn from each other that no amount of discussion, reorganization or recrimination will ever suffice for a love for God and service through His church organization.

Lenard D. Jaecks, President  
Washington Conference

## Breath of Life Crusade

It was 1992, August the 15th, as 10 churches and 14 pastors made ready for the Breath of Life Crusade in the greater Seattle area. The air was thick with anticipation as 30 Lay Bible workers and professional workers combined to have their first workers' meeting at the Emerald City Community Seventh-day Adventist Church. Evangelist C.D. Brooks, internationally known speaker, brings to the Seattle Convention Center a style of evangelism that has reached thousands across the nation. Seattle looks for the tremendous blessings that God will pour out upon her as the uncompromising, truthfilled preaching of the gospel is declared each evening. We are praying that the Holy Spirit will baptize us anew, and that all will see the fruits of God's Spirit.

As we go to press (Aug. 24) the second week begins, attendance has grown to over 1000.

## RESTORE

The RESTORE program, a city ministry in Seattle, currently has two components. The first and fundamental component is the door-to-door Bible work done by 10 individuals who commit to this work on a yearly basis. This ministry was based from the Volunteer Park Church from the beginning of the RESTORE ministry in 1988. Beginning with the fall of 1992, the RESTORE ministry will be centered in four Seattle churches.

Another component of the RESTORE ministry is the Five Loaves Deli-Bakery located on Madison Avenue near the Arboretum. This ministry reaches many through nutritious food and the opportunity to read informative literature at the tables in the deli. Those who buy the bread baked at the Five Loaves Bakery give rave reviews on its texture, taste, quality and, of course, the nutritious values.

## Witness Through Roses

On January 1, 1993, the Adventist church will have a float in the Pasadena Rose Parade for the third year in a row. Multiplied millions of people are introduced to the name Seventh-day Adventist through this Witness Through Roses project.

Financial support for the cost of the Rose Parade float can be directed through the Washington Conference youth department.

## Focus on 'Our Youth'

In light of the Valuegenesis study and the concern of the constituents of Washington Conference, we intend to: 1) provide an atmosphere that is conducive to knowing Christ as Savior and understanding God's loving grace, 2) encouraging Bible study and moral responsibility, 3) educate youth cross culturally to break down barriers of misunderstanding, 4) enrich our young people through service and outreach to others less fortunate, and 5) help young people sense the joy of having high self regard.

Our method to reach these objectives will be through:

1. Sponsor mission trips each year
2. Establish a Youth Counsel
3. Establish an "Adopt a Kid" program for Christian Education
4. Two Youth Rallies each year with music and scriptural emphasis
5. A Holiday Party and socials quarterly
6. Develop local outreach programs for youth in every church
7. Train local youth leaders for youth ministry
8. Seek a new budget for funding this department

Working with the local church, the parents, schools, and the pastor we will seek to maximize the talents of our young people and provide a conduit for an eternal saving relationship with our youth and the Master of all youth.

## Operation Bearhug

This past May and June a new Seventh-day Adventist church was planted in the heartland of Russia in the city of Orenburg — a city caught between two great continents. Situated on the Ural River which separates Europe from Asia, Orenburg is about 1,000 miles southeast of Moscow and has a population of 800,000.

A team of evangelists was sponsored there by the Washington Conference. Nancy Jacobson, lay leader from the Kent Church, Pastor Hal Gates of Poulsbo, Robert Petrick, an evangelist from the Washington Conference, and Dave Weigley, ministerial director of the Washington Conference, went to Orenburg with the object of conducting a full-message evangelistic crusade in the hopes of planting a new church.

The reception was excellent. The Russian pastors and conference leaders had rented one of the largest auditoriums in the city, and nightly it was filled to capacity, sometimes beyond. Each evening the team presented the Adventist Christian message to 1,200 to 1,400 people. The result: 600 people decided for baptism, 330 of which were confirmed in their baptism before the American team had to return home.

Reports have come to us that there are more than 700 people attending the new church now each Sabbath, and all we can say is Praise the Lord for the results that God has given.

# LETTERS

Letters to the GLEANER editor are welcome. Letters must be signed and should not exceed 150 words in length. Letter writers are urged to limit their letters to commentary on editorial matter appearing in this journal, and should specifically refer to the issue date and article in question. Priority will be given to letters received by the editor within 45 days of the cover date of issue in question. Letters which direct personal criticism at individuals will not be printed; conversely, letters which promote a person by name or description for gratuitous praise will be declined for publication. Highest priority will be given to letters which add information and commentary, pro and con, to material appearing in this journal. Address letters to Editor, Box 16677, Portland, OR 97216-0677.

## Healing the Hurt

(Response to recent GLEANER articles on unchurched Adventists.) The letters I've written in the past have been about the wrongs (lay members) and (church leaders) have done to me. Through these experiences God has taught me much.

Rather than letting Satan persuade me to stop fellowshiping with these people, God has shown me how much He needs me to stay where I am.

As long as we are clothed in mortality, none of us are perfect. There are hurting people in our churches and we can lash out with hurtful words and can bring about resentment to fuel the fires Satan is trying to light to destroy our relationships as the children of God.

I am so grateful I can bring love to those hurting brethren by praying for them, and ignoring the fiery darts that are intended to weaken my faith.

I may not have a door-to-door ministry but I can love, and that is a gift Satan will never take away from any of us who cling to the Lord as our refuge in times of trouble.

Sharon McCarty  
Federal Way, Wash.

## Second Opinion for the Dr.

(Response to recent Northwest Church, World Mission columns) For the benefit of our GLEANER readers, there is a response to Alden Thompson's book and column publication available from the Adventist Theological Society. The book is entitled, "Issues in Revelation and Inspiration." Frank Holbrook and Leo Van Dolson have co-edited this priceless volume which may be obtained possibly from the Adventist Book Center or by writing Adventist Theological Society Publications, P.O. Box 86, Berrien Springs, MI 49103.

On another note, a hearty "Amen!" to Pam

Groff's recent letter affirming the attention our senior citizen's deserve.

Steven Poenitz  
Grants Pass, Ore.

Alden Thompson has asked for our evaluations of his articles regarding church unity and Bible study. I have found them delightful and enlightening, even though I have read and studied the Bible for close to 60 years now. . .

Thank you also for regular news of friends and relatives, and for heart-warming reports of mission work in Russia, other worldwide fields and the home front.

The articles by the conference presidents concerning our unchurched members have all shown that we care about these loved ones of ours. I myself particularly appreciated the Aug. 3 write-up by Perry Parks. (When they come back, we should give them work to do, so they know their talents are valued and needed.)

All around, the GLEANER is a superior publication. I feel sorry for any Northwest Seventh-day Adventist who is physically able to read it, but does not.

Pearl L. Pflugrad  
Portland, Ore.

## Amen for Truth

Thanks for the wonderful editorial Aug. 17! We need you people up there giving truth, and helping spread the warning to our church and the world. Remember, if we don't give it, their blood will be required at our hands.

Our only safety is the word of God. Please continue studying and praying for the Lord to help you be strong to resist the devil, and to be as true to duty as the needle to the pole, and He will help you.

I'm praying for you.

Christopher Fischer, Age 12  
Lucile, Idaho

## Submission Before Mission

The recent "unchurched" articles in the GLEANER have stated the problem well, but what is the cause of the problem?

Don't we need to focus on our own spiritual walk? Are we truly experiencing a daily, moment-by-moment relationship with Christ? Do we humbly and genuinely pray for the Holy Spirit to have complete control over our lives? Do we come to Him each day in total submission? . . .

All our actions must be genuinely Christ centered to win the unchurched members back and keep the ones we have. We need to have submission before we can have a mission. Let's agonize in prayer for our church!

Gerry Paisley  
Lemhi, Idaho  
continues on page 21

## Cover Contest 1993

The GLEANER staff is pleased to announce the opening of the 1993 GLEANER slide contest to find cover photography from which to buy one-time use rights for its 1993 issues. The contest begins Oct. 1, 1992.

The 1993 contest is open to all photographers, regardless of past sales to the GLEANER. Only transparencies arriving in the GLEANER office between the dates of Oct. 1 and Nov. 25, noon, will be considered. The following provisions also apply:

1. All submissions must be original slide transparencies suitable for display in vertical orientation at or near full frame.

2. Preference will be shown to slides in 35-millimeter format.

3. Only original slides will be considered. Copies or duplicates will be automatically disqualified.

4. Each photographer may submit up to 15 transparencies. Submission of greater numbers of slides by a photographer will disqualify his entire portfolio for the 1993 contest.

5. Only slides taken of scenes within the states of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington will be considered.

6. Each slide entered must have an inscription of its frame bearing the name and address of the photographer.

7. Photographers should, on request, be prepared to supply model releases for any recognizable persons appearing in winning entries.

8. Suggested subject matter includes nature topics with strong centers of interest; church activities, including baptisms, Pathfinders and outreach; and appropriate seasonal still life material. Christian creativity is encouraged; judges will favor the tastefully unusual.

9. Winning photographers should be prepared to supply, upon request, information on where the slide was taken, names and/or species of featured animate or plant life and make of camera and film used.

10. With payment of one-time rights to the slide, at \$50 per slide, the GLEANER retains the right to hold the winning slide in process for 60 days from date of announcement of winners, Dec. 20.

11. All slides, including non-winners, will be returned via regular first-class post at GLEANER expense, or may be picked up by prior arrangement in person by the photographer during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

12. All submissions should be either hand delivered or mailed to GLEANER, 10225 East Burnside Street (hand delivery only), Box 16677, Portland, OR 97216-0677.

E.S.

# ABOUT THE COVER

"Three of a Kind" is the title given the Sept. 21, 1992, GLEANER cover photo by photographer Arlan Blodgett of Salem, Ore. His shot of the three white geese was taken at Barview, Ore., at the south end of Smith Lake. This is near Tillamook Bay, Blodgett explains.

Blodgett operates a camera repair shop in Salem and does part-time photography which he says is "semi-professional." He got his first camera in 1945 and sold his first picture to the *Oregonian* in 1947. For this scene he used a Canon EOS 650 camera.

# 'We Don't Have to Go to Russia; We Can Help It Happen Here'

By Ed Schwisow

The opening of a new inner-city church in Seattle will be necessary to minister to large numbers of persons now being baptized as a result of public evangelism.

C.D. Brooks, evangelist and director/speaker of *Breath of Life* telecast, has concluded four weeks of meetings at the Washington State Trade and Convention Center, attracting crowds averaging 700 each session.

Of these, 250 have expressed a serious interest in the church, and are continuing with personal Bible studies. A large number were baptized on Sept. 12.

"With inner-city churches already full in the area, it will be impossible to serve these new members in existing facilities, long-term," said Roscoe Howard, crusade coordinator.

"We see this as a clear sign that a new church needs to be established, consisting mostly of the new converts, but also including some long-term members from existing congregations."

The large crowds which have turned out to hear Brooks have crossed ethnic boundaries with remarkable ease, says Howard, a response reflecting the cosmopolitan strength of the city as well as the strong sense of community among Adventists.

"Ten-to-fifteen percent of the attendance is Hispanic," says Howard, "approximately 30 percent is Caucasian, and about 55 percent is Black."

The crusade has been sponsored directly by the Emerald City, Maranatha, Kirkland Hispanic, Green Lake, Volunteer Park, Shoreline, Seward Park and West Seattle churches.

In an amazing parallel to evangelistic data compiled on Operation Bearhug evangelism in Russia, attendance at Brooks' meetings

grew as the crusade progressed.

"We kept the crowd," says Howard. He credits the same dynamics that have held audiences in Russia: "A man passionate for his faith with pathos, graphic in his descriptions, colorful, powerful and with a sense of humor," is a good beginning for any crusade, he says. But he gives equal credit to those who visit in homes during the day, a group consisting of a full-time staff of 12 and many local pastors and volunteers.

"The visitation, our ability to call on their homes, to make sure everything is all right and that their questions are being answered — this is the way to keep people coming back."

According to Dennis Carlson, conference secretary and communication director, the crusade has been planned for nearly two years and has gone through several revised scenarios before opening Aug. 15 in the Convention Center.

"At first, we looked at a smaller school assembly hall, but when we began to think about the possibilities, of what the Lord could do in Seattle, we knew we were thinking too small. We chose the convention center because it's new, it's spacious and because it's neutral ground, an ideal place for a powerful Adventist preacher."

To promote the opening-night meeting, 100,000 brochures were handed out and *The Breath of Life* telecast was aired each week for three months to introduce the speaker in the community and to provide a tie-in for announcement of the crusade.

As the crusade neared its close, Sabbath-morning "Celebrations" were also held at the convention center where audiences were introduced to Sabbath worship.

"We had a message to deliver, and the



C.D. Brooks

people were prepared and ready to receive it. Now, Harold Goodloe, associate pastor of the Emerald City Church, has been asked to establish a new congregation, and we believe that it needs to be situated somewhere in the Beacon Hill area of the city, but we're not ready to announce that address quite yet," said Howard.

The amazing results from this one crusade are showing that there remains a harvest to be gathered in the cities of America as surely as there is a thirst for truth in Russia, he said.

The requirements are similar: Dependence on God, preparation for great things, creative communication, strong visitation and follow-up and a willingness to personally reach those who are searching for spiritual answers.

And, yes, at times, it may even mean having to start a new church. ➤



Lenard Jaecks, right, Washington Conference president, is introduced to the opening-afternoon crowd, Aug. 15.



Visitors from North Pacific Union Conference headquarters in Portland, Ore., attended, including Bruce Johnston, right, who presented a greeting in the name of the church.



Though empty chairs were evident the first evening, such was the impact of the meetings that crowds continued to grow, despite the inconvenience of the opening of school midway through the crusade.

Christian teacher. Your vision should include a clear mental image of a preferable future born in the heart of God, transmitted through you to your student."

*Helen R. Smith*



Principals Teri Boyatt, left, Tualatin Valley Jr. Academy, Hillsboro, Ore., and Joan Oskenholt, Lincoln City Jr. Academy, Lincoln City, Ore., examine the creativity of a completed cooperative learning project.



**Madras Needs Bilingual Members**

Two bilingual, mission-minded, self-supporting Hispanic families are needed in Madras, Ore., to help the church reach out to Hispanic contacts.

A multicultural small town in Central Oregon, Madras has year-around recreation, a nine-grade, two-room, Adventist school, a Pathfinder club and a hospital. The area supports agriculture, wood products and service industries. The nearby Bend, Ore., community college holds extension classes in the area.

Madras Community Services Center is now serving an average of 25 to 30 clients each week, 60 to 75 percent of whom are Hispanic. Spiritual needs are going unmet because of the language barrier.

Madras outreach projects this year include preparing members to give Bible studies, hosting a cooking school and offering stress classes.

For more information call Pastor Ben Moor, (503) 475-2068, or write Madras Seventh-day Adventist Church, P.O. Box 53, Madras OR 97741.

*Linda Chancellor*



**Grants Pass VBS Attracts 70**

Seventy children attended the Grants Pass, Ore., vacation Bible school this summer. Donna Scott, director, was assisted by 32 helpers, many of whom were youth. Pastor Steve Poenitz and wife Erney led music. Dorothy Foote and Virginia Kolkow guided the children in painting teddy bears, cars and pet rocks. Key leaders included Scott, who doubled as Primary leader; Winifred Barrows, pictured above, Kindergarten; Sally Garcia, Jennifer Gill, Judy Gill and Helen Kramer, Juniors. About half of the children attended church on Sabbath where they received their certificates of attendance and sang for the congregation, as seen in the second photograph.

*Judy Gill*



**Missionary Grandpa**

Holly Irland, daughter of Gary and Nancy Beck Irland, was baptized by her grandfather, Ed Beck, in the Beaverton Church on June 6, 1992, just a few weeks before the Becks left for Indonesia. Holly is a fourth grader at Tualatin Valley Junior Academy in Hillsboro.

*Nancy Irland*



**Dyslexics Learn Quickly**

"Thank you for giving me a chance at life. Not being able to read is hard on any person. Thank you very much."

The note came from a student after a four-week Potentials program that ended July 24 on the campus of Laurelwood Academy, Gaston, Ore. The seventh-grade girl had advanced four years—from fourth to eighth grade-level—in four weeks, typical of the 24 students who participated in the reading program. Most of these students had been diagnosed as dyslexic, or learning disabled.

The association with the Laurelwood Academy campus allows students to transfer from Potentials into a fast-moving mainstream program where they can prepare for college or enroll in technical and trade programs. Potentials also offers an accelerated program for superior students and training for instructors who wish to learn to teach reading.

For more information, call 1-800-452-7323 or 985-7054 in the Portland, Ore., local area.

*Frank Lang*

**Saga of Bearhug Success Heard in Grants Pass**

The story of Operation Bearhug—of sharing Christ in Russia—was the topic of a recent church service at the Grants Pass, Ore., church.

Don and Joy Stewart, parents of four grown daughters who are all members of the Grants Pass Church, were special guest speakers, telling firsthand of their recent experiences in the former Soviet Union.

While the couple was in Russia for six weeks, May 11 to June 21, Don helped behind the scenes, preparing meals for the crusade staff, which included waiting in long lines for bread.

Joy, an experienced child evangelist, had approached Duane McKey, her pastor in Pendleton, Ore., wondering if there might be a way for her to help with evangelism among Russian children through Operation Bearhug. Yes, she was told, it was possible.

It took a succession of miracles, in Joy's view, but in the end, she was able to travel to Russia with 23 boxes of children's teaching materials, including 425 felt pieces in

13 sets and 500 sets of 33 different handouts.

Joy's goal was to help 12 Russian women learn how to teach the gospel to children. When she arrived in Russia, these women said: "The children won't come. We do not have children's meetings here."

But it was finally agreed that, yes, they could begin their workshop with children of the adult helpers at the main crusade.

Joy promised the children portions of Scripture as rewards for attendance. To the surprise of all, on the first night of the crusade, 200 children showed up.

For the first Friday night of the series, Joy was told that the hall for the children was unavailable, but she remembered her mission and God's desire to "suffer the children

to come unto me."

So in faith she asked the children to come back Friday anyway, and, in the end, they were permitted to meet on the second floor of the hall on both Friday night and Sabbath morning, though they had to sing loudly to drown out disco music being played on the floor above them.

The children learned to sing new words to the tune of "The B-I-B-L-E," as follows: "My J-E-S-U-S, the name I love best, He lived for me, He died for me, my J-E-S-U-S."

"I love Jesus, I want to follow Him!" one baptized Russian boy said in English before they left. In all, 405 baptisms resulted from the crusade.

July Gill



Don and Joy Stewart with gifts from their new friends in Russia

## Monitor Church Members Hold Mini Camp Meeting

A spacious creek-side lawn on the property of Harold and Wanda Harrison was the site for outdoor activities of a mini camp meeting hosted by the Monitor Church north of Silverton, Ore., June 26-28.

Elderly members in this small unincorporated community have difficulty attending regional camp meetings, so, this year, they created their own.

The meetings began Friday evening when Pastor Carl Rose, his wife Virginia, daughter Cheryl and Harold and Wanda Harrison reported on their experiences in former mission service among Navajo Indians. Dressed as Navajos, they sang hymns in Navajo, displayed Indian artifacts and showed slides of the desert country of Monument Valley, Utah.

Sabbath morning began with Monitor's 13-piece orchestra playing familiar hymns for a Sabbath school sing-along. Ron Hockley spoke of his own conversion and recent preaching trip to Russia.

Later, vespers featured Glen Sowa who has been accepted to serve as a missionary in Tawitawi, a remote island in the Philippines. A special offering was taken to help defray expenses, and the 100 persons in

attendance gave more than \$400.

On Sunday morning L.J. Ehrhardt challenged his listeners to "choose this day" to serve God, for Jesus is coming soon. Later, Roma Hooker, who represents community services of the Oregon Conference, held a mock clothing sale during which it was decided that the garment the Monitor Church was most interested in buying was a lab coat, which, though the most simple, cost more than any other piece of clothing. It required 100 percent commitment to service for God, and only a kind and compassionate person could wear it.

A similar mini camp meeting is planned for 1993.

Linda Wilhelm



Martha Ehrhardt accompanies her husband on the accordion.

## SABBATH WORK PROBLEM? LABOR UNION HASSLE?

NPUC Public Affairs  
And Religious Liberty  
Department can help.

\* \* \* \* \*



(503) 255-7300

## UPPER COLUMBIA



### Foldable Floatable

It may not float, but it sure helps young imaginations sail through the story of Noah and the Ark.

Holly (left) and Heidi McLeod show the display they recently used in the Kindergarten Division to tell the story of Noah and his boat. Jessica and Shannon Parker, not pictured, also cooperated in the project.

The Spokane Central Stars Pathfinder Club members have earned several honors this year, including one in origami, the Japanese art of folding paper. The four club members fulfilled part of the honor requirements by telling and illustrating the Bible story with the use of origami.

*Repentance includes sorrow for sin, and a turning away from it. We shall not renounce sin unless we see its sinfulness; until we turn away from it in heart, there will be no real change in the life.*

Steps to Christ, p. 23

# WALLA WALLA COLLEGE

## Student Helps Russian Youths Confront Drugs

Adventist Youth To Youth (AY2Y), a program to encourage a drug-abuse-free lifestyle, expanded to Russia last June with the participation of Lisa Frankovich, a religion major at Walla Walla College.

Frankovich and seven other American college students joined Pat Mutch, director of the International Commission for Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Dependency, for the sharing of Adventist Youth To Youth concepts with young persons in the former Soviet Union.

Frankovich's responsibilities included acquainting the Soviet youth with aspects of alcohol codependency, inhalants, family groups, song services and cooperative games. According to Frankovich, it was sometimes difficult to reach the youth. "Russians are obviously on guard until they have observed your actions. But after that barrier is broken through, their warmth and hospitality is evident even with the language barrier."

Frankovich says that family groups were the quickest way to break down social resistance. Family groups are small groups of people that meet together throughout each conference as a support group. "They wanted to worship and pray with us, to share their relationship with Christ," Frankovich said.

After the training session a one-week conference began. It was held at the Institute of Youth, former headquarters of the youth branch of the Communist Party.

"We were told that our rooms were bugged," Frankovich says. "It was wonderful to hold a conference so different from the ones that used to take place there."

About 200 Russians, many of them youths from the surrounding area, attended the conference, some coming from as far as Byelorussia.

"This is what the training had led up to," Frankovich said. "Now we were only there

for guidance and advice. The rest was up to the trainees."

According to Frankovich, members of her family group showed skills that had never surfaced in the training. "Michael was a great storyteller, 'Big Sasha' and others excelled in puppetry and audience interaction. That's when we knew AY2Y would be a success in Russia," Frankovich says. "These people are dedicated, God is in charge and the Holy Spirit is working."

The Euro-Asia Division, the Institute of Alcohol and Drug Dependency (IADD) and the International Commission for Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Dependency, a unit of the World Health Organization, sponsored the training session.

Steve Dunston



Lisa Frankovich

## ADVENTIST HEALTH SYSTEM/WEST

### Radiologist and General Practitioner Join WWGH

Two new physicians have joined Walla Walla General Hospital's medical staff, according to Rodney T. Applegate, president.



Roger E. Morris, M.D.

Robert E. Morris, M.D., a radiologist, is a 1979 graduate of Loma Linda University School of Medicine, Loma Linda, Calif., where he also completed his diagnostic radiology residency program. He is board certified in diagnostic radiology.

Morris is currently working in the General Imaging Department at Walla Walla General Hospital.

He and his wife, Monique, and three children come to Walla Walla from Brewster, Wash.

John R. Rogers, M.D., a family practice physician, is a 1975 graduate of Loma Linda



John R. Rogers, M.D.

University School of Medicine. He completed his residency at the University of Wyoming, in Cheyenne.

Rogers was recently an assistant professor of family practice at the University of Wyoming and has been heavily involved in community education and health programs.

His office is located at 1111 South Second Avenue, Walla Walla. He will be joining the Blue Mountain Medical Group.

Rogers and his wife, Sue, have two children.

Misti Kemmerer

### Portland Adventist Gives Free Seminars in October

The following free programs are open to the community and will be presented at Portland Adventist Medical Center, 10123



1892 - 1992

For information about Walla Walla College you can call toll free in the Continental U.S. 1-800-541-8900.

# Operation Bearhug: The Magadan Story

By Cindy Chamberlin

"We're building an infrastructure which they could not provide for themselves," says Jere Patzer, Upper Columbia Conference president, of *Operation Bearhug* outreach to create an Adventist presence in Magadan, a pivotal and central city of Siberia.

"Our conference is not just building a church, we're building a whole network which includes health, evangelism, and nurture education."

More than 125 *Bearhug* delegates volunteered for two-week intervals from June 9 to Aug. 17. The members helped to construct a church, hold an evangelistic crusade, deliver medical supplies, distribute literature, lay the groundwork for an English language school and visit with Russian artists, political leaders and inmates of labor camps.

## Building a Church

The three-story, 400-seat church is to be completed within the next few months.

Russian workers are finishing the walls, roof, and steps, and an American team is working on the inside detail. "It is being built on one of the nicest lots in town," said Larry Goodhew, general contractor from Walla Walla, Wash.

The property is "right next to the library and the cultural center of Magadan."

## Public Evangelism

The Magadan Church membership grew from approximately 60 to 320 members during the group's three-week-long evangelistic crusade this summer.

"It was amazing to watch people lining the walls making their stand for Jesus," said Sue Patzer, wife of the conference president. Two-hundred-seventy-eight persons were baptized



Two hundred and seventy-eight were baptized during the Upper Columbia Conference three-week crusade in Magadan, Russia.

as a result of the evangelism.

When Jim Reinking, Upper Columbia Conference evangelist on loan to the Magadan project, announced baptismal classes at the conclusion of his public meetings, all but 10 individuals enrolled. More than 800 remained in attendance at a Bible study fellowship which began in two sessions in September.

The crusade was held in two sessions for six nights each week. Attendance remained at a steady 1,000 to 1,100 persons each evening. The series included health lectures by Fred Hardinge of Total Health Lifestyle Center; musical performances by Julie and Lare Kostenko, the Belko Brass and Cheryl Wagner; slide illustrations; children's story times and Russian vocal and instrumental music.

"I have heard many things in this hall, but what I heard these last three weeks have really changed my life," said one Russian woman of the meetings which were held in the former communist party hall.

"They're like drowning people gasping for the air of the gospel," said an Upper Columbia observer.

"Since the communist system has fallen the people are searching for something that works," said Reinking. The people are influenced by two factors, primarily by the Russian Orthodox Church and spiritualism, he added. The most common questions he had to answer dealt with the authority of the church and Bible and the use of icons.

"The Russian mind tends toward superstition. Many times people would expect us to be able to interpret their dreams," he said.

## Medical Work

During the past weeks, \$250,000 worth of donated medicines were distributed by Glyn Marsh, M.D., of Clarkston, Wash., supplies which will be used in tandem with education programs to teach the Russian people about nutrition, exercise, daily hygiene and of the effects of smoking and drinking.



Labor camp inmates listen to Jere Patzer, president of the Upper Columbia Conference, as he answers questions about communism and God.

## Media Outreach

"The whole town is watching the project," said a Russian journalist. The builders were featured on Russian television, radio, in newspapers and through other media throughout the summer.

"We like that your denomination provides an alternate lifestyle," he continued.

"Even Magadan tour guides have added the church site to their list of stops," said Cindy Ritacca of Medford, Ore.

"When they saw we were Americans they would automatically ask if we were Adventists," said Rosalie Truby of Sandpoint, Idaho.

"The people are so glad to get tracts," said Phil Wykle, a Baptist Church member from Idaho, who helped pass out some 20,000 pieces of literature. "When you give it to them they stop, look at you, read it and thank you again and again and again."

"They wanted anything that was American," agreed Clayton Child, personal ministries director of the Upper Columbia Conference. "We think they were even saving the crusade posters as souvenirs."

Patzer and Tedd Lutts, who serves as conference treasurer and project coordinator, *continues on next page*



Steel beams are the framework for the three-story, 400 seat church in Magadan, Russia.

## Magadan *continued from page 11*

along with their wives, were invited to a tea given by the Magadan intelligentsia (a select group of Magadan artists, performers and thought leaders). There they presented the Magadan Library with 40 religious books and Bibles. The books included *The Conflict of the Ages*, *Daniel and Revelation*, *The Bedtime Stories*, and medical texts.

### Labor Camp Ministry

Patzer and several others were allowed to visit the labor camp where the concrete blocks used in the construction of the church were made. Patzer had spoken last year at the camp. This year he went back and found that two inmates had been released and wanted to be baptized in the new church. Two staff had also been baptized.

Marsh and Hardinge spoke on health and stress. Wagner and the Belko Brass gave a musical presentation. Patzer spoke on hope for the future and opened the presentation by sharing the process of accepting Christ as a personal Savior and answered questions about the validity of God and the practice of communism. At the end of the presentation, Bibles were distributed.

### The Russian People

"The Russian people are the most giving people I have ever seen," said Lutts. "Be careful

you don't admire something too long or they'll make you take it home with you."

"I found that cultural barriers, present in other countries, were not evident. Walking down the streets one met attractive, intelligent, confident people who for all practical purposes were the same as us," said Jim Kilmer, conference Sabbath school director.

"But the stark, redundant, colorless, lifeless, endless cement buildings told the story of a people on the slim edge of survival."

"One woman told me 'we can't take pride in our houses or land because the government owns those, but we can take pride in ourselves, so we do,'" said Audrey Child of Spokane, Wash.

"They are a very intelligent people," said Reinking.

### The Future

The following are goals yet to be attained: Completion of the church (to be accomplished within the next few months); formation of an English language school with instructor Greg Bratcher, who has arrived in Magadan; immediately sending an additional \$100,000 worth of medicine donated by Walla Walla General Hospital; airing health lectures by Hardinge on Russian television; and bringing professional television news commentator Ekaterina Anatolevna Platonova, of Magadan, to the U.S. for heart surgery.

The heart surgery will be a joint endeavor of Heart Institute, Romeo Pavlic, M.D., of Sacred Heart Hospital, the Upper Columbia

Conference and the Colville, Wash., church Sabbath school. Platonova, who has a life expectancy of only three years without surgery, was the first person to be baptized in Magadan.

### The Team

Those who went to Magadan represent 43 Upper Columbia Conference churches, with Adventist representation, as well, from the states of Colorado, California, Alaska, British Columbia, Michigan and Ohio.

Members range from students, welders and teachers to doctors, carpenters, masons, farmers and housewives.

### In Conclusion

"If you could see the tears and the hugs of the people, you would know that every dollar is worthwhile," said Patzer. "Those that come back realize their lives have been changed forever. We are doubly blessed—first as our faith has been strengthened in the validity of the mission of this church and secondly in the reflex action that God has promised through inspired writing."

Said one Russian woman: "They (communists) always told us that Americans would devour and swallow us up, but we see loads of food and supplies sent to us by Americans. Now we know that the American people do not want war."

"If our leaders had not had the vision and courage to jump in right now, we would be missing a priceless opportunity," said Kilmer.

"Khrushchev once said that he would destroy all Christians except one who would be placed in a museum. Well, today a Magadan museum does indeed hold a Christian, for there stands a picture of the *Operation Bearhug* group clad in white *Bearhug* T-shirts."

Prayers are solicited, even as inflation drives up the cost of construction. A year ago the blocks for the construction of the church cost \$2 per pallet, but today they are \$60 per pallet. For more information, write the Upper Columbia Conference, P.O. Box 19039, Spokane, Wash. 99219 or call (509) 838-2761.

*Cindy Chamberlin wrote this article from Spokane, Wash., as a communication intern of the Upper Columbia Conference before returning to her undergraduate studies at Walla Walla College in College Place, Wash.*



Books and Bibles were given to the Magadan Library by an Upper Columbia Conference delegation with included Yvonne Lutts, Sue Patzer, Jere Patzer and Ted Lutts.

## WASHINGTON

### LifeTrek Outreach Takes Second Step Forward

In Puyallup, Wash., the 1992 LifeTrek Evangelistic Series with Jim Brackett has resulted in four people joining the church.

Members and guests had learned from and appreciated the evening messages. Many contacts had been made.

But two ladies had a vision. They wanted to do something more because they felt something was still lacking when they joined the church, and that something more, they discovered, is called "LifeTrek Next Step."

They organized and invited church family and friends to attend classes which took place on Wednesday evenings and enabled the church family to get better acquainted

and to meet new members on a social-spiritual level.

In an exercise practiced out of doors, groups learned about faith and trust. Those driving their cars past the church that evening must have wondered about all the people being led about blindfolded.

Each Wednesday offered something new and different on how to relate to the Lord



### South Tacoma Baptisms

At a recent Sabbath afternoon baptism, Tacoma South Side Church welcomed the following people into the church family, from left: Mauricio, Billy and Maria Solorzano, and Kimberly Saunders. Pastor Don Orsburn, right, baptized them.

*Roberta Sharley*

## GENERAL NEWS



### World Speech Champ

Joe Tracy, a teacher at Milo Adventist Academy, has won first place in a speech competition sponsored by the Women's Christian Temperance Union, held in Gotenburg, Sweden, last June. Tracy, a 1992 graduate of Pacific Union College, represented the United States in the competition which addressed the issue of alcohol abuse. Tracy's speech covered the urgency to completely abstain from alcohol in order to create a better world. "Do we want the children of today to be the alcoholics of tomorrow, sharing their problems instead of their talents? I say it's time to teach the children of the world to share life, not death," he said in his speech. WCTU officials stated it was the first time in more than a decade that an American has won the world finals.



### Melashenko To Become New VOP Speaker

The Voice of Prophecy ministry will soon make a transition of leadership with Lonnie Melashenko becoming director-speaker, effective Jan. 1, 1993. H.M.S. Richards, Jr., will continue to assist with the broadcast. Melashenko plans to build on the foundation of 62 years of VOP radio broadcasting as he guides the ministry through the closing days of earth's history. "I'm committed to reaching contemporary society with the Third Angel's Message," he declares. "We'll be creating diverse programs to target varied demographic groups, and the VOP Bible School will provide courses for all ages."

### Newsbriefs

**Students Raise Money For Rose Parade Float:** Adventist church schools and Pathfinder Clubs have joined forces and broadened their mission emphasis for the third annual Tournament of Roses Parade Adventist float for which they're raising funds. Their efforts include selling toothbrushes, popcorn as well as developing youth mission projects within their own local conferences.

The proceeds from the toothbrushes will help fund a building project on Pitcairn Island. The project calls for purchasing sacks of cement with which to build a road from the island's boat landing up a steep hill to the island's village. Pathfinder clubs are using popcorn as their primary fund-raiser this fall. The proceeds from their sales will not only support the Rose Parade float, but will help purchase New Testament Bibles in Russia.

"It's a terrific and healthful combination," said Alvin Trace, Escondido, Calif., project coordinator. "The children can go door to door selling popcorn, a healthful product, and toothbrushes which can be used after they eat the popcorn."

Many clubs are also volunteering to help decorate this year's float. Any club or family wanting to be a part of this year's decorating project must write to Roses, Box 10550, Silver Spring, MD 20914, by Nov. 2. More information about these fund-raising projects is available from the local school principal or Pathfinder club director.

**ASI Members Pledge \$260,000:** Adventist-Laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) members pledged more than \$260,000 at their annual international convention last August in Palm Springs, Calif. Money pledged at the convention is to assist nine church and lay ministry projects. Five ASI member ministries will also receive assistance, including Country Haven Academy in Pasco, Wash.

**Ministry Care Line Program Launched:** A confidential employee assistance program is now offered by Ministry Care Line, a national service of the Kettering Clergy Care Center, an affiliate of Kettering Medical Center. This program offers subscribing organizations' employees access to a toll free number for support and consultation when problems and stress of being a Christian leader emerge. For more information, call (513) 299-5288.

**New High School in Fiji:** Gifts to the General Conference Special Projects Offering in the first quarter of 1991 have made it possible for the Adventist church in Suva, Fiji, to purchase the Isa Lei Resort Hotel to serve as an Adventist High School. Appraised at \$3.2 million, the church purchased and is remodeling Isa Lei Resort Hotel for \$500,000.



## Northwest Church, World Mission

# A Painful Way To Rouse the Soul

By Alden Thompson

The doctrine of Providence is not an easy one for us to understand, especially when innocent people die from natural disaster or from the evil deeds of other people.

Almost as troublesome for those of us who live in plenty and comfort are the New Testament passages on persecution and suffering. "All who want to live a godly life in Christ will be persecuted," declares 2 Timothy 2:12 (NRSV). Or, to paraphrase 1 Peter 4:12, "Don't be surprised at your fiery ordeal. That's just the way things are for Christians."

On the basis of these passages and with a few additional twists, some devout believers conclude that God wants His children to "enjoy" gloom as long as we are on this earth. Put bluntly, that means comfort is evil and pain is good.

That's not just an Adventist quirk. It's woven into the very fabric of American religious experience. I recall a line from Pa in Laura Ingalls Wilder's "Little House on the Prairie" (when our girls were young we read those books a lot!). Laura's family had just moved into a new cabin. Nestling into a brand new bed that night, the smell of fresh straw and the softness of feathers and down caressing their senses, Pa exclaimed, "This feels so good it's almost sinful." Yes, Adventists are not the only ones who are leery of too much comfort.

But now let's probe a little more closely the question of God's role in sending persecution and suffering. Our Sabbath school class flogged that question rather thoroughly as we went through 1 Peter. Yours probably did too. We didn't reach unanimity. Some prefer a strictly logical view of Providence that makes God responsible for all good and all evil. Others, myself included, are quite prepared to declare God responsible for all good, but not for evil. God works in every circumstance to bring forth good. But He does not initiate the evil.

A parental model for understanding God allows us to see Him bringing good out of evil without our insisting that He send the evil in order to bring good. To use a very

crude example, a wise parent would not toss a child into the street to be run over by a car simply to teach the child to stay out of the street. A good parent would do anything *but* that.

As far as God is concerned, one of the New Revised Standard Version Bible alternate translations for Romans 8:35 puts the pieces together very nicely, I think: "God makes all things work together for good."

But now let's press the issue of Providence as it relates to some of the evil happenings of our day: hurricanes (Florida, Hawaii), riots (Los Angeles) and the turmoil surrounding the collapse of communism. We could debate whether God flips the switch in each case, and that's always a lively debate. But if we can lay aside the question of God's direct involvement in evil (Hurricane Andrew, for example), it is clear that disasters do awaken many to their spiritual need. With reference to the mayhem caused by Andrew in Miami, Franklin Beam, a spokesman for Miami Baptists, put it this way, "We did not pray for Hurricane Andrew, but what we did pray was for God to open the door to let the people of Miami know that Jesus loves them and we love them too." Ron Busroe of the Salvation Army said: "People are so devastated. . . . They are so tender right now. We can use as many Bibles as you can send." Similar stories are emerging from riot-torn Los Angeles.

Parallels can also be drawn with the situation in Russia and the former communist countries of Eastern Europe. Long deprivation and human suffering have laid the foundation for a bountiful harvest of souls. The people are incredibly open to the Gospel right now. Economic chaos undoubtedly enhances receptivity to the Gospel. In fact, in places like (East) Germany, where economic recovery is well under way, the window of opportunity is already closing. When money appears on the scene, people don't need God anymore. . . .

It seems clear, then, that whether or not one sees God flipping the switch to cause disasters, suffering can jar otherwise careless people to their spiritual senses. Many devout persons can look back at troubled times

and see God's hand at work in their lives. From my days as a student literature evangelist, I still remember a meaningful quotation from *Desire of Ages*: "To all who are reaching out to feel the guiding hand of God, the moment of greatest discouragement is the time when divine help is nearest. They will look back with thankfulness upon the darkest part of their way" (p. 528).

Yet any frustrations I have faced have been quite modest compared to the wrenching experiences suffered by others. In Mark Noll's new book, *A History of Christianity in the United States and Canada* (Eerdmans, 1992), I was struck by the way that personal disaster played a key role in the spiritual life of some significant spiritual leaders in early America. In the 19th century, for example, Phoebe Palmer, who for years bore a powerful and winsome testimony to God's work in her life, suffered the devastating loss of three young children early in her married life. Yet she persevered and God gave her a special experience.

Similarly, Jacob Albright, son of German-Lutheran immigrants to Pennsylvania, was movingly converted at the funeral of one of his own children in 1791. He went on to play a key role in the spiritual life of the German-speaking residents of Pennsylvania.

It's a curious paradox that those not touched personally by disaster seem more ready to lose faith in a good God than the afflicted ones themselves. The afflicted ones often discover the goodness of God in their affliction and come face to face with a God they know to be good. That may not seem logical. But that's the way it works in real life.

Isn't it possible, however, to rouse the soul to new spiritual life *without suffering*? Yes. There is another way to vibrant spiritual life, one that is much less painful if painful at all. I suspect it is God's ideal way to keep us alive spiritually. We'll talk about that easier way next time. ➤

Alden Thompson writes from College Place, Wash., where he is professor of biblical studies at Walla Walla College.

<sup>1</sup>Cited in *National and International Religion Report*, September 21, 1992.



Alden Thompson

# John Day Dedication

By Russell L. Johnson

Dedication services for the John Day, Ore., church were held Aug. 29. Members and former members came from California, Idaho, Washington and Oregon to participate in the services.

The church is located at 110 Valley View Drive, a peaceful setting overlooking the city of John Day.

Sometime in 1939, Letcher Huntington, a Seventh-day Adventist evangelist, held a series of meetings in John Day. As a result, about 34 persons began meeting each Sabbath in members' homes.

The first home in which they met was that of Bernice Shidler McKinney. During the 1940s they used the Scout Hall, the Methodist churches in both Canyon City and John Day and the First Christian Advent Church as meeting places.

On May 18, 1940, the John Day Church



This church served John Day, Ore., Seventh-day Adventists from 1947 to 1987.

was officially organized by G. S. Belleau, president of the Idaho Conference.

In 1947 the church building at the corner of Bridge St. and Hwy. 395 and 26 was purchased from the deed holders, Anna McCullum and Susan Hall. Down payment for the church was made by selling potholders made by Elizabeth Mershon, wife of the pastor.

Among those making donations to pay off the balance were Tom and Nellie McCullough, Woody Woodhull, the Ezra Nash family and the Idaho Conference. Finally all that was lacking was a payment

of \$50.00. Again potholders were sold. Dedication for the building was held on Aug. 13, 1949.

By the 1980s the sanctuary and classrooms were filled to capacity. In October, 1986, Maranatha Volunteers helped local members build the fellowship room and classroom wing. In 1987 the hard decision was made to sell the old church. The Chamber of Commerce bought the old parsonage which had served as classrooms, and the John Day Historical Preservation Foundation purchased the church building.

In May, 1988, Maranatha Volunteers again went to John Day to help build the sanctuary. Of the 34 charter members, two are still members of the John Day Church.



Those officiating at the John Day Church dedication are pictured, left to right: Marlyn Hoffman, head elder; Fred Ellis, pastor; Bob Brown, song leader; Reuben Beck, former Idaho Conference treasurer; Chet Eastham, Maranatha Volunteers director, Idaho Conference Chapter; Bruce Johnston, president, North Pacific Union Conference; Leon Cornforth, stewardship director, Idaho Conference; Clair Spaulding, local elder; and Stephen McPherson, president, Idaho Conference.



The dedication for this new John Day, Ore., church building was held Aug. 29.

## Baker City Bearhug Trip Becomes Community Event

When opportunity arose for the Baker City, Ore., and Richland, Ore., churches to send their pastor, Roger Martin, on an evangelistic mission to Russia, not only did the congregations respond enthusiastically, but so did the two communities.

Church members Jerry and Toni Nickell, therapists at the local hospital, had been asked to accompany Martin to Russia. A fellow therapist at the hospital, hearing of the project and of the need for funds to buy supplies and gifts for the people of Sochi, suggested to Nickell that he hold a benefit concert. This led to the organization of an *Operation Bearhug* musical.

"I was amazed at the response," said

Nickell, "Not only were the artists willing to perform, but the high school auditorium was provided for the concert, and people from all walks of life helped with advertising, posters and arrangements."

Jay Sublett, journalist for the *Record-Courier* newspaper and recently-baptized member of the Baker City Church, kept interest alive with feature articles in both local papers.



The Bearhug team from Baker City, Ore., and Richland, Ore., left to right: Jerry and Toni Nickell and Nancy and Roger Martin.

While many performers for the musical were members of the church, volunteer community talent brought total participation to 13 groups and soloists.

Admission was free, but \$650 was raised directly from the concert and from late donations.

When the church held a yard and bake sale, again the community responded, donating items, attending the sale and often adding donations to the list prices.

This endeavor raised more than \$1,200 dollars. All proceeds from the concert and sale were used for supplies to give to the Russian citizens of Sochi.

Again community spirit prevailed when, in answer to prayer, Pastor Martin's wife, Nancy, was granted a leave of absence by her supervisor from her work in the County Treasurer's office, though her absence would coincide with the busiest time of year for her office.

"Truly," said Pastor Martin, "the Baker City Church and community are a caring people."

Now in Russia, Martin holds two meet-

ings each day, bringing the gospel message to thousands. Nancy Martin leads out in the children's programs and Jerry and Toni Nickell are conducting the music and presenting health programs.

*Jay Sublett and Stella Carter*

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## MONTANA

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### New Staff Welcomed For 1992-1993 at Mt. Ellis

Mount Ellis Academy welcomes several new staff members for the 1992-93 school year.

**Al and Kathy Demsky** have joined the MEA team where Al serves as campus chaplain and pastor of the Mount Ellis Church. Kathy is working as the main office manager.

**Harold Dixon**, previously the accountant, is now the business manager for Mount Ellis and retains his position as assistant treasurer for the Montana Conference.

**Don Hepker** is the assistant boys' dean and coaches the co-ed volleyball team and the Mount Ellis ski team. Don has a B.S.

in physical education from Walla Walla College and brings with him seven years of experience in teaching skiing, three years as a ski coach at Ski Bluewood in Washington and three years as head coach of the Junior Varsity Volleyball Team at De Sales High School in Walla Walla, Wash.

**Nancy Lee**, from Bozeman, Mont., is the new business education teacher. She earned a B.A. in business from Walla Walla College and was treasurer of MEA from 1979 through 1982.

**Kristi Lindell**, a 1990 graduate of Mount Ellis Academy, is working as the assistant librarian this year. She is completing a degree in elementary education at Montana State University in Bozeman, Mont.

**Diane Stuber**, a local business owner, joins MEA part time as secretary in the business office.

**Crista Terry** joins MEA as assistant girls' dean. A Texan, she is currently majoring in Spanish and speech pathology and audiology at Andrews University.

**Wendy Wareham**, from Santa Barbara, Calif., joins MEA as music instructor.

*Amy M. Nash*

### Billings Pastor Focuses On Youth Ministry

Joe Winn has joined the Billings District pastoral staff and will serve as youth pastor with first emphasis given to ministry to young people in the Billings and Bridger churches. He will also reach out to unchurched youth in these areas, in addition to sharing some preaching duties with Dan Appel, head pastor.

Joe is joined by his wife Lili, whose musical talents will also be a welcome addition to worship services.

Members pray that God will bless the important ministry of Joe and Lili Winn.

*Pam Stenquist*



### Electronic Writers

Gem State Adventist Academy students Sandra Kelley, sophomore, and Nicole Smith, junior, unpack new computers for the Writing Lab at the academy.



### Bozeman Baptisms

Mt. Ellis and Bozeman Churches have welcomed several young persons into fellowship through baptism. Shown left to right are Pastor Bob Lawson, Tyler Webster, Mark Ivey, Kim Unterseher and Sierra Cypher. Pastor Larry Unterseher, Montana Conference youth director, (not shown) baptized Kim, his daughter.

Praise and Worship at 11:30. Services are held at the Redmond Presbyterian Church, 10020 166th Ave. NE, Redmond, Wash. For information by phone, call (206) 868-6752.

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**Goody Goodies in Shelton**

Thirty-eight children registered for "Kids In The Kitchen" activities at the Shelton, Wash., vacation Bible school in August. Shown are juniors in the kitchen making peanut butter balls. Shown, left to right, are Josh Martin, Dominic Josephsen, Samuel Shoemaker, Chef Don Delano, Justin Baze, Kevin Bookter, Alisa Martin, Riskel Kidd, Melissa Coleman, Regina Kidd, Jacob Josephsen and Michael Shoemaker. The children created a different "goody" each day of the week and especially enjoyed sampling them. The children also learned about taking care of their bodies and eating properly. Special thanks is given to co-directors Kim Hoskins and Arnita Vickery as well as staff members Mavis Groves, Louise Jensen, Mary Jensen and Mary Aaron, kindergarten; Winnetta Martin and Wanda James, primary; and Margie LePique, Betty Landis and Aimee McHenry, juniors. The kitchen was manned by Don Delano, chef, assisted by Les Rogers, Victoria Shoemaker and Alisa Martin. Special thanks also goes to Herb Baze, recreation, and Alisa Martin, Aimee Josephsen and Louise Jensen for registration help. Pastor Tom James led out with the theme story each day.

*Dorothy Nicholson*



**Baptized in Bremerton**

Mary Bodonia is baptized by Pastor Gary Fogelquist in the Bremerton, Wash., church. She is now on her way to the Philippines. Others baptized recently in Bremerton are Bill and Radame Correa, James Davis and Matthew Rickaby and Brennen Frazier.

*Sandra Blank*

**Larry Zuchowski in Russia  
For Evangelistic Crusade**

Larry Zuchowski, pastor of the Puyallup and North Hill, Wash., churches, left for Russia on Sept. 23 to conduct a two-month evangelistic series. He returns Nov. 23.

He is presenting two meetings a night,

five nights a week, in Serpukhov, a city of 60,000 population outside Moscow.

"This is one of the most important events of my ministry," Zuchowski said. "The opportunity to present the gospel to people who have been denied religious freedom is an exciting prospect."

The meetings began Oct. 2 in "Lenin's Palace of Culture," a hall that seats approximately 800.

Entitled "The Bible Way to New Life," the series will focus on God's love in the context of the struggle between Christ and the forces of evil, Zuchowski said. The intent of the meetings is to offer hope to the people, he added.

The meetings will double as a training session for about 20 Russian Adventist seminary students who have had little-to-no experience conducting evangelistic crusades. The students will assist Zuchowski in nearly all aspects of the meetings, including special music. They also will present health and baptismal classes. One of the students will serve as Zuchowski's translator.

Puyallup and North Hill church members have donated more than \$21,000 for the mission. The Women in God's Service (WINGS) organization of Puyallup has raised more than \$800 to purchase Bibles.

Any monies left over after general meeting costs may go toward establishing a church building in Serpukhov. The town has a core of 17 newly baptized Adventists.

*Jennifer Wynn*



Lenard Jaecks, right, Washington Conference president, wishes Pastor Larry Zuchowski a fruitful mission trip. Zuchowski is conducting a two-month evangelistic series in the city of Serpukhov, Russia.



### Just Say "Uncle"

Jason Billingsley, left, an Auburn Adventist Academy sophomore from Bellevue, Wash., accompanied the Washington State Republican delegation to national convention this summer as an assistant organizer. He traveled to Houston prior to the convention to assist with campaign signs, meet organizers and become familiar with various areas of convention operation. Jason was invited to Houston for the convention after two months of work as a volunteer for the Washington Republican Headquarters in Bellevue.

Janet Neumann

## Hundred-Year-Old Prayer Answered By 12-Year-Old

Rachel Miller, age 12, of Chehalis, Wash., recently accompanied her parents, Harley, M.D., and Sharon Miller to the Ukraine to take part in an evangelistic crusade headed by Lonnie Melaschenko, speaker-elect of the Voice of Prophecy radio program. The nightly meetings were held in the Hall of Culture in the western city of Borislav.

Rachel assisted a Ukrainian pastor's wife with the children's meetings while her parents spoke to adults. Usually there were several hundreds of children in attendance. During her stay she made friends with Olena Kretschmar, 13, granddaughter of Nickolai Zhukuluk, Ukrainian Union president. Olena acted as Rachel's translator, and together they helped the children learn songs in English.

In addition to helping with the meetings, she also witnessed a baptism of young Ukrainians, rode for 25 hours on a Russian train, flew on the Russian airlines, went sight-seeing in Moscow, visited a medical school and nursing institute and stayed with a Russian family in Zaoski where the Adventist seminary and printing press are located.

One of her most memorable adventures,

she says, was holding the reins and driving a horse-drawn Gypsy wagon in the Carpathian Mountains, not far from where her great-grandparents lived before they came to America about 100 year ago.

For the Millers, the journey to Russia fulfilled a wish of those same grandparents who, after coming to America and accepting the Adventist message, longed to share it with family and friends left behind in the "old country."

Other team members included Nick Trynchuk and wife of Delta, B.C.; Helmuth Fritz, M.D., and wife; and Simon Elloway, M.D., of Chehalis; Beverly Gildersleeve of Milton-Freewater, Ore., as well as the team leaders, Joe and Lonnie Melaschenko and their wives from California.

Sharon Miller



Rachel Miller and Olena Kretschmar, holding microphone, lead the singing for children in Borislav, Ukraine.



Rachel Miller, center, makes friends with Sophia and Vera.

## Nomadic West Seattle Members Home at Last

After eight moves and nearly 10 years of praying for a permanent church building, members of the West Seattle Church at last can worship in a facility of their own.

The saga of the West Seattle Church

began about 12 years ago when Farris and Laurice Bishai, members of the Seward Park Church in Seattle, recognized that more than 100,000 people in the West Seattle area had no Seventh-day Adventist presence.

They brought this to the attention of Lenard Jaecks, then Washington Conference ministerial director, and offered their support for a church in West Seattle.

True to their word, in the years to come, they helped in the development of the West Seattle congregation. The first assigned pastor was Terry Mason, and the congregation met in his home, affectionately called "the little cathedral."

But the need for a permanent church was evident, and so began a long journey to a succession of rented churches. In the third rented church, Merle Smith, a Nazarene pastor, and his wife Lois were baptized.

A milestone in the history of the congregation was the granting of fully-organized churchhood during the pastorate of Hal Gates, successor to Mason. But a permanent place eluded them.

In June, 1990, Pastor Terry Campbell arrived to lead the well-traveled congregation. It was hoped that the search for a permanent home would soon be over. But only recently, after nearly two more years, much prayer, searching and many creative financial ventures with the conference committee—and three more moves—has the West Seattle Church found a home.

On Sabbath, April 25, after nearly 10 years and eight moves, the well-traveled congregation worshipped for the first time in its own facility at 7901 35th Avenue SW in West Seattle.

The occasion was commemorated with a special sermon by Pastor Campbell, "Home or House?" Special recognition was given to a Kent Church member who had donated a grand piano. Also received was a maazuzah containing a Jewish blessing for the pastor's office given by Diane and Shay Suckerman.

The West Seattle Church has a home at last.

## AAA Opens School Year 389 Students, Added Staff

Auburn Adventist Academy opened its doors on Aug. 31 to 389 students from 12 U.S. states, Canada, Europe, Asia, South America and the Marshall Islands. Five new employees have joined the staff.

Amy Worrell is the director of a new AAA Department of Development. A 1992 graduate of Walla Walla College, she brings experience in fund raising from her work at Walla Walla General Hospital in Walla Walla, Wash., and Kettering Medical Center, Kettering, Ohio.

The new assistant director of food service

# ADVENTIST HEALTH SYSTEM/WEST

## General Hospital Selects Social Services Director

Walla Walla General Hospital in Walla Walla, Wash., has named Sharon Pittman as director of social services.

Pittman will coordinate the Social Services Department of the hospital while serving, as well, as an assistant professor in the Department of Social Work and Soci-

ology at Walla Walla College.

Pittman has experience in coordinating community-based health care, and has worked with information and referral networks.

She is currently completing her doctoral degree at the University of Illinois. She holds a masters degree in social work from the University of Missouri, in Columbia, Mo.

*Samuel Gramlich*

## GENERAL NEWS

### Union Committee Begins New Outreach Initiatives

*Operation Bearhug* outreach to Russia and a planned, redemptive effort to reach former Adventists were discussed both in broad and specific terms at the Sept. 10 North Pacific Union Conference Executive Committee meeting.

Sensing that a new phase of need has developed in Russia, the committee voted to create and fund an ongoing Church Leadership Development Institute to operate within Russia for the equipping, assimilating, discipling and training of new members for ministry.

Thousands of new converts have been baptized as a result of *Operation Bearhug*, a union-to-union support relationship established between the Russian Union and the North Pacific Union Conference in 1990, said Alf Birch, NPUC coordinator.

The establishment of a new phase of ministry is now needed, whereby *Operation Bearhug* will serve to help lay members become active missionary and nurturing agents among new converts, even as evangelism continues while the windows of freedom remain ajar, he said.

Erich Baumgartner, Ph.D., a pastor and theologian of Austrian descent who has presented a plan for rapid mobilization of lay missionaries and the establishment of many small churches in Russia, will spearhead this work in cooperation with the Russian Union for the creation of a Church Leadership Development Institute in Russia.

### Redeeming Unchurched

In another action, Bruce Johnston presented a concept entitled "Rejoice with Me,"

an allusion to the redemptive outreach of the Good Shepherd in the Bible's Parable of the Lost Sheep. The redemptive outreach toward the unchurched should take on extremely high priority in 1993 and "not just in 1993, but until the Lord comes," Johnston said.

A "Rejoice with Me" plan of action will be detailed more thoroughly in the Nov. 16 issue of the GLEANER.

### Radio Satellite

In further development of a plan to place radio programming on satellite suitable for replay by Adventist/Christian stations, the committee voted creation of a Northwest Satellite Uplink Board which will include among its voting membership a representative from each radio-broadcasting entity in the Northwest with an interest in supplying or rebroadcasting programming of value in outreach ministries. Also established was an operating board, a smaller group consisting of Ed Schwisow, Kevin Krueger, Al McDowell and Robert Rawson, with responsibilities for operating the satellite uplink on a day-to-day basis.

In a separate action, Al McDowell of College Place, Wash., was formally named director of development for the project. Those wishing to learn more about the mission, plan of action and applicability of satellite rebroadcasting to specific church scenarios should contact Ed Schwisow or Al McDowell for information.

"The intent of the downlink is to make it possible for churches to rebroadcast top-quality material from any point in the Northwest at little or no daily expense to themselves," Schwisow says. "Our goal is to see results expressed in greater visibility for the congrega-

tion and greater opportunities for witnessing."

He noted that while the initial uplink will broadcast from the studios of KGTS at Walla Walla College in College Place, Wash., the philosophy of uplink programming will be clearly oriented toward building up local congregations.

"KGTS has tremendous resources, skills and a clear willingness to be part of this program," says McDowell. "But KGTS, while serving as the physical base of broadcasting, has its own mission statement. Our intent is to place on the air programming that will clearly and winsomely lead listeners to a closer relationship with the Lord and to an understanding of the three angels' messages, while also offering opportunities for listeners to contact local Seventh-day Adventists. This is our goal, and we need all the help we can get to bring this dream to fruition."

### GLEANER Finance

It was also voted to recommend that the GLEANER continue to be printed at Color Press in College Place, and that efficiencies be implemented to reduce annual subscription costs to conferences from \$8 to \$7. Subscription costs to individual subscribers will remain at \$10 each to allow for individualized account service.

### Next Scheduled Meeting

The next meeting of the North Pacific Union Conference Executive Committee is scheduled for Nov. 12, 8 a.m., in College Place at the Walla Walla College Alumni Center.

*Ed Schwisow*

## Adventists Continue Aid To Hurricane Victims

On Oct. 1, Phase II of the Adventist Community Services relief to Hurricane Andrew victims went into effect. Phase II of the relief effort includes a shift to provisioning of social services to families and individuals recovering from the storm and volunteer work crews helping in clean-up. Phase II is expected to last until December 31.

Sergio Torres has been appointed as director of Phase II. Torres has been a pastor in the Miami area and for the last seven years director of Adventist Youth Ministries for the greater Miami area. He and his family, residents of Homestead, Fla., lost their home in Hurricane Andrew.

Assisting Torres in Phase II is Ken Bryant, Florida Conference family life director; Elden Chalmer, an Adventist psychologist; Sylester Jackson, Southeastern Conference director of church ministries/family life; and Herman Mills, a retired counselor for the Southeastern Conference.



## Northwest Church, World Mission

# 'An Easier Way To Rouse the Soul'

By Alden Thompson

Nothing's easy, really. Easy jobs soon turn boring, at which time they become the hardest jobs on earth. A religious experience too easily won can fail in a crisis because it lacks muscle. And isn't it strange how the easy life finds it so hard to make life easy for those who really have it hard?

Sensing the dangers of the easy life, some good folk slip to an extreme and make everything hard. Don't make the house too comfortable, your clothes too nice or your food taste too good. Work in a little pain here and there to keep spiritual-ly awake. . . .

Jesus' parable of the sheep and the goats (Matthew 25:31-46) is a helpful corrective. Typically we read the parable to define our responsibility. And that's important. But it also gives Jesus' goal for humanity, His view of the good life. "I want a world," He says, "without hunger or thirst, where everyone has clothes and no one feels lonely or unwelcome, and where all the sick and imprisoned are visited by real people."

Now, after all that effort to make people comfortable, isn't it strange to turn around and say we have to enjoy misery in order to belong to God's kingdom of comfort? Still, misery-loving Christians do preserve a trace of genuine intuition when they sense the dangers lurking in the easy life.

In our culture, the "ideal" life is often linked with wealth. "If only we had more money," we think. To be sure, poor people may be unhappy. But the rich are no paragons of joy and their ties to the church often seem loose.

An Adventist education, supported by the prayers and sacrifices of God-fearing people, allows our young people to get rich so they don't need the church anymore. . . or so it appears.

The problem is not new, however, nor unique to Adventists. John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, put his finger squarely on the puzzle: "I fear, wherever riches have increased, the essence of religion has decreased in the same proportion. Therefore I do not see how it is possible, in the nature of things, for any revival of true religion to continue long. For religion must necessarily produce both industry and frugality, and these cannot but produce riches. But as riches increase, so will pride, anger,

and love of the world in all its branches."<sup>1</sup>

So what's the easy way to rouse the soul? The hard way is through trouble and persecution, and it works. But why make it hard when so much evidence points to an easier way? We don't need trouble; we can reach out and help those already in trouble.

Who is blessed by *Operation Bearhug*? The Russians, we hope. But look at what's happening here in the Northwest. Bruce Johnston, North Pacific Union Conference president, notes that *Bearhug* has revitalized Adventists of every kind, those with money and those without, those with much education and those with little, professional people, skilled trades people, ordinary people. We've all been blessed. Sharing with those in need is the "easy" way to spiritual life.

It may be hard in the sense that we get by with less. But grateful smiles, flickers of renewed hope, warm handclaps and tears of joy make hard sacrifices easy again.

Another example: Who benefits from the student missionary program? Students come back from lands of poverty and need determined to live on less and to give their lives in service.

Miami and Los Angeles are part of the picture, too. Bailey Gillespie, professor of religion at La Sierra University and one of the active participants in the Valuegenesis study, was on our campus recently and reported how the decimation of our Miami schools by Hurricane Andrew has brought other Adventist schools to life in the South. Bus loads of kids have headed for Miami to extend a helping hand.

"We'll get some theology majors out of this," said Bailey. And he told how the riots in Los Angeles have had a similar effect. People with wealth and resources, people in otherwise comfortable surroundings, have been spurred into action by the specter of human need. Their souls have come alive.

I can't believe anyone likes to suffer. So why don't we take the "easy" way to spiritual life and reach out to those in need? Disasters (Miami and Los Angeles) or exciting opportunities (Russia) can show us the possibilities. But, as one of my colleagues asked, "Why haven't we put the same resources into our cities that we are sending to Russia?"

Good question. But we don't even need to go to Russia or a big city. Crying needs

Alden Thompson



are right next door. Some months ago Roger Robbennolt, storyteller and a Congregational pastor from Walla Walla, Wash., told some of our students about Davis School. That's the College Place public school right across the street from Conard Hall on this campus.

"The incidence of trauma and abused children is higher there than anywhere in the valley," he said. And then he told us what happened one day during a storytelling visit at Davis.

As he walked through the cafeteria at lunch time, a little boy confronted him. "Storyteller," he said, looking up into Robbennolt's face, "did your Dad really beat up on you?"

"Yes he did," answered Robbennolt.

"But I betcha this never happened to you," returned the youngster. Rolling up his sleeve, he pointed to a line of nine, evenly-spaced, round burns on his little arm — cigarette burns, compliments of his own mother.

"I had to leave home," said the boy. "But my social worker thinks I might be able to go back if I'm careful."

He paused, then looked up once more into Robbennolt's face. "Storyteller," he said, "can you give me a hug?"

"Of course," said Roger. He bent down and wrapped his huge arms around the little boy.

Then it happened. As if drawn by a magnet, youngsters from all over that cafeteria streamed in to join the hug—a huge, communal hug. Everyone put their arms around everyone; everyone hugged for a few precious moments. Then it was over. The kids went back to eating.

The kids in our town need hugs. Can you imagine what would happen if we could give them? ➔

Alden Thompson writes Northwest Church, World Mission from College Place, Wash., where he is professor of biblical studies at Walla Walla College.

<sup>1</sup> *Southey's Life of Wesley*, second American ed., II, p. 308; cited by Max Weber, *Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*, Scribner ed., 1958, p. 175.

# CONFERENCE NEWS

## ALASKA



### Sitka Evangelism

Although evangelistic meetings in Sitka, Alaska, were held a year ago, results continue. After careful consideration of church teachings as presented by Evangelist Leo Schreven, last year, Ralph Junker, shown above, right, with Pastor Wendell Downs, was baptized. Edgar Arquero (not shown) was baptized last year following the same meetings and since that time has given studies to his wife who has been in the Philippines. After several years of effort to obtain entry into this country, the Arqueros were finally rewarded by her arrival in Alaska where she has been baptized.

Judy Wahlman

### Russian Musician Hosted In Northside Concert

The Northside Church in Anchorage, Alaska, recently hosted Alexander



Sasha Shpak

(Sasha) Shpak, an Adventist musician from Providenia, Russia.

Sasha, 21, played an accordion-like instrument known as a bayan during the hour-long recital and interpreted a variety of music, including works by Bach, several hymns and compositions written specifically for the bayan.

The bayan, a popular European instrument, has the same complexity and structural format as an organ (and sounds much like a small pipe organ), but instead of keys, has buttons (64 on the right and 120 on the left). The instrument was first made in 1928.

Sasha studies at the music conservatory in Vladivostock, Russia, and plays the viola and piano as well as the bayan. He was attracted to the Adventist church in Providenia by the warmth of the people and the atmosphere of worship. He was baptized in 1990.

He came to the United States this summer, hoping to play professionally in hotels, but discovered that labor laws stood in his way.

An offering was taken to help the musician return to Russia to continue his education.

Ron Rigby

## Hispanic Facilitator/ABC

By James L. Stevens

Lee-Roy Chacon has accepted the Alaska Conference invitation to become the associate manager of the Adventist Book Center in Anchorage, Alaska, and to facilitate Spanish-language evangelism in Alaska, as well.

Chacon served as assistant treasurer in the Southern California Conference prior to coming to Alaska. He has a wide experience in Adventist Book Center work, as well as in conference-level accounting.

A New Mexico native, Chacon earned his bachelor's degree at Southwestern Adventist College, Keene, Tex., and master of divinity degree at Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Mich. He also holds an associate degree in business from New Mexico State University.

While serving as a student missionary in Bolivia, Chacon pastored four churches. In the Southern California Conference, where he began ministering in 1984, he pastored at the Spanish-American Church in Los Angeles and served most recently at the Benai Spanish Church as youth associate pastor.

Chacon and his wife, Nelva, were married in 1989. Nelva Chacon is a dentist

and hopes to practice dentistry in the United States.

The Alaska Conference is happy to welcome the Chacon family to ministry in Alaska.

James L. Stevens is president of the Alaska Conference and writes from Anchorage, Alaska.



Lee-Roy and Nelva Chacon

*This is what the Lord says — he who made you, who formed you in the womb, and who will help you: Do not be afraid.* Isaiah 44:2 NIV



### A Little Child Shall Lead

Heidi Nollan of Cathlamet, Wash., an 11-year-old sixth grader, junior deaconess and kindergarten-primary teacher, chose the Columbia River for her Sept. 5 baptism. Her church pastor, Willard Loewen, performed the service. Some 50 people attended the river-side baptism and potluck on her home property on the Columbia River.

*Debbie Nollan*



### Coquille Construction

More than 100 members of Maranatha Volunteers International swarmed the Coquille, Ore., church construction project in September to complete Phase II of a three-part building plan. In two weeks, MVI and local church members finished the siding, sheetrock and roofing. Delighted participants worshipped in the unfinished sanctuary the final Sabbath of MVI's endeavors. The five-acre site includes a previously constructed multi-purpose room with classrooms. The project is expected to be completed next spring.

*Helen R. Smith*

## UPPER COLUMBIA



### Devil Elbowed Away

Mark Pekar, pastor of the Osburn, Idaho, church, baptizes nine-year-old Jeremy J. Johnson in a local river during a recent church campout at Devil's Elbow Campground.

*Wayne Ketchum*



### Russian Physicians at WWGH

Two Russian physicians recently visited Walla Walla General Hospital in Walla Walla, Wash., to study the American health system. Shown above, left-to-right, are Peter Shookan, chief physician of a regional hospital in Magadan, Russia; Romeo Pavlic, M.D., chairman of the Heart Institute, Spokane, Wash.; Glyn Marsh, M.D., Clarkston, Wash.; Alexander Goncharov, director of Ministry of Health in Magadan and Jere Patzer, president of the Upper Columbia Conference. During their stay the doctors received medical supplies, practiced laser surgery and made arrangements to join the Adventist Health Systems/West purchasing network. According to Goncharov, Russian physicians are expected to be in full private practice by 1994. The group was hosted by Rodney Applegate, hospital administrator.

*Cindy Chamberlin*

## Yakima Radio Station Targets Talk Audience

"Hello, Yakima, this is KSOH Life Talk Radio, and I'm your host. . ."

Since March, a new Adventist radio station has been on the air in Yakima, Wash. Many are not aware, however, that the station has an unusual mission.

"God is calling Lifetalk Radio (LTR) to reach out through radio to people in their needs, hurts and concerns," reads the KSOH mission statement. "LTR is to bring hope, healing and lasting relationships with committed members of the Body of Christ. It is to couple broadcasting with the development of small support groups, led by believers specializing in specific areas of human need, skilled in leading men and women to Christ and the message of Christ's soon coming."

"As we planned for a radio format, we asked ourselves 'what kind of format would Christ use today, if He were on earth and ministering to men and women through radio?'" said Paul Moore, chairman of the KSOH board.

"We came to the conclusion that He would be involved in 'interactive talk radio,' reaching out to people where they were hurting to bring them healing." KSOH began when staff of KGTS, the Walla Walla College station, discovered the availability of a non-commercial FM frequency in Yakima.

Many in Yakima were excited by the possibilities, and within two months, all churches in the greater Yakima area, under the coordination of Bryce Pascoe, then Upper Columbia Conference Ministerial director, had voted to support the station as a means of proclamation.

KSOH broadcasts as far south as the Columbia River basin and east to College Place, Wash. It has a potential listening audience of 300,000.

Currently the station is airing "The Voice of Prophecy," "It is Written," "The Quiet Hour," and "The Hope Line" (a question-and-answer program with Bible instructor Edie Cain).

Programs under development include the following: "A New Song," devoted to new song writers and artists to debut new selections; "The Russian Story," a show featuring Russian guests or missionaries; "The Rocks Cry Out" on evidence from archeologists which supports scripture; and "To Your Total Health", a health lecture series conducted by Fred Hardinge of Total Health Lifestyle Center.

Also planned is a medical question-and-answer time with Jay Sloop, M.D. Sloop will seek to point out the spiritual

dimensions of physical needs; "Hope for the Family at Risk," with Pastor Bob Mix will focus on the needs of the family and home; "Ask the Pastor" a question-and-answer time with Lavern Tucker of the "Quiet Hour"; and "Adventist Health Advantage," a health presentation by

Alvin Adams.

KSOH has 14 volunteer broadcasters and is entirely non-commercial. For more information on the radio ministry and its plans, write KSOH, 1006 S. 10th St., Yakima, Wash. 98901.

*Cindy Chamberlin*

## Quality 'Training' Right On Track in Yakima

A seventh-and-eighth-grade instructor at Yakima Junior Academy in Yakima, Wash., says using model trains are "right on track" for helping with reading, writing and arithmetic.

Howard Munson says he tries to use his classroom-based Cherry Valley Pacific Railroad for at least one subject per year.

"The trains incorporate the use of students' hands along with their brains," says Munson. "The railroad has been an enjoyable way to teach my students."

This year the train is being used in mathematics. The curriculum includes calculating horsepower and ratios of cars to engines, figuring the actual number of cars and engines needed for a quantity of freight, totaling the insurance and finance charges of the cars and calculating total revenue for a supposed cargo.

"All factors are taken into account," says Munson. "If a student has an irresponsible wreck, he or she may not generate revenue on that run and his or her insurance must reflect that factor. If real-life costs change, so do the student's assets at the railroad."

The 12-ft.-by-10-ft.-by-12-ft. triangular scale railroad layout is also used to



An observant child "trains" at Yakima Valley Junior Academy.

teach principles of electricity, mechanics and the importance of accuracy and responsibility. At times it has been used as the basis for English assignments and decoration projects for art classes.

In 1985 Munson wrote a grant proposal requesting funds for the railroad project and was awarded \$475 from his teaching association. Since that time he has received newspaper and television coverage. The National Model Railroad Association has also asked him to design an educational program, and another school has expressed interest in using the same curriculum.

*Cindy Chamberlin*



The Cherry Valley Pacific Railroad

## President Delivers Medications to Russia

Rodney T. Applegate, president of Walla Walla General Hospital in Walla Walla, Wash., visited Magadan, Siberia, in early September to assist in providing medical services.

Applegate assessed medical needs during his visit and delivered needed supplies, as well, during his visit.

"The people are in dire need of medical supplies we find commonplace.

They have little or no supply of antibiotics, bandages and the simplest of equipment," says Applegate. "There are rumors of surgeries being done without anesthesia, for example."

Applegate coordinated his visit with the Upper Columbia Conference, which is also assisting in providing medical care for Magadan. About 240,000 people live in the region.

Funding for supplies has been provided by the hospital, and by its physicians and staff.



Rodney T. Applegate

# GENERAL NEWS

## You and Your Trust Services

### Understanding Living Trusts — Part I

By Leonard L. Ayers

#### WHAT IS A LIVING TRUST? (Inter-Vivos Trust)

A Living Trust is a legal document that looks a lot like a Will. In fact, it does what most people think a Will does—and much more. Because there is no probate with a Living Trust, all expensive court proceedings and delays are eliminated, your privacy is preserved, and emotional stress on your family is minimized. It can reduce/eliminate estate taxes, is extremely hard to contest, and even provides very effective pre-nuptial protection.

#### WHO SHOULD HAVE A LIVING TRUST?

Not everyone needs a Living Trust, however, married or single, old or young, just about everyone can benefit from a Living Trust, especially if you have chil-

dren (even more so if you are a single parent) or own any titled property. If you want to make sure your loved ones (spouse, children or parent) will be spared from probate if something happens to you, you should have a Living Trust.

#### HOW DOES A LIVING TRUST AVOID PROBATE?

When you set up a Living Trust, you transfer all of your property from your individual name to the name of a trustee, such as the North Pacific Union, or if it is to be a self-administered trust, the transfer would be, for example, from "John and Mary Jones, husband and wife" to "John and Mary Jones, Trustee, under Trust Agreement dated 1/1/92."

#### SHOULD I BE THE TRUSTEE OF A SELF ADMINISTERED TRUST?

If you are prone to procrastinate—NO! Most individuals tend to let things

slide and should not attempt to serve as their own trustee. Remember: For the trust to be effective, you must transfer your assets from yourself as the individual to yourself as the trustee. Unless you are a good business manager it is better to have someone else, such as conference trust services, be your trustee.

For more information you may contact your local conference trust services department or the Trust Services of the North Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

*Leonard Ayers is director of trust services for the North Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.*

See Part II in the Next Issue of the GLEANER



North Pacific Union Conference Association  
P.O. Box 16677, Portland, Oregon 97216

## News Briefs

**Lifestyle Magazine Changes in Seattle:** Due to channel realignment on the Seattle Video Program Network cable system, Lifestyle Magazine is now seen on cable channel 18 instead of channel 61, Sundays at 11:00 a.m. In addition, Lifestyle Magazine is now shown in Seattle on channel 34 at 9:30 p.m., Sundays. These station and air time changes became effective July 5, 1992.

**ADRA Volunteers Touch Lives Around the World:** Volunteers from six Adventist colleges in North America, a school in Germany, and the Loma Linda University Church spent several weeks this summer working on overseas projects for the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA). Four of the volunteer groups focused on water projects in the Far East, including Walla Walla College students who installed a water system for a village in Borneo. Three building projects

were also completed by the volunteer groups. One group taught health and agriculture classes at one of ADRA's child survival projects.

*Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord Almighty — you will succeed because of my Spirit, though you are few and weak.*

Zechariah 4:6 TLB

Rejoice with Me!

## It's Homecoming Time

By Bruce Johnston

A recent open letter to the GLEANER ("A Rechurched Adventist Speaks Out", Oct. 19) sums up what it will take to welcome home the unchurched Adventist.

By "unchurched Adventist" I refer primarily to one who holds membership in the Adventist church but does not now attend. To these, as well as to former members, the church must reach out with the same compassion that Jesus, the Good Shepherd, would show if He were here in person.

In the letter, the author, a woman, recounts how the family had stopped attending church after the birth of their third child, at a time when she was not doing well physically. The writer, who wishes not to be identified, expresses the pain they felt when their "friends" in the church did not continue to include them in activities; that even short, friendly visits seemed too much for these "friends."

The author fixes no blame. She holds no hard feelings toward anyone. "I guess people, with their busy schedules," she writes, "don't realize how important a short visit or phone call is; but it means all the world to the person who has quit going to church."

I am so thankful that this family has come home! They realized that having a good relationship with the Lord at home was not enough; they needed the church also.

I could not appeal to our Northwest members in words better chosen than those of the writer herself: "We want to do what we can where we are and make sure the members of our church feel like they are a part of a loving, caring family. At the same time, we want to begin befriending the people that have quit coming to church. Obviously we can't be everywhere and do everything, but we believe that we can make a difference. And if each church member would do the same, just imagine what would happen!"

We can make a difference! We can. We must. The hour is late. When I say that, I hope you will not think that I am using a tired cliché or attempting to frighten anyone into action. It is true. We are in the end time. Before Jesus comes there will be an awakening in the church. There will be a renewing of our walk with the Lord. There will be an earnestness to invite home those who once walked with us but for a time have drifted away. And there will be the same earnestness to reach out to those who have never walked with us. Why not now?

*Operation Bearhug*, our sister relationship with the Russian Union of Seventh-day Adventists, has been one of the most exciting adventures ever for us here in the Northwest. This last summer alone there have been more than 150 Northwest Ad-

ventists who have paid their own way to Russia to be a part of one of the greatest harvests of souls the church has ever witnessed.

Everyone I talk to says that is was for them a life-changing experience. I know, for I too have been there to help bring in the harvest. I have never witnessed anything like it in all my years of ministry. Those who return from Russia are excited, and that enthusiasm is contagious!

On one of the rare occasions I have had to attend Sabbath school in my home church, the subject of evangelism in Russia came up. Someone said: "This is the most exciting thing that has ever happened. The Holy Spirit is working in such a powerful way. Why don't we see miracles happen here?"

Then Sandy spoke up (you need to know that Sandy is a precious, committed, whole-souled Christian): "We need to get off our hands and get to work so the Holy Spirit can use us. Do you know what I think? I think Jesus is going to come and all those people over there are going to go to heaven with Him and we'll just be left sitting here!"

I replied, "I don't agree with Sandy's theology but I agree with her enthusiasm to let the Holy Spirit use us as powerfully here at home."

We are beginning to experience what Ellen White called the "reflex influence." Listen: "The home-missionary work will be farther advanced in every way when a more liberal, self-denying, self-sacrificing spirit is manifested for the prosperity of foreign missions; for the prosperity of the home work depends largely, under God, upon the reflex influence of the evangelical work done in countries afar off. It is in working actively to supply the necessities of the cause of God that we bring our souls in touch with the Source of all power" (6 *Testimonies*, 27).

While we are thinking and praying about the wonderful things that are happening in Russia and many other parts of the world, let's let the miracles happen here as well. The same Holy Spirit is available to us here when we make ourselves available to Him. Let's do it. Let the miracles begin!

Mark Finley, speaker for the It Is Written telecast, makes this appeal: "I have a dream that every Seventh-day Adventist church become a caring center of redemptive love, driven by a passionate, all-consuming desire to win lost men and women for Jesus Christ, reaching out wholesomely, touching lives, sharing burdens, meeting needs, helping, assisting, caring, sharing, all for Jesus' sake."

I share his dream. Let's be that caring center of redemptive love. Let's practice it on each other in the church. Remember that each of the "unchurched" Adventists was once a "churched" Adventist. Is it pos-



Bruce Johnston

sible that they may be unchurched today because they did not experience God's unconditional love through us when they were with us? Let the caring and the inviting home begin now.

What rejoicing there will be when we see them returning. We can join the Good Shepherd who said, "Rejoice with Me, I have found My lost sheep." And in so doing, we find ourselves. 

Bruce Johnston is president of the North Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and writes from Portland, Ore.



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## LETTERS

Letters to the GLEANER editor are welcome. Letters must be signed and should not exceed 150 words in length. Letter writers are urged to limit their letters to commentary on editorial matter appearing in this journal, and should specifically refer to the issue date and article in question. Priority will be given to letters received by the editor within 45 days of the cover date of issue in question. Letters which direct personal criticism at individuals will not be printed; conversely, letters which promote a person by name or description for gratuitous praise will be declined for publication. Highest priority will be given to letters which add information and commentary, pro and con, to material appearing in this journal. Address letters to Editor, Box 16677, Portland, OR 97216-0677.

### A Time to Revalue

I have appreciated the tone and honesty of your editorials, in particular the Sept. 7 issue on the writings of Mrs. [Ellen] White.

Nine years ago when I became an Adventist. I was amazed and thrilled to discover that she wasn't anything like she had been portrayed by Adventist relatives while growing up.

It's refreshing to hear such direct honesty and a call to revalue the gift the Lord gave us for the very times in which we are living.

Corrine Ramirez  
Boring, Ore.

### Wooded by Spirit

Your editorial of Sept. 21 was a stroke of genius. If we as so-called Christians would spend even a fraction of time we spend criticizing (the church leaders, our own church family, etc) on our knees or in our hearts praying for the "logs" to be removed from our own eyes and for the perceived wrongdoers, what a difference would be seen by others in our Adventist community! . . .

I really appreciate the GLEANER. . . .

The reports from Russia and even locally, like the C.D. Brooks' effort in Seattle, are heartwarming, showing the Spirit is still among us, wooing us to Heaven.

Jean Glassford  
Roseburg, Ore.

### Clearly (E)stated

I have just been reading the Sept. 7 issue of the North Pacific Union GLEANER. I appreciate your editorial regarding Ellen White's writings. Thank you for your clearly stated position and for your voice of affirmation.

## Let's Shout It From the Stars!

By Al McDowell

The North Pacific Union Conference Executive Committee has voted to place a satellite uplink station at Walla Walla College in College Place, Wash. It's a bold move. But what does it mean?

At long last we will be able to reach people in dark counties who have not heard the Three Angel's Messages and bring encouragement to countless unchurched Seventh-day Adventists seeking a pathway home. That's the bottom line, but the story only gets better.

Its programming will be different from all other stations now broadcasting in the Northwest. The goal is to offer, through the united efforts of laymen, pastors, evangelists and radio professionals, a sound that truly represents the high standards of outreach we all envision for the church.

This means that stations such as KSOH in Yakima, Wash., could feed parts of their "LifeTalk" programming into the satellite uplink for rebroadcast throughout the Northwest. Likewise, KGTS in College Place, Wash., can provide select programming.

This top-quality radio programming will be beamed from the Northwest for rebroadcast from ANYWHERE in the

Northwest and many points beyond. The cost of programming for a station is often prohibitive. But using a satellite feed, we can accumulate the best programming and provide it for an unlimited number of stations in perfect fidelity.

For years, our Adventist people from across the nation, but particularly in the Northwest with its vast, lonely spaces, and ample opportunity for small broadcasting stations, have been asking me, "When will we be able to rebroadcast in our communities from satellite?"

Next issue, I'll share more about how YOU can add your voice as we take this message and "Shout it from the stars" night and day to the millions of day and nighttime radio listeners who simply are not being reached by television and other outreach approaches. The message now can, and will, be delivered to them in a powerful way. 

Al McDowell is director of development for this satellite ministry and writes from College Place, Wash. For more information on this project, write "Satellite Uplink," North Pacific Union Conference, Box 16677, Portland, OR 97216-0677. By his own request, Al McDowell receives no compensation for his work on this self-funding project.

I also appreciated the article by Alden Thompson, "Why I Like Ellen White." I believe both of these statements are positive and very helpful. Thank you for including them.

Paul A. Gordon, Secretary  
Ellen G. White Estate  
Silver Spring, Md.

### Float Not for Hungry

Your Oct. 19 issue shows on the back cover that (the Tournament of Roses float) will cost ONLY \$225,000. If this is not one of most disgusting things I have ever heard, it certainly ranks in the top three.

You are probably right, there will probably be 400 million people around the world watching. However, you can be assured that it will not be the homeless of this country or

those starving in third world countries.

Yes the cost of the float may break down to about half a cent per person, but when you consider the one or two minutes maximum the float will be seen on television, then the \$225,000 takes on a new meaning.

I believe that if you are really concerned about reaching people, you should set up a fund, (starting with the \$225,000), that will directly help the homeless, the unemployed and the hungry. I know that amount will not solve all the problems, but it will certainly have a direct impact.

Frank Herrera  
Walla Walla, Wash.

 The Seventh-day Adventist Church is a world church, extremely active in world development and hunger relief, but also conscious of those whose attention is much more dearly earned through name repetition. It is the duty of organized minds in an organized church to balance our outreach in God-inspired ways. The decision to sponsor the float was made by the same leaders who help spend millions for relieving hunger worldwide. Their decisions may be challenged, but their vantage as overseers of outreach must be respected. May God grant us means and miracles to do more than we have for the starving millions, even as we seek to acquaint all mankind with the mission and ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. E.S.

## ABOUT THE COVER

"Golden Wings," the cover scene for the Nov. 16, 1992, GLEANER, was shot at Cannon Beach, Ore., by Marettta Kandoll of Vancouver, Wash. Kandoll says she is a full-time mother of two and a part-time medical secretary at Portland Adventist Medical Center. For this photo she used a Canon FTb camera with Kodachrome 64 film.

## WASHINGTON

## Washington Conference Advance



## I Want to Do My Part

By Roy A. Wesson

"Roy, look at this cover of the Sept. 21, GLEANER."

"Quite a picture, isn't it, of these three white geese. I believe they call it, 'Three of a Kind'. I really appreciate the covers on our GLEANER, don't you?"

"Yes, the covers are really great, but so is the information inside. Did you read the article by the editor, Ed Schwisow, 'The Tare-Filled Truth About the Church'? I thought that he hit a home run on that one."

"Right, he tells it like it is. I also really appreciated the article, 'We Don't Have to Go to Russia; We Can Help It Happen Here'. C. D. Brooks is a powerful preacher and the Lord blessed in the meetings he held here in Seattle."

"Roy, I believe that the GLEANER is really a great church paper and I look for-

ward to receiving it each time. I want to thank the Washington Conference for making it possible for me to receive the GLEANER."

"I'm glad to hear that, in fact, you may be the only person who has said, 'thank you' directly to me. Yes, the Conference sends the GLEANER to every member. Of course only one subscription is provided for each family unit or address. This year it costs the Conference \$8 for each family unit. So you can see that with between 7,000 to 8,000 subscriptions for a membership of over 14,000 is a lot of money."

"Now you told me that we do not take a special offering for the GLEANER, but is it part of the WASHINGTON CONFERENCE ADVANCE offering?"

"Yes, that is correct."

"So when I give to WASHINGTON CONFERENCE ADVANCE, I am helping to share in the cost of providing the

GLEANER. For such a great magazine, I want to do my part in helping to keep the GLEANER coming in my mail."

How about you, friend? Do you appreciate the GLEANER coming in your mail? Are you helping to support the cost of this magazine?

Ramona and I want to thank those who are supporting WASHINGTON CONFERENCE ADVANCE on a regular basis and to encourage more of you to join with us.

Will you not pray to the Lord each payday and ask Him how He wants you to spend your funds and how much you should give to Him in tithe, church offerings and WASHINGTON CONFERENCE ADVANCE? If you do this, He will guide you.

*Roy A. Wesson is treasurer of the Washington Conference. He and Ramona, his wife, live in Bothell, Wash.*

## Shelton School Welcomes Radke and Gregston

A new staff of teachers has joined the Shelton Valley Adventist School in Washington for the 1992-1993 school year.

Janis Gregston teaches grades five through eight and serves as principal. She comes to Shelton from Charleston, S.C.

She grew up on the peninsula of Michigan and received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich. She has taught school in Michigan, Iowa, Texas, Kentucky and South Carolina. Her husband, Alton, works at the naval shipyard in Bremerton, Wash., in civil service.

The new principal enjoys vegetarian cooking, reading and travel. Her husband enjoys gardening and is eager to complete the landscaping of their new home.

Allen Radke, who teaches the lower four grades, has moved to Shelton with his wife Shirley and their children from Spanaway, Wash.

Radke was a coach in the Portland, Ore., public schools between 1972 and 1978 before become a publishing representative for the church as a literature evangelist and, later, as a publishing leader in the states of Oregon and Washington.

Armed with a rich experience in teaching and ministry, Radke returns to school



The Allen Radke Family

teaching after spending most of the past summer in study at Walla Walla College in College Place, Wash. Radke holds a Masters in Education degree from Portland State University.

Radke is an athlete, a camper and enjoys books. His wife Shirley is a dental assistant in Tacoma, Wash., and shares her husband's interests in addition to sewing. They have four children: Clay, 12; Will, 10; Joel,



Janis Gregston

9; and Ana, 7. All will be attending the Shelton Valley Adventist School.

*Dorothy Nicholson*

## Samoans' Prayers Honored As New Company Forms

The dream of forming a Samoan congregation in the Seattle area began about 10 years ago when many new Samoan families came into the region.

The journey to that dream was launched at the Seward Park Church and then moved to the West Seattle congregation.

When the Ieti Faletofo family joined

# GENERAL NEWS

## You and Your Trust Services

### Understanding Living Trusts — Part II



By Leonard L. Ayers

#### Doesn't Joint Ownership Avoid Probate?

Not really—it usually just postpones it. When one of the joint owners dies, ownership WILL transfer to the other without probate. But when the “second” owner dies, or if both should die at the same time, the property must be probated before it can go to the heirs.

Watch out for other risks too. When you add someone as a co-owner of your property, you lose control. You expose it to the owner's debts. Also, you need your co-owner's signature to sell or refinance, and if he/she is incapacitated, you'll have to get approval from the probate court, even if the co-owner is your spouse.

#### Is It Hard to Transfer Property into Trusts?

No, and your attorney, trust officer or financial advisor should be able to help you. Make sure you change titles on all real estate (local and out-of-state) and other property with formal titles (check-

ing and savings accounts, stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit, insurance, mutual funds and so forth.) Most trust documents automatically include personal property without formal titles such as clothing, art and home furnishings.

#### Do I Lose Control of the Property in Trusts?

Absolutely not. You keep full control over your property as trustor. You can do everything you could do before—buy and sell property, make changes, even cancel your Trust at any time (remember, it is revocable). Nothing changes but the names on the titles.

#### Is a Living Trust Expensive?

Not when compared to the costs of probate. How much you pay will depend on how complicated your plan is, type and amount of your assets or if you need additional tax planning. Be sure to ask for an estimate in advance. If your Trust is written by your local conference Trust Department and a portion is given to the conference, there is no charge.

#### Should I Have an Attorney Do My Trust?

Absolutely—preferably one who specializes in Living Trusts. An experienced attorney can provide valuable guidance and assistance for your situation and assure that the legal documents are prepared properly. Avoid generic “do-it-yourself” kits and form books—they can't address every family's unique needs and are often over-simplified. All of our conferences use attorneys who are specialists in the preparation of Living Trusts.

For more information you may contact your local conference Trust Services or the Trust Services of the North Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

See Part III in the next issue of the GLEANER.

*Leonard L. Ayers is director of trust services for the North Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.*

**North Pacific Union Conference Association**  
**P.O. Box 16677, Portland, Oregon 97216**

## Newsbriefs

**Free Video on AIDS and the Adventist Church:** Faith For Today and the Adventist Development and Relief Agency have produced a video on AIDS and the Adventist Church. The video was released to be used in conjunction with World AIDS week in December. Statistics indicate that, on average, every congregation of 100, worldwide, will have at least one AIDS-affected member. Faith for Today and ADRA hope churches will view the video on Dec. 5, World AIDS Day. For a free copy of the video, call 1-800-424-ADRA.

**MEA and UCA Reach Alumni Giving Goals:** Upper Columbia Academy and Mount Ellis Academy were among 25 academies in North America which reached their donor and dollar goals for 1991-1992 in the Academy Alumni Advancement (AAA) Challenge. UCA, Spangle, Wash., alumni

raised \$33,935 with an average donation of \$53 with 23 percent of alumni contributing. With 35 percent of alumni giving an average gift of \$47, alumni from MEA, Bozeman, Mont., raised \$27,322. AAA is an incentive program to encourage academy alumni giving, with grants going to schools reaching their dollar and donor goals.

**General Conference Finances:** A year ago the GC showed a loss of US\$9 million, but the gain-to-date exceeds US \$4 million. Since the GC is operating on an expense cap voted in 1990, this increase has a direct impact on world mission operations. Despite worldwide recessionary pressure, tithe and mission offerings in overseas divisions (excluding NAD) dramatically increased 24 percent and 12 percent respectively in 1991. During the same period, tithe and offerings in North America increased 5.5 percent.

**World Health and Temperance Offering:** Dec. 12, 1992, has been set aside for the World Health and Temperance Day Offering. This offering is the lifeline of the Health and Temperance Department of your conference, union and division. Fifty percent of the offering will be retained by your conference and 15 percent by your union. These funds are needed to sustain the exciting anti-drug program called Adventist Youth to Youth.

**WWC Team Writes Book About Russian Coup:** “Operation Bearhug: A Coup of a Different Kind,” a book about the three evangelistic series held by a team from Walla Walla College, is now available in Adventist book centers. The authors, without knowing it, walked into the old-guard coup against democratic reforms sweeping over the former Soviet Union in 1991. The coup failed and

communism collapsed, but Christianity—a coup of a different kind—has only begun. All profits from the sale of the book are dedicated to ongoing *Operation Bearhug* projects.

**European Youths Attend Congress in Hungary:** For the first time since the fall of communism, more than 2,000 Adventist young people gathered in Budapest, Hungary, to attend a youth congress held last July. With the theme "Youth for a Better World," the Congress drew young people from 35 countries including, for the first time, several from Albania. Arpad Gonoz, president of Hungary, observed "that the congress motto expresses a valid ideal for the youth of Hungary and the whole world." The Hungarian government made financial travel grants for 100 Hungarian-speaking youth from Romania, the Trans-Carpathian region of the Ukraine, and the former Yugoslavia.

**Baptisms Result From Blind Camps:** During the 25th Anniversary of National Camps for Blind Children (NCBS) this summer, 13 blind or deaf campers were baptized and several more made commitments. NCBC is a free service operated by Christian Record Services of Lincoln, Neb. For more information, write CRS, 4444 South 52nd Street,

Lincoln, Neb. 68516.

**EGW Books Now on CD-ROM:** The Ellen G. White Estate reports that all of the published works of E.G. White are now available on CD-ROM. Future plans include releasing the unpublished material in the same format.

**Typhoon Brian Strikes Guam:** Typhoon Brian struck Guam on Oct. 21, hitting the southernmost part of the island. Packing 130-mile-per-hour winds, Typhoon Brian is the second typhoon to hit Guam in the last three months. There appears to be no damage to de-nominational properties except some damage sustained by the antenna of the Adventist-owned FM station. Still recovering from Typhoon Omar, AWR-Asia is back on the air with one transmitter. New transmitters are being shipped and the station is expecting to be at full broadcast power sometime this month.

**Little Damage From Egyptian Earthquake:** A devastating earthquake struck Cairo, Egypt, on Oct. 12. The church headquarters, large church and Zeitun School in Heliopolis and Nile Union Academy, Kalyobiah, were not damaged. In recent weeks, investigators found one church with slight damage. The one-minute earthquake hit 5.56 on the

Richter Scale and was felt 265 miles away in Jerusalem. Israel felt after-shocks measuring 4.3 and 3.7.

**Amazing Facts Aired on BET:** The Amazing Facts program is now being aired nationwide on the Black Entertainment Television cable network. The program, hosted by Joe Crews, can be seen every Wednesday at 8:00 a.m., EST.

## GLEANER Offering, Nov. 28

Throughout the North Pacific Union Conference, the Nov. 28 church offering time has been designated as an opportunity to remind readers that, while the GLEANER arrives at your home at no cost to you, the subscription is underwritten for you by your local conference treasury. The annual price for each conference-sponsored subscription is \$8. If this journal has been of value to you, and you wish to ensure its continued ministry in the Northwest, remember the GLEANER with a special gift Sabbath morning, Nov. 28.

*Ed Schwisow*

# Literature Evangelist Homecoming

By Mel Lyons

One night I dreamed that I went for a drive and found blue ribbons attached to the door fronts of various homes along the way.

"Those ribbons," I was told, "represent all of the people who have purchased books from colporteurs."

In some areas the ribbons were on the doors of every home for many blocks.

That's all I remember of the dream. But the fact is, if the ribbons really were to go up, there would be communities where the vast majority of the homes would be so bedecked. Generations of faithful Adventists have served in the literature ministry. The well-made books they sold are still out in those homes. They mark the good works of faithful workers.

The church owes an expression of gratitude to her many literature evangelists, past and present. As soldiers of the cross, they have steadily kept a stream of gospel literature moving into the homes of the public. The messages of these publications have already reached many

hearts while others will be taken from the shelves, we are told, and restudied as His coming draws near.

Perhaps you are a literature evangelist. Or perhaps you have at some time served in the literature ministry as a student, a regular or a part time worker. We want to thank you for your service, even if it was for a brief period. We feel that you deserve a blue ribbon. After all, the materials you placed in the homes are still out there witnessing.

So please watch the GLEANER for announcements of literature evangelist homecoming Sabbaths throughout the coming year. These meetings will be highlighted by special speakers, exciting updates on the progress of the literature ministry and lots of inspiring music. Couple this with the fellowship luncheons, the camaraderie of others who are interested in the ministry of the printed page and you will find Sabbath experiences to remember.

The first literature evangelist homecoming Sabbath is scheduled for this coming Dec. 5 at the Caldwell, Idaho, church.

## Literature Evangelist Homecoming Sabbath

Caldwell Adventist Church  
2106 E. Linden, Caldwell, ID

Sabbath School — 9:30 a.m.

Divine Worship — 11:00 a.m.

Fellowship Luncheon — 12:30 p.m.

Musical Recognition

Service — 2:00 p.m.

*Everyone Welcome*

William Hull will be host pastor. During Sabbath school, church and the meeting at 2:30 p.m., this exciting ministry will be featured. Everyone in the area is welcome to attend, and we would urge all those who have ever sold a book or a magazine to be sure not to miss this happy occasion.

*Mel Lyons is publishing director of the North Pacific Union Conference, and writes from Portland, Ore.*

## A Thanksgiving Message 'Thank You, Lord'

By Robert L. Rawson

How we neglect the gentler courtesies, the touch of empathy, the handclasp of reconciliation, the unexpected, "Thank You."

How dare we squander the blessings of fellowship so dearly purchased by our God and Master? And yet, as we do with our brothers and sisters, so often we take what He did for granted.

Thanking Jesus and those in His wedding party should be the essence, not only of our Thanksgiving, but of our lives.

Our reason for giving and forgiving.

"No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love Him" (1 Cor. 2:9 NIV).

We have been lavished so well. We have not only personal salvation but a support system, our church, our friends, our relatives, our sons, our daughters, and so many of us, now, grandchildren. Someone is ALWAYS there for us.

And yet, so often we telegraph messages that we're too busy to care, too busy to share. But I have found through my own experience, and yes, suffering, that many will open their arms if only we will share our burdens, open our souls. No, we are not alone here on earth. We have each other, and we have the Comforter.

As Thanksgiving, the day, approaches,

it's a blessing to reflect, not only on the good things, the good friends, the Lord entrusts to our keeping, but most of all on the Life he entrusted for our salvation.

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. (Philippians 4:6 NIV).

His benefits always overflow our needs, though at times the tempter may tell us that our granaries are empty and our reserves depleted.

But this is not the case in our lives, spiritually or financially. Our brethren in Russia, with so much less, praise the Lord because there still is simple food on the table.

"Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also," is not an indictment of the carnal heart; it's a statement of fact. God has granted us the means for expressing thanks for so great a salvation as He has given us spiritually.

The windows of opportunity remain open, amazingly and abundantly open. Our ministry to Russia, our outreach to our unchurched Adventist brethren, our evangelism even in the so-called "unproductive fields" of North America have astounded us with the blessings God will bestow when we invest without reservation in His cause.

God does not need our tithes and offer-

ings; His will can and will prevail, for we are but returning that which He already owns.

The NEED is ours—to throw in our lot with an eternal enterprise whose benefits know no end. I urge you this Thanksgiving to enter into this enterprise as you have never done before, returning to God that which your heart expresses, asserting your allegiance to the Eternal One.

The psalmist has aptly spoken, "Let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare His works with rejoicing (Psalm 107:22).

It's impossible to give to a God such as ours without a shout of rejoicing and victory. Thank God, the "window of opportunity" for our gifts remains open as surely as the windows of heaven to bless. Let us boldly move forward to the throne of grace with those tokens of thanksgiving. For with them, we will find ourselves giving more — even our very hearts.

And with our hearts securely in His care, we'll find time as never before for those gentler courtesies, the praise, the thanksgiving, the caring, that give us reason for having and BEING a church.

*Robert L. Rawson is treasurer of the North Pacific Union Conference and writes from Portland, Ore.*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## GLEANER Material

All GLEANER news except advertisements (see advertisement section) must be sent through your local conference communication director. The deadline schedule listed below is the date the information must reach the NPUC office.

Put your material in the mail one week before the date listed below so it will reach your conference office in time to process it.

### Deadline Schedule

Issue Date	Material Due at 11 a.m.
Jan. 4	Dec. 9
Jan. 18	Dec. 21*

\*Early due to Holiday

## IDAHO

### Members Sought

The McCall, Idaho, church is seeking to contact the following members; Dennis Portenier and Kevin Brown.

If you have any information concerning these members, please write Ruth Pickens, 11089 Twin View Rd, Cascade, Idaho, 83611, or phone (208) 382-4672.

## OREGON

### Sojourner Concert

You are invited to the Sojourners (including Val Devitt and Gene Syfert) 20-year reunion concert on Nov. 21, 7 p.m. at the Rockwood Church, 1910 SE 182 Avenue, Port-

land, Ore. On Dec. 5, 11 a.m., the trio will be at the Laurelwood, Ore., church.

### Christmas Musical

The annual Christmas musical/drama at the Hood View Church,

Boring, Ore., will be at 7 p.m., Friday, Dec. 11, and 11 a.m., Sabbath, Dec. 12. Featured will be prophecies foretelling the birth of Jesus and a variety of traditional and contemporary music by adult and children's choirs, handbell groups and brass ensemble.

## PEOPLE IN TRANSITION

### Correction

In the Nov. 2 issue, a transposed transition identified David and Jeanette Bissell as joining the Tabernacle Church pastorate in Portland, Ore., when, in fact, they have left that church and have entered private employment.

We regret, furthermore, the misspelling in the Nov. 2 issue of the

name of LeRoy Finck, newly-appointed field representative for the Oregon Conference Department of Trust Services.

**SIGNS  
CHANGES LIVES**

**Love Your Neighbor as Yourself!**

# On Christmas Cards and a Prayer Life

By Lillian Wysong

This year, we'll receive several hundred Christmas cards. We'll read them and then hang them on a string and fasten them to our walls around the ceiling as a decoration.

But that's only the beginning for these cards. They're going to bless us all year, long after they've come down from the walls.

Several years ago in the *Adventist Review*, an article told of a woman who put her Christmas cards to good use after Christmas. She placed them into a special box and drew out one each day during the year and prayed for the person or family. I liked the idea and decided to try it.

It has proven to be such a blessing to us as well as to those whose cards we

draw that it has become a part of our morning worship ever since, now, for 15 years.

Each morning I draw a card from our special card basket and we pray for that person or family, each by name. We also reread the card so that the news about them is again fresh in mind.

I also write a simple, personal letter to those for whom we've prayed, telling them that this has been their special day at our house and that they were remembered in our morning worship prayer and that they have been in our thoughts and prayers throughout that day. Sometimes I include special poems or quotes and often a picture of our family.

We've been amazed at the results. Many times something special happens

to them that day or perhaps the day my letter is received. One lady's life was spared when she became involved in an accident the day we prayed.

Sometimes when our friends have been too busy to get a Christmas card/letter sent on time, we receive one a month or two late just because they want to have their "special day at our house."

It does take extra time and effort. But it's a small sacrifice for the blessing of having a special time to pray for our friends and have them in our thoughts for a whole day. We've truly been blessed. ➔

Lillian Wysong writes from Battle Ground, Wash.



## Just Like Dad

By Robert L. Rawson

I'm sure God would love to "do it all" for us. He'd send down the angels, have them proclaim His love and judgment, and then take us all home.

The only catch is, we're too much "like Dad," our Father in heaven.

We grow best when we give best. We share best when we share value. We revel best when we revel in responsibility.

### The Will to Share

And so God, in His wisdom, asks of us only one thing: A willingness to be like Dad, a willingness to share.

*Operation Bearhug* has taught us a few things about the will to share. When we're sharing from our hearts—for special people with special needs—our giving becomes passionate, just like Dad's.

Like our Father in Heaven, we continue to shower "rain and sunshine" on others, through the church, by our regular tithes and offerings. And that's good, says the Bible. It's one way we become more like Dad.

### Latter-Rain Giving

But as we now reflect in the Christmas spirit, special things are happening. We're surrounded—engulfed—by the latter rain of His Spirit.

God is showing us the Spirit of true giving, now as never before. What better

time to renew our covenant to return a complete and unstinting tithe of our increase? The promise holds: Those who give and those for whom it is given will be blessed.

Have we remembered as we should the local storehouse, the community house of refuge? NOW is the time to reset priorities.

Could we have done more to open new ministries by giving for our local conference and world church needs? God is showering us with opportunities; let's take them while time remains.

### Changed by Beholding

"By beholding we become changed." We cannot remain unmoved as we count His blessings and stand amazed at His Spirit.

God, who knows the times and the seasons, has shown us the way. His giving has been unmeasurable, unfathomable, beyond expectation.

We stand amazed. And in our hearts, a childhood message from Scripture is heard: "Freely ye have received, freely give."

The impulse to give is reborn. We want to give freely and without restraint. We want to give in a spirit "just like Dad's." ➔

Robert L. Rawson is treasurer of the North Pacific Union Conference and writes from Portland, Ore.

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# LETTERS

Letters to the GLEANER editor are welcome. Letters must be signed and should not exceed 150 words in length. Letter writers are urged to limit their letters to commentary on editorial matter appearing in this journal, and should specifically refer to the issue date and article in question. Priority will be given to letters received by the editor within 45 days of the cover date of issue in question. Letters which direct personal criticism at individuals will not be printed; conversely, letters which promote a person by name or description for gratuitous praise will be declined for publication. Highest priority will be given to letters which add information and commentary, pro and con, to material appearing in this journal. Address letters to Editor, Box 16677, Portland, OR 97216-0677.

## Float, No; Aeroflot, Yes

(Regarding "Float Not for Hungry," Nov. 2 LETTERS) However you look at it, 40 cents per North American member adds up to \$225,000. This is a great sum to be wasted on a pleasure of this world—The Pasadena Tournament of Roses. Good grief, gentlemen, the doors of Russia are opened. It's *Operation Bearhug*, not *Operation Dead Flowers*...

Out of 400 million people from 90 countries, how many have been brought to Christ through this ministry? How many Russian souls have been brought to Christ in these same three years?

Included is a 40 cent donation for *Operation Bearhug*. I wish I could have written the check out for \$225,000.

Robert Rouillard  
Puyallup, Wash.

In the Nov 2, GLEANER, Alden Thompson noted how great it was that *Operation Bearhug* has revitalized some Adventists. I think *Operation Bearhug* falls far short of our world mission goal...

I cry for what little we do...

The words from *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 6, page 30, take away all of our excuses: "Instead of keeping the ministers at work for the churches that already know the truth, let the members of the churches say to these laborers: 'Go work for souls that are perishing in darkness. We ourselves will carry forward the services of the church. We will keep up the meetings and by abiding in Christ, will maintain spiritual life. We will work for souls that are about us, and we will send our prayers and our gifts to sustain the laborers in more needy and destitute fields.'"

Clyde Bright  
Sitka, Alaska

The letter in the Oct. 19 issue, entitled "Floating While We Founder," On the spending of \$225,000 for the float in the Pasadena Parade, was answered with your statement

that "This is a project . . . being underwritten by all of our members in North America."

According to my dictionaries, "underwrite" means "to agree to meet the expense of." This certainly sounds as if all the members of North America are involved in the cost of the float, whether they approve or not.

On the back cover of the GLEANER is a statement: "Please note, the money paying for this float comes only from donations given just for this ministry. No money is taken from tithe or any other fund."

My question: What did you mean to say in your statement, since these two statements do not give the same message? . . .

Leota Cowl  
Portland, Ore.

Thanks for the opportunity to clarify. Yes, the project is paid for by donations only; but, yes, this is an official project of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and has been voted as such by the North American Division Committee. In that sense, the church is "supporting" the project, and all of us by extension, though we may individually disagree on its merits.

## When Members Hurt

I read with interest the letter from the "re-churched" Adventist in the Oct. 19, 1992, GLEANER. She cited the lack of interest by the church members as a factor in her family's absence from the church.

Still among the "unchurched," I concur with her evaluation of Adventist congregations. For me, however, there is more involved than just unfriendliness. Though I am grateful to the two or three members who have invited me back, on returning I encountered the same attitudes and principles that prompted me to leave. . . I wish they would realize that judging, convicting and converting are tasks of the Holy Spirit. . . . In trying to usurp this duty, human beings only aid the adversary.

In all fairness, I must say that not all Adventist members exhibit this pseudo-pious, legalistic attitude. Those who have a truly spiritual relationship with Christ display an aura of peace in their acceptance of themselves and others.

If the Spirit of Christ, evidenced by truly unconditional love, would replace the staunch religiosity . . . I would be back in a heartbeat.

Janet Muirhead  
Manhattan, Mont.

Believe it or not, I read your union paper on a regular basis down here in Lincoln, Neb. In your Oct. 19 issue, on the second page, you had an open letter to the GLEANER from a "re-churched" Seventh-day Adventist. My heart filled with all kinds of emotion as I read this letter. First, I was thrilled that this family had come back to the church. Second, though, I was appalled that only one person

in her church missed her enough to visit her to find out why she wasn't coming. I have one penetrating question to ask: "Where . . . was the person who received the salary and carried the title of pastor?"

Joel O. Tompkins, President  
Mid-American Union  
Lincoln, Neb.

I've just been reading the Oct. 19 GLEANER . . . The letter on the inside cover . . . appealed to me as my experience is much like hers.

I've been an Adventist over 60 years. I came into the Adventist truth through the Venden brothers in 1932. . . .

I am the only Adventist in our family. I am 81 years old and am still living in the house where I was born. I am alone day after day and life gets terribly lonely and discouraging.

That lady's letter sure meant a lot to me. I get around pretty good and do quite a bit, but nothing heavy and only a little at a time. . . .

Please pray for me. . . .  
Thanks for your time listening to me. I am so thankful for the wonderful GLEANER. . . .

Florence Davenport  
The Dalles, Ore.

## A Hurting Leader

When I was a little girl, my parents left the church. The only reason I remember them giving was no one cared. I vowed that somehow I would make a difference in the church when I grew up. . . .

Today, being in a position of leadership, I've discovered that it seems for every person who says "I've made a difference," there are nine who still say "No one cares." Some days I spend three-fourths of the day praying for strength to not be discouraged. I find lasting comfort in praising the Lord for all He has suffered for my benefit. It's by choosing to believe God loves me that I feel loved. . . .

I wonder if feeling no one cares comes from expecting imperfect people to meet needs that only a perfect God can? Do we wrestle against flesh and blood as our enemy or principalities and powers in high places?

Thank you for your time in studying out this subject. I've appreciated your insights.

Darla Henderson  
Kent, Wash.

## Still Concerned

(Regarding Oct. 19 LETTERS) It's interesting that one of my fellow physicians in my community has had similar feelings about Alden Thompson's writings. I do believe he is entitled to his beliefs; however printing them in our "Voice of the Northwest" seems to me to be granting them sanction by the hierarchy. I want to give Helmut's remarks my support. You are doing a great job otherwise.

Simon Elloway  
Chehalis, Wash.

I feel compelled to respond to the letter "Deeply Concerned" in the Oct. 19, issue of the GLEANER.

Jesus said He has "other sheep who are not of this fold" John 10:19. This suggests that God is tolerant of views significantly different from our own. . . .

Paul said we are not to pass "judgment on disputable matters" Romans 14:1 (NIV). So even the Bible suggests we do not have to

# ABOUT THE COVER

To capture the Dec. 14, 1992, GLEANER cover photo entitled "Mt. Shuksan," photographer Bryce Casebolt of Seattle had to wait out the weather near Mt. Baker ski slopes in northern Washington. He recalls: "It was a very cloudy day. I had nearly given up, when miraculously the sun burned through the clouds, bathing the landscape in glorious light! The lack of any wind yielded a near perfect reflection of Mt. Shuksan in Picture Lake."

Casebolt, who works in pre-press for a printing firm in Seattle, used a Canon F1 camera with Canon 24mm lens and Kodachrome 64 film.

agree about all things pertaining to the Christian life. . . .

Individual growth comes through an exchange of ideas. The GLEANER has been a forum for that process. If we are denied a platform for the expression of our ideas because Alden Thompson's views fail to parrot those of other Adventists, then of what value is God's gift of intellect or where do we communicate freely about our understanding of God's incredible gift of His Son, Jesus Christ?

Larry Chadwick  
Hillsboro, Ore.

✎ The GLEANER is the product of a church governed by committees, not hierarchy. A "committee action" is not an edict of "hierarchy." It is a majority opinion of many minds. Likewise, the GLEANER is a polling of many minds and experiences, from the convict in prison to the theologian in College Place, Wash. As our committees seek unity in diversity, so the GLEANER seeks to share a spectrum of insights WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF OUR FUNDAMENTAL BELIEFS. I have asked Alden Thompson to base his columns on three basic premises: (1) That Adventism has a worldwide mission; (2) That Northwestern Adventism has a unique contribution to make to that mission; (3) That a healthy church contains a variety of personalities, Christian experiences and temperaments which are absolutely vital to full proclamation of an end-time message. Alden Thompson, in my view, has honored that commission well.

We thank all of you who read and write from your peculiar points of reference. May God continue to build that unity of Spirit which refines temperament as well as theology as faith in Jesus Christ grows. E.S.

## Aloha, Northwest

Many in the North Pacific Union may not be aware of hundreds of acts of personal generosity and kindness that took place during your recent Pathfinder Camporee. (Oct. 19 GLEANER) I'm speaking of the many young people and staff who decided to give money to Iniki hurricane relief here on Kauai rather than to go on a field trip.

The Pathfinders and their leaders spontaneously raised \$4,144.93 to help us here in our recovery. What an unselfish and wonderful thing for them to do! The gift not only warmed our hearts and encouraged us during tough times, but it has also made it possible for many of our approximately 140 students to remain in school.

Many of our student families suffered severe damage to or the loss of their home. In addition, many of the parents immediately lost their jobs because of Iniki. The Iniki Student Assistance Fund has directly helped these families with short-term tuition assistance in their time of need. Nearly 70 percent of our students do not come from Adventist homes, so the Pathfinders response was a significant witness of Christ-like love from a caring church. . . .

Gary Swinyar, Principal  
Kahili Adventist School  
Lawai, Hawaii

*Let everyone bless God and  
sing his praises, for he holds  
our lives in his hands.*

— Psalm 66:8-9 TLB

## Lofty Concern

This letter is in regard to the pictures of the old and new Adventist churches in John Day, Ore., Oct. 19 issue, page 10. It rather saddens my heart not to see a steeple on the new church. The church they used for 40 years is such a beautiful little church and the wonderful part is it looks like a church. Now I am sure the new church is a wonderful building, but if I were to drive by it I would say it was maybe a nursing home, a retirement home, or a school. Maybe the windows are stained glass, I could not tell by the picture.

I often wonder why so many new churches do not have a steeple, even a small one, so they would look like churches. I know it would no doubt cost more. I wonder how many people feel the way I do. . . .

Sylvia Price  
La Grande, Ore.

## Preying While We Pray

Letters of sympathy for the Aug. 17, "Hurting in Prison" letter are caring, but they must have the balance of correct information. The institution from which the letter is written is exclusively for sexual offenders, and the writer was labored with by his church for years. It was only after his repeated denial and lack of repentance that his membership was dropped.

Though this "hurting" person was not a member of my church, the ones he offended are—and our caring ministry is for them. The psychological impact on the children is not a small matter.

The caring church must not be used by sick individuals in order to perpetrate their aberrant behavior.

Rick Quast, Pastor  
Enumclaw, Wash.

✎ Thanks, Rick. And thanks to those who wrote in response to the letter from the inmate. In our caring, we must, indeed, be wise to those who manipulatively quote Scripture and twist Christian emotions. Those who prey MUST be contained; a caring ministry will IMMEDIATELY surround the victimized with special love and cordon off the abuser for care apart from mainstream fellowship. This, too, can be done in love.

## Rogue Memories

When I read the article by Helen R. Smith concerning "The Church that Wouldn't Catch Fire," in the Nov. 2 issue, I wondered how many remembered that there was quite a group of Adventists in Evans Valley before 1969, the date she wrote that the Evans Valley Company organized and held meetings in the Wimer Grange Hall.

Our family moved to Wimer in 1932 and other Adventists soon followed. I can remember meeting for services in the trees near the home of an elderly couple by the name of Nelson, at the Thumler's (I'm not sure of spelling) home, in the public school assembly room and the Wimer Grange Hall. I don't remember what year the first church was built there but I do remember my sister, Doris, was flower girl for a wedding in that first church in 1940 or 1941.

We even had a church school the year of 1935-36, taught by Esther Wagner. . . . So the Adventists at the Wimer-Rogue River area go a long way back.

Lenoa Quinn Stoneman  
Elkton, Ore.,

## Dear Jeff . . .

I am writing in response to the letter by Jeff Tigner, "Weeping Inside," in Oct. 5, 1992, GLEANER.

I do believe we need members within each of our churches who make it their mission to give special attention to visitors, new members and any who might be lonely or hurting. I also believe that God sometimes allows us to go through unpleasant experiences in order to point out to us the need and the work He would have us do.

You mention there are others in your church who are lonely also; invite them into your home, study and pray together; could it be this is the way God is opening up for you to become involved?

May God guide and bless you as you seek to find your place in Christian service.

Velma Redmer  
Junction City, Ore.

# Let's Shout It from the Stars!

By Al McDowell

Great changes of world magnitude are taking place, and I believe those changes will become increasingly rapid ones.

Case in point: Since last issue of the GLEANER, our plans for satellite uplink in the Northwest have changed, we believe, in God's Providence.

Our focus has now shifted away from a North Pacific Union system to one which includes much more territory, involving Adventist World Radio.

I believe the Lord is in control, and the decision by the North Pacific Union Conference Executive Committee to suspend development, at this time, of a self-sustaining Northwest satellite uplink is in no sense a retreat from our mission. On Nov. 11, I received a copy of a letter

written by Walter Scragg, Adventist World Radio president, proposing radio via satellite to Russia! In the letter he says that it would be possible to send radio programming from North American stations to Russia, distribute Russian programs within Russia, and even provide programming to Adventist stations on this continent.

Research continues, and I know you'll hear more on this project. We're still planning to shout it from the stars—now, louder than ever. ✎

Al McDowell until recently served as development director for a proposed Northwest satellite uplink, and is a member of the Adventist World Radio executive and technical boards. He writes from College Place, Wash.

# OPERATION BEARHUG



Operation Bearhug Revisited:

## What Hath God Wrought in 1992?

By Alf Birch

One year ago the GLEANER carried detailed coverage of an amazing year of achievement by North Pacific Union Conference evangelists, pastors, physicians and other volunteers sent to Russia under God's amazing blessing.

A year ago, *Operation Bearhug* was still young, its potential unmet, its future uncertain. Today, we can say much the same thing, but with this added statement of faith: God has seen fit to bless the Northwest and its sister union in Russia beyond expectation during these past 12 months.

Uncertain times prevail in Russia. What we must do, we must do quickly, and redoubled efforts on our part during this time of open windows of opportunity are being blessed. We move forward in faith through *Operation Bearhug* in 1993.

### A Year of Blessings

Another year of precious blessings were experienced by both Russian and Northwest Adventists during the second year of *Operation Bearhug* exchanges between our two unions. The following projects reflect some of the activities that were pursued:

### Food Consignments

More than 80 tonne of food was sponsored by GLEANER readers, who within six weeks, a year ago, raised \$47,000 for this purpose. With the able help of ADRA, four 20-tonne shipments were sent to St. Petersburg, Krasnodar, Nizhni Novgorod, and Krasnoyarsk. Five thousand dollars were contributed toward another shipment to Moscow which was delivered there dur-

ing the Mark Finley campaign.

### Transportation

Much-needed assistance in the amount of \$15,000 to purchase motor vehicles for use by our Russian church leaders during a time of rapid church expansion was donated in April by Edward Buckley, on behalf of Janzen, Johnston, and Rockwell, Inc., and two business colleagues, Bruce Christian and Ed Buckley, Jr., representing Metro Republic Commercial Service and Select Home Health Management Services, all of Southern California. Two new vehicles were purchased, including a "Paz" 22-seater Russian bus (\$6,665) now being used in the Moscow area, and a "Uaz" seven seater Jeep-type car (\$4,440) now used for literature distribution activities. The balance of the funds were distributed equally among the four conferences to assist them with the purchase of used vehicles for administrative activities.

### Training Seminars

Pastors already in ministry were targeted for in-service training in seven locations throughout Russia during March/April. Seminar leaders included Kurt Johnson and Graham Bingham (Oregon Conference), and Dennis Seaton and Dan Appel (Montana Conference). Alf Birch, *Operation Bearhug* coordinator and Edward Buckley, of Janzen, Johnston and Rockwell, a Los Angeles emergency medicine corporation, conducted a leadership training program for the members of the Russian Union Committee and business and professional people in Tula.

During July a "Youth Ministry University" was conducted in Moscow for senior youth, Pathfinder and children's ministry leaders representing all the conferences and many churches throughout Russia.

### Book Publication

"Operation Bearhug: Coup of a Different Kind", a 90-page book telling the story of the Walla Walla College evangelistic team's experiences in far east Siberia during the coup of August 1991, was published by Doug Clark, dean of the Walla Walla College School of Theology, and the four students who accompanied him last Spring. (Copies available at local ABC bookstores.)

### The Magadan Project

Upper Columbia Conference members have rallied in a remarkable spirit of altruism by reaching out to Magadan, a pivotal and central city of Siberia. This past summer 125 *Bearhug* missionaries volunteered for two-week intervals to construct a 400-seat church, hold an evangelistic crusade, deliver medical supplies, distribute literature, commence an English language school and visit with Russian artists, political leaders and inmates of labor camps. We are confident that the establishment of this strong Adventist presence in Magadan will soon be felt in other locations in that hitherto neglected hinterland of Siberia.

### Medical and Health Initiatives

A number of Northwest physicians have associated with evangelists during Russian campaigns in conducting stop-smoking clinics, giving health lectures and making meaningful contacts with Russian counterparts. Some projects now under way involving Northwest medical and legal professionals include the establishment of a "Russian Adventist Medical Association" (RAMA), and collaboration with city authorities in Ryazan with a view to meeting the needs of cerebral palsy children.

Our physicians have also responded to a request from Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn on behalf of the "Association of Victims of Political Repression" in Ryazan to provide for the medical and social needs of survivors of the Gulag.

For more information regarding this phase of *Operation Bearhug* endorsed activities, GLEANER readers may contact Walter Emori, M.D., P. O. Box 1026, Jack-



More than 300 are baptized in Orenburg after meetings conducted by the Dave Weigley team.

# OPERATION BEARHUG

sonville, Ore. 97530, telephone (503) 773-2233 (office); (503) 899-8797 (home), or fax (503) 773-7089.

## St. Petersburg English Language School

Walla Walla College and Walla Walla College Church responded to the invitation of the St. Petersburg Institute of Railway Engineers to conduct an English language school in their precincts, located in the heart of the city.

Roland Blaich, professor of history at Walla Walla College, is coordinating this project. A team of four WWC alumni volunteers opened the school at the commencement of the Fall semester. Three hundred students are currently enrolled. They also are studying Bible classes outside of English language school hours.

## Bibles Donated

Fifteen thousand dollars were spent to purchase Bibles for distribution during the nine evangelistic campaigns that were conducted. (See box on page 11 regarding options to contribute funds for 1993 campaign needs).

## Public Evangelism

Nine evangelistic campaigns were conducted by Northwest evangelistic teams. A total of 2,453 persons were baptized into Christ to become part of the Adventist world family. The cities that were penetrated are listed below, together with the number of Adventists that were there prior to each campaign appearing in brackets, followed by the number that were baptized:

Irkutsk	(75)	419
St. Petersburg	(464)	404
Orenburg	(41)	333
Saransk	(35)	186
Magadan	(40)	278
Krasnodar	(133)	220
Sochi	(113)	178
Belgorod	(215)	157
Krasnoyarsk	(57)	278
<b>Totals</b>	<b>(1,173)</b>	<b>2,453</b>

## Church Leadership Development Institute

This spring, the Russian Union Conference approached the North Pacific Union with another "Macedonian call," as it were, to help them with the development of a pastoral force to cope with the huge influx of new members into their churches. We immediately went to work.

We believe the Lord guided us in obtaining the services of Erich Baumgartner, Ph.D., to coordinate our most challenging undertaking to date, and which is now known as CLDI (Church Leadership Development Institute).

The first series of training sessions are being conducted in Moscow and Nizhni Novgorod by a Northwest team, Nov. 24 to Dec. 17. Follow-up sessions and in-service training will be provided on a regular basis requiring further visits by the CLDI coordinator and support training teams from the Northwest. (See "A Call for Help" below).

The net effect of our outreach to Russia is simply that it is indeed more blessed to give than to receive. How? Why? Because Ellen White insightfully wrote in 1900 that "Our brethren have not discerned that in helping to advance

the work in foreign fields, they would be helping the work at home. . . . The home-missionary work will be farther advanced in every way when a more liberal, self-denying, self-sacrificing spirit is manifested for the prosperity of foreign missions; for the prosperity of the home work depends largely, under God, upon the *reflex influence* of the evangelical work done in countries afar off. It is in working actively to supply the necessities of the cause of God that we bring our souls in touch with the Source of all power." *Testimonies*, vol. 6, p. 27, italics ours. ➔

*Alf Birch is Operation Bearhug coordinator and church ministries director for the North Pacific Union Conference and writes from Portland, Ore.*



## A Call for Help

Imagine being Nicolai Vendyin, the Russian pastor in Irkutsk, Siberia. You started out in this role some years ago because you were convicted that God and His church needed you. During pre-perestroika days you typically functioned as a leader of an underground group of up to 25 dedicated members. You gave your group the spiritual support and leadership required to simply survive. You were never trained for the ministry. In fact, no schools existed or were allowed where you could be trained for the ministry.

Within the last three years your country has undergone incredible political changes. And so has the church. Two years ago you were asked by your conference leaders to become a full-time pastor. You are now on the official payroll. Your salary amounts to \$30 per month. Wow! A big improvement from those 'good old underground days' when you just worked for the sheer joy of service, without pay.

For a long time you've dreamed that your small church would explode into a large congregation. You know that there are hundreds and thousands in Irkutsk wistfully looking up to heaven every day, praying for God's grace, His light and the Holy Spirit to be revealed to them.

And, believe it or not, unexpectedly here in the mail some months ago you received information from Pastor Nicolai Kisli, your conference president,

that *Operation Bearhug* will sponsor an evangelistic team to your city. They will spend at least five weeks conducting public evangelistic meetings.

You may expect that several hundreds will be baptized. Your immediate task is to rent the best public hall. In the near future you'll receive a consignment of about 2,000 Bibles, handbills, and other advertising materials to announce the public meetings.

"But wait a minute," you tell yourself. "What are they talking about, two thousand Bibles! Could there be that many in all of Russia? And, what is a handbill?"

You carefully do as you are told while awaiting the American team's arrival. The campaign begins. Two thousand people attend the meetings faithfully. You've never imagined this could happen in your town. The evangelist baptizes 419 people at the end of the five-week campaign and returns to America with his team of helpers.

You have suddenly become the pastor of a "megachurch!" How do you single-handedly nurture all these fledgling members? Most of them were still atheists a few weeks ago. They're handling a Bible for the first time in their lives. They need to be taught how to study God's Word, how to pray, how to face all the challenges of the new life the evangelist taught them about.

The language being spoken at the church gatherings, which now can no longer meet in your living room, also sounds so

*continues on page 11*

# OPERATION BEARHUG

## 'The KGB Man . . . Hugged Me Like a Brother'



By Dave Weigley

It all began on Mother's Day, May 10, when four American evangelists left Seattle for Mother Russia.

The story of Washington Conference Operation Bearhug outreach to Russia in 1992 is filled with chronicles of faith and courage; stories of Americans helping Russians and Russians helping Americans to advance the cause of the Kingdom of Christ.

Orenburg, a city on the Ural River, lies at the boundary between Europe and Asia. It was our destination last May as we answered the call to evangelism and church planting in that city.

There were four of us on the team, each with individual gifts, each contributing in unique ways: Nancy Jacobson, lay leader from the Kent, Wash., church; Hal Gates, pastor of the Poulsbo, Wash., church; Robert Fetrick, Washington Conference evangelist; and myself, Dave Weigley, Washington Conference ministerial secretary.

### Packed Auditorium

After spending a few days in Moscow, we flew to Orenburg, 1,000 miles to the southeast. Russian pastors and conference leaders had made arrangements for radio, television and newspaper contacts and had blanketed the city with publicity posters. Their work had been well done, for on Friday night, May 15, our auditorium was filled with 1,200 people. Not a single seat was empty, and night after night the crowd grew.

Each evening Nancy Jacobson told simple gospel stories for the children using visual aids, sometimes to as many as 150 who would crowd onto the stage. Pastor Gates and Evangelist Fetrick would follow Nancy with a Bible class. Then would come the evangelistic sermon.

The highest attendance, naturally, came on the night the Bibles were distributed. That evening, close to 1,500 people crowded into the auditorium, standing in the aisles and the balcony.

"I've never seen people love the Bible and hold onto it like these people did," said Pastor Fetrick.

### Help for Addicted

In addition to these meetings, Pastor Gates conducted a support group for those who were affected by addiction, either personally or through their families.

These numbers also grew, beginning at 15 to 20 and expanding, eventually, to 75 to 100 persons who would stay by after the evangelistic meetings, sometimes until 10 o'clock.

One man had been at Chernobyl when the nuclear accident had taken place and had been diagnosed as having contracted cancer. He attended the support group meetings and at the end of one meeting asked for a prayer of healing.

Pastors Gates and Fetrick prayed that this man would be healed, and, to the best medical science can tell us, he was, and is, totally healed today.

After two weeks, I preached on baptism, and decision cards were passed out. Six hundred of those cards came back with requests for baptism. Among those requesting baptism were adults from a wide array of backgrounds—professionals, soldiers, doctors and so forth. By the end of the series 330 persons had made definitive decisions for baptism, and this number included many young persons who had been ministered to by Nancy Jacobson.



Russian guests visit the Washington Conference headquarters in Bothell, Wash., sharing tokens of authority familiar to those who lived under a totalitarian regime.



The auditorium where meetings were held in Orenburg seats 1200.

# OPERATION BEARHUG

## KGB Contact

We will never forget three high points of our visit to Russia: First was Pastor Gates' contact with the local KGB office.

He had visited the local KGB office to explain to the officials that he had a burden for the health and wellbeing of the city. The KGB agent had seemed surprised at the visit, but his surprise was nothing compared to the shock Pastor Gates felt when a knock came on his door one morning at 7:30 and there stood the same KGB agent. He had brought a souvenir and Pastor Gates invited him into the hotel room where they visited and then had prayer.

"I couldn't believe it. As we hugged to say good-bye the man all but broke into tears and thanked me like a brother that I had taken an interest to come and see him, an atheistic KGB agent," remembers Pastor Gates.

Another high point took place in the baptismal water when the man who had been our interpreter for the entire series decided a message so filled with truth was one he had to respond to, and so on the last Sabbath, Uri Stoma took his stand for Jesus.

The third high point took place on closing night as we tried to wrap up the meeting. We were totally unprepared for the response of the audience on this closing night. For five minutes they stood and clapped, thanking us, the four Americans, for coming to their city and preaching the gospel.

As I stood there, I thought, "This clapping is not just for us; it's for everyone who has given to help the *Operation Bearhug* outreach in this city."

The clapping finally ended, the good-byes were said and the planes boarded to return to the Northwest. But the story wasn't over.

By invitation of the Washington Conference, Vasily Stolyar, president of the Volga-Ural Conference, Larissa Danilouk, Genadi Kasap and Vladimir Zakoulodkin visited the Washington camp meeting this summer to share firsthand their expe-



Russian guests visit the Pacific Ocean with a happy team of American hosts.

riences in Russia.

"I want the people at camp meeting to really hear what Russia is about," said Lenard Jaecks, conference president. "Let's have some people from the Russian Union."

"Their arrival to the United States is really the complete idea of *Operation Bearhug*, not only of Americans going into Russia, but Russians coming here to America, ministering to the American church," said Bruce Johnson, president of the North Pacific Union.

For two hours one Sabbath camp meeting afternoon, the Russians told stories of faith, of hardship and of courage during the many years of suffering. They sang songs, songs with deep emotion, songs that revealed their sincere love for Christ.

"I can't believe the faith of these people. It moves my heart," was the response of many who heard them at camp meeting. The visit to camp meeting was followed by a tour of 15 Adventist churches in the conference as the Russians continued to tell their story in word and song:

"Please come to Russia and help us. Help us win souls for Christ."

Help was given. Many congregations gave more than \$1,000 to help the

*Bearhug* project, money that will go to purchase Bibles, rent auditoriums and fund the expenses of evangelists and pastors entering Russia next year, 1993.

"My most moving experience just happened recently in the city of Nizhni Novgorod where 2,500 souls were baptized," said Stolyer. "The evangelist, John Carter, went to the militia academy, to the very men who came into the homes of many Russian Adventists over the years and carried them off to prison. In that very academy of generals and colonels an appeal was made and 1,200 men stood to their feet with tears in their eyes committing their lives to Christ. Nine hundred of them threw away their Communist cards. Nothing like that had ever happened in my country before. I can't believe it."

A videotape is being developed to tell about the 1992-1993 *Operation Bearhug* projects in Russia as well as the Russians visiting the conference. Contact the Washington Conference ministerial department to learn how you may be able to obtain this video. ➔

*Dave Weigley is ministerial secretary of the Washington Conference and writes from Bothell, Wash.*



## Through the Eyes of 'Little People'

By Ben E. Grant

"How would you like to go to Russia with an evangelistic team?"

This question set in motion a series of events which led to the decision of Carol, my wife, and me to join Don

Driver, pastor of the Boise, Idaho, Central Church, his wife, Louise, and Keith Hanson, Eagle, Idaho, church pastor, for four weeks of evangelistic outreach in Krasnodar, Russia, about 900 miles south of Moscow, July 17-Aug. 15.

While an auditorium, loud speakers

and projector are invaluable to any series of meetings, it's the "little people," as I call them, who are the heroes. So this report will focus on those who contributed from the sidelines to the success of our meetings.

Andrew, our young Russian guide and

# OPERATION BEARHUG

translator in St. Petersburg, met us at the train. With 17 pieces of luggage to transport at 11:30 p.m., we found early help from one of the "little people" with a large panel truck.

Sabbath morning we pushed ourselves into a crowded bus and joined our Adventist brothers and sisters for worship in the large hall where many had joined the church during the meetings held shortly before by Duane McKey, pastor of the Pendleton, Ore., church.

## To Krasnodar

Flying Aeroflot into Krasnodar two days later, we wondered what our reception would be. Our wondering gave way to delight as we were greeted with flowers, hugs and smiles. Somehow we and our 17 pieces of luggage were loaded and away we went to the Intourist Hotel, our home for the next five weeks, located across the city square from the 1,000-seat Drama Theater, where the meetings would be held.

Another of the "little people" was Tyier, the assistant director of the theater. He, with his crew, went the second mile in making things run smoothly. In addition, he opened his air-conditioned office for Pastor Driver and Yuri Stoma, his excellent translator, to rest, relax and meet with many of the people in private for prayer and counseling.

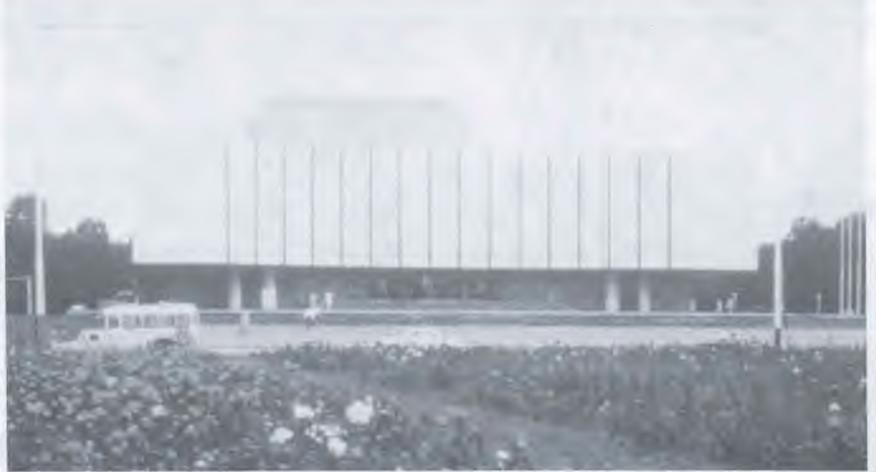
## Standing Room Only

Opening night was "standing room only." While the team had planned for only one meeting a night, it became clear that two sessions were needed. So from the preaching service to the health series, family series, stress management feature, smoking cessation emphasis and children's meetings, we scrambled to reconstruct our carefully designed schedule to accommodate the extra but welcome crowds of people.

The outstanding music of the Russian people featured a district choir, most of whom drove three hours round trip each weekend, with soloists and instrumental-



Don Driver, right, enjoys a moment of camaraderie with the assistant director of the drama theater in Krasnodar.



The 1,000-seat drama theater in Krasnodar was filled to capacity two times daily for the recent crusade.

ists and other smaller ensembles providing music during the week.

## Eager Receptivity

We were amazed by the eager receptivity of the people. Their desire to embrace Jesus Christ and his message was evident when nearly 100 percent responded positively to each invitation from Pastor Driver.

Many requests for healing were received, and among many whose health improved was a mother of two boys. She was admitted to the intensive care ward with a severe case of hepatitis, bleeding from her nose and mouth. One week after we prayed with these boys, she was moved to the main floor recovering from her disease. The two sons wept with joy! We were told of family situations improving and spouses having attitude adjustments as the result of prayer.

The local media's first response to all of this activity was a news article by the Russian Orthodox priest, classing us with the astrologers, soothsayers and clairvoyants.

Pastor Driver refuted these accusations, whereupon the opposition moved to theological issues as they confronted our audience members at the entrance of the auditorium, but with little impact.

## Frustrated Americans

One of our greater frustrations was the inability to communicate. Our two translators, Yuri and Mercy, were kept very busy, and many times we wished for more people to help us. Still, on several occa-

sions, someone in the crowd would step forward and translate. The "little people" were everywhere!

One of those translators, Mercy Gladstone, a 26-year-old East Indian medical student, had taken her vacation at this time so she could be a translator for the children's program and serve as our unofficial guide and helper.

Each day several of the older Russian ladies of the church lovingly provided the noon meal for us and the eight Russian pastors. Several of these pastors had suffered for their faith and told us briefly of their experiences.

We rejoiced as more than 200 individuals were baptized in the Kuban River on the last two Sabbaths of our campaign, doubling the membership of the local church. Many others expressed deep interest but felt they needed more time to study and understand. It was all so new.

The good-byes we said were difficult ones. We looked into the faces of these people we had come to love, now with their eyes full of tears and voices expressing joy and sadness.

We praise the power of God that doubled the membership but which also created the need for a new church structure. If you would like to support the building of the new church in Krasnodar, send your donations to *Operation Bearhug*, c/o Alf Birch, NPUC, PO Box 16677, Portland, OR 97216, asking that it be added to the fund for the new church in Krasnodar. 🌿

*Ben E. Grant writes from Boise, Idaho, where he is a practicing dentist with advanced training in public health.*

# OPERATION BEARHUG



## To Krasnoyarsk, Closed City of Siberia

By Mary Walter

Try to find information in your local library about Krasnoyarsk, Siberia, and you'll turn up little or nothing about this formerly "closed city" of more than one million people where even Russian tourists were turned away.

Since the Iron Curtain rolled back from this industrial and military city one year ago, however, many Christian groups have targeted it as a place of mission.

When we arrived on Sept. 9, team members had no idea what to expect. What we found about the land and the people warmed our hearts and changed our lives.

We looked out our hotel window and saw a tree-covered valley and hills, the Jenesei River, the belching smokestacks, the many large apartment complexes, the buses, trams and trolley buses and everywhere the hurrying people.

On Sept. 12 we began our evangelistic series in the large State Opera and Ballet Theater. Clif Walter, evangelist and Oregon Conference vice president for administration, presented the Adventist message in two sessions each evening. The series also included health lectures by Larry Folkes, M.D., orthopedic surgeon from Maui, and a piano prelude and review of the previous night's subject by Ben Dale, pastor of the Hood River, Ore.-White



The State Opera and Ballet Theater was the site for the Clif Walter meetings in Russia.

Salmon, Wash., church district.

Even though the planned advertising materials did not arrive on time and a hastily-produced brochure failed to circulate until late opening day, God blessed and the people came, more and more as the crusade progressed.

By the end of the meetings, a church of 70 members had grown to a total membership of 348.

### Problems to Solve

There are problems to solve. How does the young pastor with no car and no telephone care for this new flock? The small building they now have will not house all

of the members.

For now, a hall will be rented for the large new church group and another pastor will care for the former church. We are hoping that money can be found to provide adequate housing for the pastor and the church, because as of now the pastor lives in an old part of the city where telephone service is not available.

### The Church as Hope

Many young persons see the church as an opening to hope for the future. They have seen much despair and discouragement in their homes. The people who lived through all or part of the 70 years of tyranny and repression told us that we taught them how to smile again. Hope comes with the Gospel message.

Pastor Dale captivated the audience with his musical ability. As a young pastor he drew a following of many young people which translated into hours of personal talks and Bible studies.

In addition to his health presentations, Larry Folkes, M.D., held two stop-smoking classes. He brought donated medicines worth thousands of dollars to present to the local hospitals and met the doctors and administrators. They invited him to the medical institute to speak to the students about the plan of salvation. This was well accepted and they invited him to come for as many hours as he could spare.

He and his wife Helga ran in a city-sponsored 10K race. The news media gave coverage to the evangelistic meetings and the race.

Many Siberian people are of German heritage, sons and daughters of World War II Germans sent to Russia. Helga's ability to speak German with many who had been forbidden to speak it openly for decades



The Clif Walter team included, from left, Mary Walter, Clif Walter, Ben Dale, Larry Folkes, M.D. and Helga Folkes.

# OPERATION BEARHUG

melted hearts and opened doors.

The children of Krasnoyarsk captured my heart and meeting time gave me a chance to try out their English and me my Russian. Our official translator was Olga Kuznetson, a young woman who works in the seminary office in Tula.

Some of the college students who were coming to the series gave freely of their time to help translate. Since one of the great needs was for more of that help, I hired them part time to help me as people flocked in and almost buried those of us who were marking Bible cards. Some of those translators were and will be baptized.

One large box I checked with my luggage contained hundreds of colorful scripture cards, bookmarks and small booklets, all prepared by church members from the Oregon Conference and sent with love to the people of Siberia.

Some had cut out and arranged in plastic bags a large felt set which was used each night for the children's meetings. They are being used in Sabbath school.

An Oregon City, Ore., store gave felt tip pen sets, bubble gum, candy and balloons. It was delightful to see adults and children enjoying these gifts of love.

Zena, an older woman, attended the meetings night after night. Along with most of the people, she looked sad most of the time. At the time of the closing meeting, the people gave bouquets to all of the team. Many kind words were spoken by the pastor and others. Following is a message which Zena, who was baptized, had written and which she read:

"My family and I thank you for everything that you've talked about in your sermons. They reflect all the problems of humankind and Russian people who lost their hope. More than 70 years we lived without religious life, like blind moles. Now we start to see. I was baptized. Vacancies in my life are filled with faith in God. I'm thankful for your coming to Siberia and bringing hope to the stale hearts of people. Now we believe God loves us. His children who suffered in the Stalin and fascist camps—we believe that God is coming soon. Praise the Lord!"

The team thanks each member who has had and who will have a part in *Operation Bearhug*. Oregon Conference is planning now how best to follow the groundwork that has been laid in Siberia. The harvest there is ripe and now is the time for reapers! 🌾

Mary Walter was a member of the recent *Operation Bearhug* evangelistic team to Krasnoyarsk, Russia, and writes from Oregon City, Ore., where she and her husband, Clifton, live.

## A CALL FOR HELP

*Continued from page 6*

strange to all these new people. You're bombarded with questions, requests. . . ! You need help . . . desperately!

### Enter CLDI

*Operation Bearhug* has been asked to come to Nicolai Vendyin's rescue, as well as to the rescue of many others like him who have suddenly been overwhelmed by the daunting challenges of Russia's current explosive membership growth.

The project is called the *Church Leadership Development Institute*. An acronym will simply help to keep it short: CLDI.

In broad strokes, it will help to develop trained lay pastors (Level I leaders) in Nicolai Vendyin's church who will work with him and become responsible for conducting the equivalent of Ellen White's "cottage meetings," but which in the Russian context are known, and actually functioned in pre-perestroika days, as "home churches" with about 15-20 members. Clusters of these home churches will make up a congregation.

CLDI will also equip these lay pastors with the necessary skills to help their home church members to develop a prayer life, study the Bible, experience spiritual fellowship and witness to their friends and loved ones. The evangelistic objective of every home church will be to multiply itself within six to 12 months.

CLDI will also help multiply spiritual leaders for the Russian church by means of an apprenticeship system whereby those starting out as lay pastors of home church groups can develop additional skills that may qualify them in time to be appointed as full fledged-pastors, or Level III leaders.

(Level II leaders will emerge to coordinate and assist Level I leaders once a number of home groups get established in a given area).

And, finally, CLDI will provide further in-service training of pastors (Level III leaders) in select locations throughout Russia, by dialoging about their progress in developing Levels I and II leaders and also equipping them with other typically required pastoral skills.

*Operation Bearhug* has been requested to sponsor 13 evangelistic campaigns during 1993. To enhance the retention rate of new members whom we anticipate will become part of our world church community, new members will be directed into home church groups during each campaign. In addition, Russian lay pastors will be selected and receive training during the campaign on how to conduct home church meetings.

The Oregon Conference is already putting together a bold strategy to complement the objectives of CLDI. It foresees the commissioning of missionary teams from local churches here in the Northwest going to Russia for three to four week intervals of time to work with the conference-sponsored evangelist, and after his team's departure, to establish and oversee the formation of home church groups, nurture new members in the faith, equip them for witnessing, and assist with the organizational and related matters that pertain to starting a new congregation. The same plan will apply to existing congregations experiencing sudden growth as a result of public evangelistic campaigning.

Pray for and support this integrated evangelistic and leadership development strategy being tested, now, for the first time, even as you read these words. 🌾



Alf Birch is *Operation Bearhug* coordinator and church ministries director for the North Pacific Union Conference and writes from Portland, Ore.

I would like to participate in 1993  
OPERATION BEARHUG projects, as follows:

A public evangelistic campaign in Russia\* \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Russian Bibles (approx. \$1.00 each) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Church Leadership Development Institute (CLDI) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to *Operation Bearhug*, and mail to your local Conference president's office, or North Pacific Union Conference, 10225 E. Burnside, Portland, OR