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THE ATLANTIC UNION

APRIL 2007

# GLEANER



## Adventist Education in Perspective

Summer Camp Schedule 2007

Quoi de Neuf?

Youth Connections

¿Qué Está Pasando?

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This issue is dedicated to Adventist education with special emphasis on Kindergarten through grade 12. The focus is on the theme "Adventist Education in Perspective." Also included in this issue are Positions of Our Faith on page 13, Youth Connections on page 16, and the 2007 summer camp schedule on page 17. The cover photo of Estabrook school students going out for recess was taken by Ed Runnals.

## MISSION STATEMENT

To faithfully chronicle the work and progress of the church in the Atlantic Union territory and inform, instruct, and inspire our church members.

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## DEADLINES

June 2007	April 13
July 2007	May 11
August 2007	June 8

The GLEANER deadline schedule is available online at [www.atlantic-union.org/gleaner4.htm](http://www.atlantic-union.org/gleaner4.htm).

April 2007, Vol. 106, No. 4. The Atlantic Union GLEANER is published monthly by the Atlantic Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 400 Main Street, South Lancaster, MA 01561. Printed by Review and Herald® Publishing Association, 55 West Oak Ridge Drive, Hagerstown, MD 21740. Standard postage paid at Hagerstown, MD 21740. Annual subscription price, \$8.50. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Review and Herald® Publishing Association, 55 West Oak Ridge Drive, Hagerstown, MD 21740.



## Adventist Education in Perspective

**W**e have been featuring Adventist education, specifically grades K-12, annually in the April issue of the Atlantic Union GLEANER for seven of the past ten years. A variety of topics have been presented which were geared toward impressing on our readers the importance of Adventist Christian education for all of our children and others whom Christ would have us touch.

During recent discussions we realized that perhaps presenting one issue each year does not allow us to adequately feature what is happening in our K-12 schools. With that in mind, we are breaking away from tradition and presenting something new and potentially more effective. This annual issue will be the starting point of what will be a monthly communication to you about our schools. Starting with the May 2007 GLEANER, one page in each issue will be devoted to Adventist education in the elementary and high schools in the Atlantic Union.

Astrid Thomassian and Jerrell Gilkeson, the union's education director and associate director, respectively, along with the conference superintendents of schools Sheila Holder, David Cadavero, Stan Rouse, Pollyanna Barnes, Trudy Wright, and Gary Swinyar, will take turns presenting items of interest pertaining to Adventist Christian education.

Hopefully, you will be better able to see how the principals, teachers, and staff are committed to doing their best to provide quality education for all students under their guidance. They, too, are a part of the Atlantic Union's "Tell the World... Tell Atlantic Union" initiative, and are training this "army of youth" so that they can take their place in society as well as be prepared for the life to come.

Here are just a few of the articles on Adventist education that await you as you read this issue:

- You will read what Donald G. King, the Atlantic Union Conference president, has to say about the link between pastoral evangelism and educational excellence in character building (see page 4).
- You will also read about the impact a small school in New Hampshire made on a young intern journalist from a local newspaper and the major coverage it brought the school (see page 6).
- You will read a report about how well our students compare to the national average on the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills, an exam given in thousands of public and private schools across the country (see page 8).
- You will read about an experience of the Greater New York Conference guidance director that left a strong impression on her mind (see page 9).
- You will read about one of the events that some of our principals and teachers recently attended to help them sharpen their marketing skills with the ultimate goal of increasing enrollment in our schools (see page 10).

Many more wonderful things are happening in the schools in the Atlantic Union. Now you have the opportunity to be more connected to them via the GLEANER. Look for the first "Adventist Education K-12" in the May issue.

We solicit your prayers for those who have dedicated their lives to teaching and working with students and also for the students who will be in their care.🙏

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*Ednor A. P. Davison is the editor of the Atlantic Union GLEANER and assistant to the president for communication in the Atlantic Union Conference.*



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# The Power of

**“Character building is the most important work ever entrusted to human beings; and never before was its diligent study so important as now.”**

Ellen G. White  
EDUCATION, p. 225

I was slated to go to an exclusive school that was not Adventist. I had passed an exam that earned me a full scholarship—free tuition, books, uniforms, and free transportation in the “big pretty” bus to and from school every day. I looked forward to being a part of a very exclusive cadre of students. The epaulets on the shoulders of my shirt would indicate the special class to which I would have belonged.

But my father said, “No, not my boy. It doesn’t matter how special it would make you feel, son. You’re going to an Adventist Christian school, even if I don’t know where all the tuition money is coming from.” So there I was, having to take the public “ordinary” bus instead of the special “pretty” bus each day. Instead of being on the inside looking out, I was on the outside looking in each time the bus passed me on the road as I waited for “ordinary” public transportation.

Well, I spent my entire academy years in Adventist Christian schools. And what a difference it made—in terms of character development. Instead of fairy tales and magic stories, I got the story on a Man named Jesus who willingly gave up His life to save kids like me. I was always fascinated by the chapel speakers who inspired me with character-building stories (though I didn’t know that’s what they were) about Jesus as He lived on earth a long time ago.

I cannot recall all the things that helped shape my life, but I do recall that words like love, compassion, kindness, honesty, truthfulness, friendship, and duty kept ringing in my ears. I wanted to be excellent, the best there was at whatever I did. But especially, from a very early age, I wanted to give my life in service to do something good for people. The

impression was made. It was powerful. Later on, I decided to become a health evangelistic worker and pastor who would nurture and minister to the emotional, physical, and spiritual needs of people. I found something real in Adventist Christian schools that I could never have found in the exclusive schools with the “pretty” buses.

After academy, I never stopped attending Adventist Christian schools.

**“The fundamental chassis upon which our historical, prophetic, and apocalyptic mission rests for proclamation and dissemination is the dual rails of pastoral evangelism and educational excellence in character building.”**

Seems I could never get enough of hanging around people with a mission to serve. My college years in Adventist schools were fantastic. The memories are still so vivid. The friends, the food (we all thought it tasted horrible until we hit the real world), the music, and the fellowship. The Friday night vespers as “the sun rolled down the distant West” were especially



# Adventist Education

powerful. It seemed you could taste the aroma of Sabbath in the air. You looked forward to it as though Jesus was coming to pay you a visit on campus for the weekend. This aura of a spiritual environment played powerfully on my heartstrings like a violin. I wanted to be a friend of Jesus and to do something good for people. Such is the power of Adventist Christian education.

One of my favorite authors, Ellen G. White, wrote in the book *EDUCATION*, page 225: “True education does not ignore the value of scientific knowledge or literary acquirements; but above information it values power; above power, goodness; above intellectual acquirements, character. The world does not so much need men [and women] of great intellect as of noble character. It needs men [and women] in whom ability is controlled by steadfast principle.... Character building is the most important work ever entrusted to human beings; and never before was its diligent study so important as now.”

I don't know if my mother and father (who just turned 99 years old in February) had the above statement on their minds when they insisted that I attend an Adventist Christian school, but it's just as well that they had, because that is what our schools are about. It's about character. As a result of their role-modeling passion for Adventist schools of character, my wife and I have followed my parents' example by providing an Adventist Christian education for our two sons. We have never been disappointed with the academic education and character building principles they have received from kindergarten to college (both graduated from Atlantic Union College). Recently, we were so pleased

to hear them indicate their desire to do for their children as we did for them.

From the very genesis of our Adventist Movement, evangelism and education were meant to function hand in hand. Pastors and teachers have always played a pivotal role in the operational purpose, structure, and function of the Movement. Our early pioneers knew that if the Advent message was to go forward

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was coming to pay  
you a visit on campus  
for the weekend.”**

like streams of light, then the pastoral preaching-nurture ministry must run parallel to the education teaching-nurture ministry.

Think of it this way. The Seventh-day Adventist Movement is like a train running on two tracks with a destination stop called heaven. The two rails (heavily supported by the tithe

revenue of the church) are the pastoral evangelism/soul-winning rail and the teacher education/soul-winning rail. The Seventh-day Adventist Movement has never been a monorail church or had only a monorail mission. The train, of course, has many cars running on these rails with a plethora of ministries that complement each other. From family life and health to Sabbath school and youth—all are functionally essential to help trumpet the Good News. But the fundamental chassis upon which our historical, prophetic, and apocalyptic mission rests for proclamation and dissemination is the dual rails of pastoral evangelism and educational excellence in character building.

It is because we believe so passionately in spreading the Good News and reaching after excellence in education that the Atlantic Union Conference has proposed to hold a Pastors-Teachers Convention in August 2009 to bring together and enhance these two historically fundamental rails in Adventism.

Please pray with us that God's Holy Spirit of grace and truth will flood our hearts with the desire to see God's mission on earth accomplished. Don't you long for Jesus to come back? Don't you long for His presence to sweep us into glory like the prophet Elijah in a chariot of fire? May God grant us the will to stay on track as the train (His church on earth) continues its trek toward the kingdom of God.🙏



*Donald G. King is president of the Atlantic Union Conference and chairman of the Atlantic Union College Board of Trustees.*

# MIRACLE<sup>ON</sup>

## Maple Street

By Ellen L. Busl

On a crisp fall morning, we were enjoying a game of Freeze Tag that soon expanded to a version using Hula-Hoops and then went onto Red Rover, Red Rover. Meanwhile, a passing car stopped, reversed direction and parked across the street. A young woman got out of the car and started walking toward the school. She introduced herself as Renée Deemer, an intern journalist from the University of Kentucky, on assignment for the VALLEY NEWS.

While rounding up our little flock of ten students, she and I quickly became acquainted. She was surprised by our school's small student-teacher ratio and the marked cohesiveness of the group. Hoping to have more time with her, I was delighted when she accepted my invitation to follow us indoors and join us for our Reading and Writing Workshop, next on our schedule.

Our visitor immediately made herself at home and browsed freely about the classroom. The children earnestly welcomed her with invitations to see their projects and recent accomplishments. After an hour, Renée explained that she would like to come back and do a story on the school, but would have to ask the editor for permission.

A phone call a week later brought news that the request was granted, especially since the editor could not find any evidence of coverage for the Estabrook school since its opening in 1935! His only stipulation was that a senior reporter, Carolyn Lorié, would oversee the project and would conduct a formal interview. We were elated!

The plan was to have the story ready by early November. We soon became accustomed to frequently having Renée in the classroom, snapping pictures of every phase of our day. The children, now very comfortable and candid, often asked questions about her work as a photojournalist. The writing part of her career was of particular intrigue giving credence as to why, we too, ought to become proficient at wielding pencils to create ideas.

Over the course of many weeks, Renée joined us for worship and for classes in Bible, mathematics, reading, and language arts. She also sat in on discussions in science and social studies and followed us out to recess and gym. She was visibly moved by the harmony of our Chime Choir, became familiar with our school songs, and photographed the creative process of papier-mâché, paint, and a host of other media. She also tagged along for our annual canned food drive in October and remarked with enthusiasm about the various opportunities our students have for community service.

The realistic elements of school life were all part of her survey of



our classroom. Her camera recorded the full range of school life from the glee of drawing names for the school Christmas party to the sober faces in a class discussion on why name calling, even in fun, is not welcome at our school.

One day, when both reporters were present, an upper-grade student shared her copy of *THE STORY OF REDEMPTION* with them, explaining how much we all love the book and how the class was reading this as a supplement to their Bible text. They also saw how eagerly even the youngest students read their Bibles in class.

The senior reporter, Carolyn Lorié, is the education writer for the newspaper. She remarked at how much she enjoyed visiting our school and how well the children were engaged—a quality she did not anticipate finding since there was such a span of grades in one room. Questions of philosophy, accreditation, and purpose dominated the interviews, which, over time, totaled almost five hours.

The network of our school system and the wealth of materials and resources that are available to even our smallest programs seemed to speak volumes, quickly dispelling the tempting notion that Estabrook might be a very isolated, independent, and out-dated one-room school. On the contrary, what they saw, as they related to me, was, rather, a gem of excellence and to such a degree that they were compelled to ask the editor for an extension of time to write the kind of story that Estabrook truly deserved.

The article appeared in the Sunday paper on January 7, 2007, reaching some 17,500 homes. The feedback from the local community has been very positive.

When Northern New England Conference superintendent of schools Trudy Wright saw the article, she

said, “I am thrilled the local news reporter was Spirit-led to go into the Estabrook school and was so impressed with the comprehensive educational program that they returned multiple times. They honored our school with a wonderful expanded presentation in print.”

We are thankful for the providential appointment of meeting Rénee while at recess one morning and for the significant time that we shared together. Through it all, it was clearly seen that Christian education is indeed about building character, as lessons in faith are literally infused across the curriculum.

Rénee plans to locate a Seventh-day Adventist Church upon her return to Kentucky and expects to find a school there that is much like Estabrook. Indeed, our schools and our children are to be beacons in the community. May they always shine brightly for Him. “Christ in you, the hope of Glory”—Colossians 1:27.

The fact that the reporter should have gone a completely different way to reach her destination that day makes it truly a “miracle on Maple Street.”

*The Northern New England Conference has 12 schools, including two academies, one junior academy, one ninth-grade program, and one tenth-grade program.*<sup>®</sup>

*Ellen L. Busl, the principal of Estabrook school, writes from West Lebanon, New Hampshire.*

*Unfortunately, the VALLEY NEWS guidelines do not allow us to publish the wonderful pictures Renée Deemer took, but we appreciate Ellen Busl's willingness to share some pictures of her students.*



Photos: Ed Rumals



# SNEC Students Score Above Average on ITBS Test

By Tamara Michalenko Terry

The Iowa Tests of Basic Skills (ITBS) analysis is in! Results show students who attend

Southern New England Conference Adventist schools score significantly higher than the national norms. This means that our students learn at or above the national average when compared to students in both public and private schools.

ITBS have been given to the Southern New England Conference (SNEC) students in grades 3-8 for the past ten years. All of these scores were submitted for analysis to the Center for Statistical Research at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan. More than 3,400 scores were analyzed.

The results certainly validate parents' sacrifice to have their children in Seventh-day Adventist schools. Parents know that in addition to developing a relationship with Jesus Christ, their children are getting a quality education.

Each year, the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills are given in thousands of public and private schools across the

country. They cover the following areas: reading, language arts, math, social studies, science, and sources of information.

The Center for Statistical Research looked at whether the number of students in a grade or the number of grades in a classroom impacted test scores. The analysis confirmed that students in smaller SNEC schools learn at a comparable rate

to students in larger SNEC schools. Most importantly, it was discovered that the longer a student attends a SNEC school, the greater the rate of improvement on the ITBS.

"It makes me incredibly proud to see the results of the hard work of our teachers and students," said Gary Swinyar, Southern New England Conference superintendent of schools. "I knew we had great schools. Now I have the data to prove it."<sup>®</sup>

*Tamara Michalenko Terry is assistant communication director for the Southern New England Conference.*



Our students are learning at or above the national average when compared to students in both public and private schools.



Stock Photos



# A Tribute to Adventist Christian Education

By Del Metellus

There are many individuals who still seem to need convincing about the efficacy of Adventist Christian education. Let me share this story with you.

About two or three months ago, I visited the Atlantic Union College campus where I decided to stop in at the cafeteria to have some lunch. After leisurely perusing all the items on display, I finally decided on a few items, piled them onto my tray, got something to drink and hurried on to the cashier.

As I arrived at the cashier, I put down my tray and began scrambling around in my pocketbook of assorted odds and ends to find some money to pay for my lunch. Due to the collectibles in my pocketbook, this unfortunately took some time. By the time I emerged, the wonderful young man sitting at the register just smiled at me and said, "Madam, this is your lucky day, go right ahead." I smiled back at him, uncomprehendingly and said, "What do you mean? Why is this my lucky day?" He then replied, "Your meal has already been paid for, you may go on through." I stopped and regarded him suspiciously, "By whom?" I replied with some insistence. The young lady who was ahead of you in the line," he said. "Point her out to me," I demanded, as he turned around and quietly complied with my request.

I hurried into the cafeteria in the direction he had indicated and approached two young ladies who were just preparing to sit down. I quietly interjected, "Did one of you young ladies by any chance just pay for my meal?" One of them quickly replied, as she pointed to her friend, "She did." I turned to look at the other student,

**"It felt good to know that perhaps in some small way, both the academy and the college had helped to mold this young lady into a beautiful, sensitive, and caring individual."**

"Do we know each other?" I asked. "I don't think so," the student replied. So I queried, "What made you decide to pay for my lunch?" She shyly responded, "I just saw you scrambling around in your pocketbook and decided to pay for your lunch." I smiled graciously, as a warm feeling welled up in my chest, which almost brought tears to my eyes, then I thanked her profusely.

However, I still needed to know more, so I asked her name. Imagine our surprise as we almost simultaneously recognized each other. She was my former student and I her former principal at Greater New York Academy. We hugged and embraced

each other, as I swelled with pride, recognizing that she was the product of my very own academy as well as Atlantic Union College. I can't take any credit for whom this young lady has become, but it felt good to know that perhaps in some small way, both the academy and the college had helped to mold this young lady into a beautiful, sensitive, and caring individual, touched by the seeming necessity of another individual.

I salute this student and pray that God will richly bless her as she continues her education at Atlantic Union College.

May she always be sensitive to the needs of those around her, reaching out to touch the lives of those with whom she comes into contact.®



*Del Metellus is the guidance director for the Greater New York Conference.*



The Chan Shun Dining Commons at AUC.

Deane Stierwin

# Marketing Adventist Education

By Tamara Michalenko Terry

Author William A. Foster once wrote that “Quality is never an accident; it is always the result of high intention, sincere effort, intelligent direction, and skillful execution; it represents the wise choice of many alternatives.”

North American Division associate director of education, Larry Blackmer, took that quote to heart when creating suM<sup>2</sup>IT Marketing Our Mission 2007, a seminar helping Adventist educators promote their schools.

In its second year now, these meetings, held every other year, are designed to share the latest and greatest tools and resources available to our schools. “We need to evaluate what we have to offer to the children and parents within our school, our church, and our community,” Blackmer says. “We must be about the business of quality. Quality products sell themselves. Marketing a product of inferior quality or of little value is not worth the effort. Adventist education has quality teachers, quality curriculum, and eternal rewards.”

A variety of workshops were offered from “The First Step in Marketing Adventist Education” to “Pooling Your Neurons—Sharing Marketing Strategies that Work.” The PowerPoint presentations for many of the workshops can be downloaded at [www.nadeducation.org/dynamic.html?wspID=512](http://www.nadeducation.org/dynamic.html?wspID=512).

Two presenters were from our own Atlantic Union Conference, Jerrell Gilkeson, Atlantic Union Conference

associate director of education, who spoke on a “Positive School Climate” and Martha Ban, Browning elementary school teacher, who spoke on “Pooling Your Neurons.” Gilkeson tossed candy to those asking questions; it was a big hit to those attending his presentation.

Outside vendors [www.graceworksministries.org](http://www.graceworksministries.org) and [www.privateschoolingdirect.com](http://www.privateschoolingdirect.com) were available to discuss ways they could help, from managing your Web site to marketing programs.

Approximately 150 people attended this motivating conference with a just over 20 from the Atlantic Union Conference.

Within the past four years a variety of marketing pieces have been created by the North American Division Education Department. “We’ve designed videos, DVDs, bulletin inserts, brochures, and more,” Blackmer says, “to assist schools (from the smallest to the largest) in marketing their school—with the ultimate goal to increase their enrollment.” These resources and more can be found at [www.nadeducation.org](http://www.nadeducation.org).<sup>①</sup>

*Tamara Michalenko Terry, assistant editor for the Atlantic Union GLEANER, writes from South Lancaster, Massachusetts.*



Principals Andrew Philbert, left, from the Flatbush school and Edward Jackson from Hanson Place school in discussion with David Cadavero, Greater New York Conference superintendent of schools.



More than 20 educators from the Atlantic Union Conference attended the marketing seminar sponsored by the North American Division.



“The marketing workshop in Corpus Christi was rewarding because it was attended by people who were doing marketing for Adventist education. They came to get more ideas, but they came to share. This cross matrix of ideas will help our church as we compete in the marketplace for the hearts and minds of our children and their parents who are making decisions about their education.”



*Jerrell Gilkeson  
Atlantic Union Conference*

“I really had a great time at the marketing summit. One of the things I came back with is the idea of ‘each one bring one.’ I am selling this idea to my students. If at least 50 students encourage 50 of their friends to enroll, then that would be a tremendous blessing. Also, I learned that I just have to get out there and visit churches and schools to encourage young men and women to make Christian education their choice. I have begun to do this and since I started two weeks ago, I have gained one new student. I am looking forward to the next one.”



*Marlene Alvarez  
Northeastern Academy*

“I appreciated the NAD’s efforts to provide an interesting and practical series of presentations on marketing and recruiting. I enjoyed meeting other Adventist professionals who are dedicated to Christian education.



*Rondi Astrup  
Greater Boston Academy*

“The marketing seminar was very informative, although by the end of the second day I felt like I was experiencing overload. On my return to Greater New York Academy, a marketing committee was formed and we have begun the process of designing a marketing plan for the school. With the implementation of ideas relevant to our geographic area, I know that we will be much more successful in marketing Seventh-day Adventist education and, especially, Greater New York Academy.”



*Lillian Mitchell  
Greater New York Academy*

I received a blessing from the worship talks every morning and benefited from the discussions that followed. I am working with our board to create a marketing plan (5-year plan) for our school. I incorporated a lot of the information from various presenters into a presentation I gave at our constituency meeting at the end of the month. I found Jim Epperson’s presentation on generational differentiation fascinating and useful.”

“I learned that marketing Adventist education is much more than just selling a product. Our schools have to be what we say they are or we are creating a false impression that will not bring others to Christ, rather, it will drive them away. While we need to have compassion for everyone, we have been given a specific mission to educate children within the boundaries of Adventist belief and practice and we need to stay true to our calling.”



*Mark Bugbee  
Berkshire Hills elementary school*

Attending the seminars were principals Maria Thomas from South Bay Junior Academy and Brigida Matos from Pearl River elementary school.



# Alumni Reflections

Featuring elementary and high school graduates from around the Atlantic Union



*"I have had the privilege of being educated in the Seventh-day Adventist school system for 19 years. As I coursed through*

*my education, and with every passing semester, I realized how blessed I was to attend the schools that I did. I began my education at Jackson Heights Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School then continued on to Greater New York Academy for high school, and finished with a doctorate in physical therapy at Andrews University."*

**W**hile Robert dos Santos believes that every school he attended had a great impact on his life, it was during his academy years that he says he was most influenced by his surroundings. "Attending Greater New York Academy had to be one of the most important educational and religious experiences of my life. With the guidance of a teacher who forever changed my life (Mr. Patterson), I realized my love for science, more specifically medical science," notes dos Santos.

"I believe that, as a result of where I received my education, I became well-rounded [and] rooted in the beliefs

of Seventh-day Adventism," acknowledges dos Santos.

He has expressed appreciation for his parents who guided him to a place that taught Christian values.

"So far, I have been given the appropriate tools to maneuver through my spiritual and professional life successfully."



*"While all my classes at Greater Boston Academy (GBA) prepared me for college and then the workforce,*

*one class in particular, geometry, I've referred to over and over again. I've been able to strike up many conversations, sharing the misery, offering words of encouragement, with a variety of people. It also taught me perseverance and helped me in seeking solutions to life's problems."*

**H**eidi Martella, a former PANTHER PAUSE editor, graduated from GBA in 2001 and then from Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tennessee, in 2005. A journal keeper starting at the age of nine, the public rela-

tions major fit her perfectly. While at Southern, she had the opportunity to be a program coordinator for the Girls Inc. of Chattanooga where she developed a curriculum for journalism camp for inner-city girls.

Shortly after her college graduation she began a ten-week marketing position at South Coast Medical Center in Laguna Beach, California. She then accepted a two-year communication internship with the Washington Conference in Federal Way, Washington.

"In my whole educational journey—from home school to Greater Boston Academy to Southern Adventist University to life—I've had classmates, professors, and mentors dialogue with me about my spiritual journey, pray with me, encourage me in difficult situations and celebrate the milestones. The involvement of my parents, my church family, my teachers, my friends, and my mentors have helped to shape me into who I am today and what I believe," Martella says.

*"There are two things that made my Adventist experience memorable: first, being in school*



with people from so many different cultures was how I imagine heaven will be. Second, although I was not a true Christian at the time, I can recall vividly the many opportunities to meet Christ. I relish those memories.”

**A**ward-winning author **L. David Harris** attended Linden/Jamaica elementary school from first grade to graduation and spent two years at Greater New York Academy. He is a graduate of Columbia Union College in Takoma Park, Maryland. He is an assistant registrar at Columbia Union College.

Even though he had some troubling years, he is now a committed Christian and has a passion for winning souls to Christ. He has published three books entitled *ALIVE AT 5*, *VICTORY IN RETROSPECT*, a two-volume set covering the Old and New Testaments, and *KNOW PEACE WITHIN*. The devotionals are geared to help people achieve victory in Christ.

“My purpose for writing is to help people understand that Christ is coming back,” said Harris in a Columbia Union *VISITOR* December 2004 profile article. Harris has expanded his ministry to include Each1 Reach Many Ministries ([www.each1reachmany.com](http://www.each1reachmany.com)). He has appeared on several television and radio programs, has written for the *NEW YORK CHRISTIAN TIMES*, *MESSAGE*, and *INSIGHT* magazines, and has weekly speaking engagements.

Today, Harris is moving ahead with his mission to lead as many individuals to Jesus Christ as possible. David’s signature quote says it best: “I breathe, therefore, I witness.”

*“Twenty five years of formal education later (all in our Adventist educational system except graduate and post-graduate studies), I look back and marvel at what*



*I’ve come to realize in part how dramatically it has influenced my life.”*

**E**ric Henrickson’s résumé includes Forestdale elementary school, Woodstock, Maine; Sandy Ridge elementary school, Oxford, Maine; Pine Tree Academy, Freeport, Maine; and Atlantic Union College, South Lancaster, Massachusetts. He is presently assistant professor of the West Virginia University Department of Anesthesiology in Morgantown, West Virginia.

Henrickson grew up on a farm in Oxford, Maine. Even though he thought that was a pretty good education, his folks thought differently. Every day he and his sister would make the half-hour trip to the Adventist school with a parent from the local church. “Riding in the back of a pick-up in the winter was not one of my fondest memories,” he recalls, “but we survived and are the better for those experiences.”

Henrickson attributes his success to people behind the schools. “When I think of the sacrifices that my parents made through the years to give me the gift of Adventist education, I am humbled.”

*“I am a product of Adventist education,*



*has taken place since that time. From the recollections of a child’s perspective to the evaluation of my education as an adult,*

*having attended our schools from kindergarten through undergraduate level. I am certain that my life wouldn’t be what it is today without the blessings and guidance bestowed through our schools.”*

**T**imothy D. Trott’s Adventist education experience included attending Browning elementary school, South Lancaster Academy (1993) and Atlantic Union College (1997) all located in South Lancaster, Massachusetts. He has a doctorate in cell and molecular biology (2003) from the University of Vermont. For the past four years, he has been an assistant professor of natural sciences at Atlantic Union College.

Trott says that Adventist education provided him with an excellent education and prepared him for the rigors of graduate school. But other aspects of Adventist education are even more integral to the development of mature Christians. “We often take for granted the ability to pray, teach biblical principles, and worship,” says Trott. “Often our focus is on curriculum and keeping pace with the educational styles of the secular schools. However, the difference in our schools isn’t necessarily the content of the textbooks.” “The simple addition of the Holy Spirit in our classrooms and on our playgrounds changes our thoughts and perspectives in incremental, often imperceptible, but life-altering ways,” notes Trott. “That makes all the difference.”<sup>①</sup>

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*If you or someone you know graduated from one of our elementary or high schools, e-mail us and let us know ([gleaner@atlanticunion.org](mailto:gleaner@atlanticunion.org)). Who knows, you might be featured in a future issue...*



## A Statement on Abuse and Family Violence

In order to increase awareness of the views of the Seventh-day Adventist Church on various subjects, the Atlantic Union GLEANER will publish monthly one of the position statements or guidelines voted by church leadership since 1980. These official statements were issued by the General Conference in session, the General Conference Executive Committee, the General Conference Administrative Committee, or the office of the General Conference president.

As the church continues to grow and make an influence, its role in the society will require that its views and what it holds true become known. Such will continue to be the demands of the society, and such will be the need to define Adventism's relevance, or present truth, to those who are asking questions and seeking answers to their dilemmas and problems.

The documents presented here are not an end in themselves, but a reflection of a movement sensitive to its calling and the people who "know how to answer everyone" (Colossians 4:6, NIV).

### A Statement on Abuse and Family Violence

Seventh-day Adventists affirm the dignity and worth of each human being and decry all forms of physical, sexual and emotional abuse, and family violence.

We recognize the global extent of this problem and the serious, long-term effects upon the lives of all involved. We believe that Christians must respond to abuse and family violence both within the church and in the community. We take seriously reports of abuse and violence and have highlighted these issues for discussion at this international assembly. We believe that to remain indifferent and unresponsive is to condone, perpetuate, and potentially extend such behavior.

We accept our responsibility to cooperate with other professional services, to listen and care for those suffering from abuse and family violence, to highlight the injustices, and to speak out in defense of victims. We will help persons in need to identify and access the range of available professional services.

When changed attitudes and behavior open possibilities for forgiveness and new beginnings, we will provide a ministry of reconciliation. We will assist families in grief over relationships that cannot be restored. We will address the spiritual questions confronting abused persons, seeking to understand the origins of abuse and family violence and developing better ways of preventing the recurring cycle.®

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This statement was approved and voted by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Administrative Committee (ADCOM) and was released by the Office of the President, Robert S. Folkenberg, at the General Conference session in Utrecht, the Netherlands, June 29-July 8, 1995.

#### Resources

Listed are some resources that will help you learn more about the Seventh-day Adventist Church's beliefs, positions on specific topics, and established guidelines.

#### Web sites

*Official Statements voted since 1980:* [www.adventist.org/beliefs/statements/index.html](http://www.adventist.org/beliefs/statements/index.html)

*Guidelines:* [www.adventist.org/beliefs/guidelines/index.html](http://www.adventist.org/beliefs/guidelines/index.html)

*Fundamental Beliefs:* [www.adventist.org/beliefs/fundamental/index.html](http://www.adventist.org/beliefs/fundamental/index.html)

*Church Manual:* [www.adventist.org/beliefs/church\\_manual/index.html](http://www.adventist.org/beliefs/church_manual/index.html)

*Other Documents:* [www.adventist.org/beliefs/other\\_documents/index.html](http://www.adventist.org/beliefs/other_documents/index.html)

#### Books

Available online at AdventSource or your local Adventist Book Center (ABC)

STATEMENTS, GUIDELINES AND OTHER DOCUMENTS

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH MANUAL

## Brésil: Les adventistes prévoient de faire de l'évangélisation durant les jeux panaméricains

“Pendant que les athlètes vont battre des records, les étudiants adventistes ... sont en train de transformer Rio de Janeiro en une capitale de service et de témoignage.” Tels furent les propos énoncés par le pasteur Otimar Gonçalves, responsable du département de la jeunesse pour l'église adventiste en Amérique du Sud. O. Gonçalves s'adresse à un groupe de travail qui planifie de faire de l'évangélisation publique durant les jeux panaméricains qui auront lieu du 13 au 28 juillet à Rio de Janeiro au Brésil.

Avec des délégations venant de 42 pays et 5,500 athlètes en compétition dans 28 disciplines différentes, les jeux panaméricains sont considérés comme le plus grand événement sportif des Amériques, selon le comité olympique. En réponse aux jeux, l'église adventiste du Brésil organise

des activités éducatives, sociales et d'évangélisation regroupées sous le logo 'Impact Rio'.

Ce groupe de travail est composé de dirigeants de l'église issus de différents domaines de l'église adventiste du Brésil. Du 21 au 28 juillet, ils prévoient de distribuer un million de tracts traduits dans trois langues et de battre le record détenu par le Chili de copier la Bible entière en moins de quinze minutes. En plus des dirigeants de l'église, 4,000 étudiants des universités adventistes de huit pays d'Amérique du Sud sont impliqués dans la préparation des activités.

La principale activité d'évangélisation, qui se déroulera sur la plage de Copacabana, comprend des méditations matinales et des séminaires. Les après-midis, les étudiants participeront à des activités sociales de service aux com-

munités de Rio.

Stanley Arco, responsable du département de la jeunesse pour l'église adventiste de l'est du Brésil, dit: “Sept cliniques dentaires vont apporter un soutien aux étudiants et professionnels de la santé.” Le soir, l'accent sera mis sur des rencontres publiques.

En vue des jeux panaméricains, des bibles sont préparées avec le logo 'Impact Rio' et une formation spéciale pour les dirigeants va être dispensée. Des numéros spéciaux de la Revue adventiste et le journal officiel de l'église en portugais seront distribués en juin et juillet. Ces deux magazines proposent notamment un article sur le pasteur Jan Paulsen, président de l'église mondiale, en train de répondre aux questions posées par un panel de jeunes.

Edson Romero, coordinateur de la jeunesse pour

l'église adventiste à Rio de Janeiro, affirme: “C'est un moment historique.” Il explique que l'évènement sportif est une 'excuse' pour promouvoir la paix. Max Guilherme Schaubb, coordinateur de la jeunesse pour l'église adventiste de Rio Fluminense, présente le contexte. Il dit que la violence est en augmentation en ce moment dans Rio. Il parle ensuite d'Impact Rio: “En associant le témoignage au service, on fait un cadeau à la ville.”

Pasteur O. Gonçalves conclut: “Des cérémonies d'ouverture du 21 juillet jusqu'à la clôture le 28 juillet,... Rio va être, grâce à nos activités, sous l'influence d'une attitude de solidarité.”

*Jael Enéas, ASN/ANN staff  
Adventist News Network  
27 February 2007*

QUOI DE NEUF? QU'EST-IL PASANDO?

## Iglesia Mundial: Los líderes buscan cultivar las relaciones adventistas con las grandes religiones

“Los adventistas no son una isla en este mundo. Queremos conocer mejor a otras religiones, y queremos que nos conozcan mejor,” dijo este 23 de enero el Dr. John Graz, director del departamento de Relaciones Públicas y Libertad Religiosa de la Iglesia Adventista mundial.

Con una membresía que rápidamente se aproxima a los 15 millones de miembros, la Iglesia Adventista está lejos de ser aislacionista. Sin embargo, sus líderes creen que para continuar su visión de contar al mundo el mensaje de esperanza de Cristo, es vital desarrollar un esfuerzo coordinado para cultivar el diálogo entre la iglesia y las principales religiones (los musulmanes, los budistas, y otros).

Al describir la relación de la Iglesia Adventista con otras iglesias, Michael Ryan, uno de los vicepresidentes de la Iglesia Adventista mundial dijo: “En el pasado, simplemente no nos hemos entendido. Ahora, estamos en una mejor posición para dialogar con las religiones

mundiales de manera de entenderlos mejor y de que ellos entiendan quiénes somos y qué creemos.”

Una conversación que apunte a conectarse de manera significativa es crucial, dijo Graz. “Si uno no habla, ellos no saben en qué cree uno y pueden inclusive pensar que uno es peligroso o que está promoviendo una agenda política amenazante,” dijo. “En el clima actual de confusión, donde hay credos, sectas y fanatismo religioso, es importante que tengamos una base de diálogo.”

Tanto Graz como Ryan creen que las conversaciones francas entre los adventistas y otros grupos religiosos reducirán los prejuicios que a menudo dominan las relaciones interreligiosas. “Cuando otras religiones realmente nos entienden, la noticia se esparce en la comunidad y esto marca una diferencia,” dijo Ryan.

La comprensión mutua no constituye una invitación a disimular las doctrinas como algunos adventistas podrían

temer, aseguran los líderes de la iglesia. “Participar del diálogo no significa que perseguimos una agenda ecuménica. Es decir simplemente que queremos trascender la comunidad cristiana y hablar con otras religiones. Es decir que queremos tener buenas relaciones,” dijo Graz.

“Esto les dará a los adventistas la oportunidad y las pautas para hablar de una manera que los conecte con otras religiones,” añadió Ryan.

Los miembros del Concilio de Relaciones Interiglesias de la Iglesia Adventista votaron expandir la membresía del organismo para incluir una mayor representación de la oficina de Misión Adventista y de otras organizaciones eclesiológicas orientadas a la misión de manera que la tarea misionera continúe en la vanguardia de la agenda de la iglesia.

*Elizabeth Lechleitner, asistente editorial  
Adventist News Network  
23 de Enero del 2007  
Traducción: Marcos Paseggi*

# Values of Christian Camp in the Atlantic Union

The Atlantic Union is blessed with five great camps where, this summer, almost 2,000 young people will have the opportunity to enjoy Seventh-day Adventist camping at its best. The Bermuda Conference takes its young people to Camp Au Sable in Michigan for a week of camping. Dates for summer camp with pictures are posted in this issue of the *GLEANER* (see page 17).

Youth and Pathfinder leaders in the Atlantic Union could impact their young people in a positive way by helping many youth from their church to attend a summer camp this summer. There are five significant values that are realized by sending young people to summer camp.

**1. Genuine community is experienced.** Camp is a place to try new things, meet new people, and have new adventures. This works wonders, since it exposes campers to change in many ways and, most significantly, spiritually. It is well known in camping circles that many young people accept Christ for the first time at a summer camp.

Separation from home removes the familiar physical and social supports that provide comfort and security. Campers are forced to transfer trust to others or depend on someone more secure and mature.

**2. Summer camp is a whole-person ministry.** Camp powerfully communicates spiritual truths and spurs spiritual growth among campers in the midst of God's creation—through participation in meaningful worship experiences, teachable moments, relaxation, and reflection times. Summer camp reinforces what young people learn and experience in local church schools. Summer camp gives young people an opportunity to grow in all ways as Jesus grew—in wisdom (mentally), stature (physically), and with men (socially).

**3. Relationships are built with God and with other Seventh-day Adventists from within their conference.** A relationship with Christ is the most significant relationship to cultivate, one that brings meaning and healing to all other relationships.

The bonding that occurs by living, playing, worshiping, struggling, and learning together internalizes values taught and translates experience into character formation. Young people aspire to model those who are

slightly older. Summer camp administrators conduct a thorough evaluation to ensure that only highly qualified staff are hired for a summer camp staff position.

**4. Memories and major life commitments are made.** I have seen scores of young people make their career decisions, either by attending or working at a summer camp. Spiritual truth comes from many sources—modeling by camp staff, songs, discussions led by counselors or other staff, and regular spiritual input through cabin devotions, camp counsel, and in spiritual campfire programs. During these times decisions are made that impact the campers for the rest of their lives.

**5. Summer camp inspires young people to become leaders.** It is not unusual for a summer camper to say to the camp director, "I want to be a staff member some day." Camp directors recruit their most qualified staff from former campers. Camps are ideal nurturing environments for developing leaders for the church and society. More young people actually make career decisions by attending camp than by working at camp. What a recruiting tool for the Seventh-day Adventist Church!

A survey commissioned by the Christian Camp and Conference Association a few years ago showed that more than half the people in full-time Christian ministry today had made life-changing decisions at camp. Many not only gave their lives to Jesus Christ at camp, but they learned their leadership/ministry skills there as well. Is that investment worthwhile?

I challenge all our youth leaders, pastors, and parents to insure that their youth have an opportunity to attend an Adventist Christian camp in the Atlantic Union.①



Bill Wood is the youth, Pathfinder, and Adventurer director for the Atlantic Union Conference.



# Atlantic Union Conference Summer Camp Schedule 2007

## Camp Au Sable, Michigan

Bermuda Conference

Junior Camp

Jul. 8 – Jul. 13

## Camp Berkshire

Greater New York Conference

English Youth & Young Adult Camp

Hispanic Youth & Young Adult Camp

Haitian Youth & Young Adult Camp

Jun. 30 – Jul. 7

Jul. 13 – Jul. 21

Jul. 22 – Jul. 28

## Camp Cherokee

New York Conference

Teen Camp

Junior/Teen Camp

Adventure Camp

Family Camp I

Family Camp II

Home School Camp

Jul. 1 – Jul. 8

Jul. 8 – Jul. 15

Jul. 15 – Jul. 22

Jul. 29 – Aug. 5

Aug. 5 – Aug. 12

Aug. 12 – Aug. 17

## Camp Victory Lake

Northeastern Conference

Summer Camp Session 1

Summer Camp Session 2

Jul. 8 – Jul. 22

Jul. 22 – Aug. 12

## Camp Lawroweld

Northern New England Conference

Junior Camp I

Junior Camp II

Blind Camp

Teen Outpost Camp

Horse Camp (Limited to 6 campers)

Teen Camp

Family Adventure Camp

Motorcycle Camp

Jul. 8 – Jul. 15

Jul. 15 – Jul. 22

Jul. 22 – Jul. 29

Jul. 22 – Jul. 29

Jul. 22 – Jul. 29

Jul. 29 – Aug. 5

Aug. 5 – Aug. 12

Aug. 17 – Aug. 19

## Camp Winnekeag

Southern New England Conference

Blind Camp

Teen Extreme

Wakeboard Camp

Teen Camp

Junior Camp I

Adventurer Camp

Junior Camp II

Family Camp I

Family Camp II

Jun. 24 – Jul. 1 (Ages 10-60)

Jul. 1 – Jul. 8 (Ages 13-17)

Jul. 1 – Jul. 8 (Ages 13-17)

Jul. 8 – Jul. 15 (Ages 13-17)

Jul. 15 – Jul. 22 (Ages 10-12)

Jul. 22 – Jul. 29 (Ages 8-9)

Jul. 22 – Jul. 29 (Ages 10-12)

Jul. 29 – Aug. 5 (All Ages)

Aug. 5 – Aug. 12 (All Ages)



For information on summer camp activities contact the Youth Department in your local conference. The phone numbers for each conference are listed in the directory on page 31. Visit the Atlantic Union Conference Youth Department web site: [www.atlantic-union.org/youth.htm](http://www.atlantic-union.org/youth.htm).

Photos courtesy of the camp staff from the camps in the Atlantic Union.

Atlantic Union GLEANER, April 2007



## Regardless of Their Major— They Serve Humanity for God



Atlantic Union College students and mission directors traveled to Cusco, Peru, to paint the Las Joyas church. Without any prompting, they also used their spare money to buy roofing tiles, then traveled up a mountain to give a tucked-away church a covering for their sanctuary.

Tears ran down his cheeks. Exuberant bear hugs from his loving heart extended to these young strangers from America who transported huge construction tiles up a rugged mountain for his church roof.

Members had been praying for a long time for someone to bring them a roof. “For so long we have been forgotten,” said the man.

Serving humanity for God, AUC students said this experience showed all that there is truly a God in heaven who takes care of us.

*Liliet Prevost, sophomore nursing major  
Cindy Kurtzhals, director of public relations*

## Pre-law Students Offered Advice and Information on Law School

Pre-law students at Atlantic Union College (AUC) are gaining valuable exposure to law schools and to the legal profession.

Like other colleges and universities throughout the United States, AUC does not offer a pre-law major. It follows the recommendations of the national Law School Admission Council which advises students considering law school to simply choose a major that stresses writing, public speaking, and critical-thinking skills.

Even though there is no formal pre-law curriculum, the history department advises pre-law students and regularly organizes relevant activities for those interested in law school.

Students recently had the opportunity to speak with representatives from more than 100 law schools across the United States at the Law School Admission Council’s annual law school forum in Cambridge, Massachusetts, near Boston. Students also attended a workshop on navigat-

ing the law school application process.

Lavinia Lorquet, a senior from the Temple Salem church, in Dorchester, Massachusetts, said the forum was instrumental in helping to narrow her choice of prospective law schools. And, “Instead of costly travel and time [that might otherwise might have been incurred], law schools came to me and answered all the questions that concerned me.”

*Nicole Currier, chair  
Atlantic Union College History Department*



Andrew Francis

### Attorney Provides Law School Tips

AUC’s pre-law program hosted Kenya Bradshaw Francis, center, a Florida-based private practice attorney who shared law school survival tips. She cautioned students not to be lulled into complacency by the absence of multiple exams throughout the semester in law school. She explained that careful study on a daily basis is vital for success on the all-important final exam. Francis also motivated students to find ways to set themselves apart from other law school applicants not only by excelling academically, but also by getting involved in extracurricular activities.



## What History Majors Say About AUC...



Jeff Lambert

"I attended two other colleges before coming to AUC and out of all the history programs I've been involved in, this one has been my favorite. The academics here are second to none in the wide world of history."

*Jeff Lambert, senior*



Vanessa Murray

"I am having an excellent experience being involved with the history department at AUC.

The history classes are fascinating, enjoyable, and challenging. The history professors are phenomenal historians who are helpful, knowledgeable, and encouraging. I am very appreciative of the quality education that I am receiving."

*Vanessa Murray, sophomore*

### Career Possibilities

#### Education

Museum educator  
High school teacher  
College professor

#### Communication

Writer/consultant  
Journalist  
Documentary film researcher

#### Law

Attorney  
Judge  
Politician  
Non-governmental humanitarian worker

#### Other

Librarian  
Political consultant/  
campaign worker  
Editorial assistant  
Archivist/Historic preservation  
Non-governmental organization aide  
Archaeologist  
Minister

### History Majors Explore Career Options

The history department at Atlantic Union College (AUC) debunks the myth that a history major is only for those intending to become high school teachers. While AUC's history department does offer a secondary teaching track, it also has a more flexible open track designed for individuals with other career interests. This open track is

particularly popular with students who are adding history as a second major.

In order to familiarize students with the range of career options, each month a guest speaker, often a program graduate, speaks about his or her career. During the 2006-2007 school year, speakers included Monica McCarter, a librarian; Kenya Bradshaw Francis, an

attorney; and Chesley Wendth, a museum studies program graduate. Recently featured speakers include individuals working in the fields of journalism, business, and, of course, teaching.

*Nicole Carrier, chair  
Atlantic Union College History Department  
www.auc.edu, enroll@auc.edu  
Nicole.currier@auc.edu*





## Four Majors, Three Degrees, Two Students, One Conference

On Sunday, January 14, Michelle Hill and Pattiejean Brown, from the Bermuda Conference, graduated from the Adult Degree Program (ADP) at Atlantic Union College (AUC) in South Lancaster, Massachusetts. The graduation speaker was Frank Tochterman, president of the Southern New England Conference.

Hill received a bachelor of arts degree with majors in religion and theology. She graduated cum laude, with departmental honors and also delivered the opening prayer at the commencement service. Brown received a bachelor of arts in liberal arts and a bachelor of science in behavioral science. She also read Scripture at the College Church during the Sabbath service.

Both students received great sup-



Michelle Hill and Pattiejean Brown, recent graduates of the Adult Degree Program at AUC.

port from their families. Family members attending the ceremonies to support Hill included her husband, Dwayne, and four sons,

Jordan, Cole, Tory, and Dillon. Family members attending the ceremonies to support Brown were her husband, Jeffrey, Bermuda Conference president, her children, Kristle and Jamel, her mother, Isabelle McMahon, her aunt, Patricia Elliott, and her cousins, Denise Taylor and Kara Robinson.

Bermuda was well represented at the graduation in the persons of: Eloise Symonds, ADP Student Association president; Pattiejean Roberts, ADP student dean; Kendra-Lee Pearman, an assistant professor at AUC; Sherma Clarke, a member at Southampton church; Kim Simons from Westboro, Massachusetts; and Carlyle Simmons, executive secretary of the Atlantic Union and his wife, Marilyn.

*Jeffrey Brown, president  
Bermuda Conference*

## Ready for Disaster

Living on the island of Bermuda, like any other land mass in the midst of the sea, a natural disaster can strike at any time. Our community was recently reminded of how vulnerable we are to the occurrence of a natural disaster when we were threatened with a tidal wave (this turned out to be a false alarm). This realization inspired the Bermuda Conference Adventist Community Services Department to hold a disaster relief training program so that we can be prepared in the event of a national emergency.

Presenters Minnie McNeal, Allegheny East

Adventist Community and Disaster Services director and Micah Chavers, who serves on their disaster team, spent a week at the Pembroke church for an island-wide intensive disaster training, which included an advanced track in warehouse management.

The basic course encompassed volunteer orientation, which gave an overview of the purpose and function of the Adventist Disaster Response Program. This included types of disasters, fundamental principles for involvement, supplies and equipment needed, training response procedures, chain of command, and names and

functions of cooperating governmental agencies.

We thank God for equipping us to serve others when the need arises in a time of

crisis. We remember that in helping those in need we actually help Christ Himself.

*Ulric Hetsberger, pastor  
Pembroke church*

## ? What's Happening in Your Church?

Do you have news or other inspiring stories from your church that you would like to share with our readers?

Submit all articles and photos to your conference communication director.

For information on how and what to submit visit [www.atlantic-union.org/gleaner.htm](http://www.atlantic-union.org/gleaner.htm) and click on "Guidelines for Submitting Articles."

We would love to hear from you!

## A New Adventist Church is Born

The Willis Avenue Seventh-day Adventist Church was organized on December 16, 2006. On that day, all members of the Spanish Intervale Seventh-day Adventist Church marched through the streets to the newly-opened church located at 402 East 140 Street, Bronx, New York.

Leading the march was Pastor Abel Rosario, promoter and organizer of the event, State Senator Ruben Diaz, Carlos Muñoz Medina, communication director of the Spanish Intervale church, and many other leaders and members. They walked more than 30 blocks singing songs, prais-

ing the Lord, and giving out tracts along the route. During the entire march the group was escorted by police officers from the New York City Police Department.

In addition to the patrol car sirens and the voices of the singers ascending heavenward, many people from the neighborhood joined the march and glorified God as television and other cameras recorded the occasion.

Inside the church, Ricardo Torres, the Greater New York Conference Hispanic Ministries coordinator, was master of ceremonies. Richard A. Marker, Greater New York Conference president, and



Felipe S. Barrientos

Church members sign the membership book during the organizing service.

scheduled speaker for the event, presented a sermon that touched everyone. After the sermon, Pastor Abel Rosario presented his working team. They all worked together to form the new Adventist group, which was officially organized by Richard A. Marker.

Pastor Rosario and the

members of the Spanish Intervale church were planning to organize a group, but God, in his infinite love and mercy, allowed them to organize a church. It goes to show that everything that God does, He does for the best.

*Felipe S. Barrientos  
communication director  
Spanish Intervale church*

## Special Baptism at the Middletown Spanish Church



Fifty members, family, and friends gathered on the afternoon of December 23, 2006, at the Middletown church for a special baptism of candidates from the Middletown Spanish church.

The candidates, left to right, Claudia Castillo, Janelyn Roman, Carolina Gallego, and Mummy Muller, affirmed their belief in the 28 fundamental beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Local elder Jose Aldave assisted Pastor Camilo Deleon in the baptism. Gifts of appreciation were presented to each candidate.

After Pastor Deleon's appeal, three adults and two youth stood to accept Christ and prepare for a future baptism.

*Richard Mills, communication director  
Middletown church*

## Half a Century Together

Evelyn and Emile Rogers celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary by renewing their vows at the Poughkeepsie Seventh-day Adventist Church during a "ceremony of love."

Pastor John Osborne, Pastor Winston Stanley from Texas, Lester Rogers (their only son) his wife, Dain, and their children Keila and Joshua, six foster daughters, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, along with other family members and church members packed the church and participated in a candlelight ceremony.

As Evelyn and Emile looked into each other's eyes and expressed their love for one another, members of the audience were moved with emotion. A reception followed with a fellowship dinner of delicious homemade foods, an anniversary cake, and the sharing of family stories that made us laugh and cry.



Evelyn and Emile Rogers celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

When the couple was asked, "What's your secret to longevity?" they responded, "Commitment to one another and acceptance of each other for the way we are."

The love these two people show us every time we see them is an example for us all.

Hold on to what you have, cherish it, nurture it, take care of it, and find a way to make it together through the rough times and the pleasurable times, for they will and do appear. As we all witnessed at this celebration, it's worth the effort.

*Janet Boehm, communication director  
Poughkeepsie church*



## Witnesses for God

Sometimes we just have to sit back in awe as we watch the wonderful works of God. As the Buskirk church plant approached the holidays, we pondered how we could make a difference in our community and become friends with the neighbors. As always, God was working behind the scenes! Just a week and a half before Thanksgiving, Miriam Ford received a phone call from Tina Bunting offering us five fresh turkeys for Thanksgiving baskets for needy community members. As we prayed for guidance, God was opening doors.

Not knowing who would need the baskets the most, Miriam contacted Duane Honyoust, who had attended church the week before with his brother. Amazingly, Duane had been out of work because of an injury, and the paperwork for his benefits had been delayed. Duane was also able to direct



Members of the Buskirk church plant find ways of assisting members in the community. Left to right: Susan Carpenter, Miriam Ford, Dwayne Hanyoust, and in the front are Sarah and Jake Carpenter.

us to other needy families. In addition, he and his wife, Theresa, joined us the Sunday before Thanksgiving to make decorations, put the boxes of food

together, and help us deliver them. We made new friendships that day, and have been blessed by Duane and Theresa joining our church family.

But, God has continued to bless us with opportunities. On the Wednesday after Thanksgiving, the Bunting's house trailer burned. Tina, two of her teenage boys, and her grandchildren barely escaped with their lives yet, God turns tragedies into opportunities. Two of the Bunting children had worked at a local riding stable with my daughter last summer. When we learned of the fire, friendships that could provide support, encouragement, and love were already in place. Ford has been able to share the story of Jesus with the family and I have been able to befriend one of the younger members. As they rebuild their home, we pray that Jesus will become a part of it!

*Sue Carpenter, member  
Buskirk church plant*

## Lockport Radio Goes Live



Lockport members, left to right: Goose Gray, Simon Chavers, Ezra Staley, Mike Stauder, Alex Konscol, Jim Acre, and Bill Roeser assist Pastor Crespo with the live radio program twice monthly.

The Lockport church has aired a half-hour radio program, "Glad Tidings," on their local AM radio station for several years. In January

2007 they began broadcasting live twice a month, allowing listeners to call in with Bible questions.

An exciting aspect of the

new program is that several of the lay members are co-hosting with me. Members will

take turns speaking and answering questions alongside the pastor, resulting in a double blessing, to the listeners and to the speakers.

This is representative of the new approach to ministry adopted by the New York Conference, in which church members are committed to leading out in ministry rather than being pastor dependent.

We look forward to dramatic results as church members unite their efforts in a more active way with their pastors.

*Miguel Crespo, pastor  
Lockport church*



Pastor Miguel Crespo, left, and a newly baptized member, Simon Chavers, prepare for a broadcast.



## “Yes, You Can”

The Stamford Westin Hotel in Stamford, Connecticut, was the site for a well-planned, well-attended, very informative 2007 Youth Ministries Convention. Approximately 700 leaders of Pathfinder and Adventurer clubs, and Adventist Youth Societies (AYS) from around the Northeastern Conference (NEC) registered for the January 11–14 event. More than 1,000 attendees enjoyed the Sabbath convocation and embraced the theme for 2007, “Yes, You Can.”

There was something for everyone in the weekend's schedule. In addition to the general sessions, there were many seminars from which to choose, and several booths staffed by individuals providing important information. Joining them was Rachel Whitaker from *GUIDE*, a magazine for young people ages 10–14.

Northeastern Conference president, Trevor Baker, opened the session on Thursday night as the keynote speaker. For the devotional segments of the weekend, Pastor Adrienne Townsend, associate dean



Ednor A. P. Davison

Five individuals who completed the Senior Youth Leadership program were invested as senior youth leaders. From left to right are: Deanna Lambert, Tonia Williams, Jason Dryden, Alexa Joseph, and Nickisha Barrett.

of women for Lamson Hall on the campus of Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan, delivered powerful messages to the young people. She gave them hope and encouragement for their journey ahead as youth leaders. Pastor Anthony A. Medley, co-pastor of the Capitol Hill church in Washington, D.C., led out in several general sessions with presentations on the “Theology of Youth Ministry.”

Of significant note was that five individuals who

completed the Senior Youth Leadership program were invested as senior youth leaders. The Senior Youth Leadership program is an equivalent to the Master Guide program pursued by leaders of the Pathfinder and Adventurer clubs. According to Garnet Morris, associate youth director for the Northeastern Conference, “The NEC Youth Ministries department firmly believes in the injunction of Ellen G. White that, if we rightly train this army of youth, the

Investiture service was held on Saturday afternoon for 31 Master Guides. Twelve Pathfinder were presented with leadership awards, and two Pathfinder instructors were presented with instructor awards.

At the conclusion of the weekend events, the young adults went home better prepared to take their rightful place as leaders in their churches.

Ednor A. P. Davison  
GLENER editor



Pathfinder, Adventurer, and Adventist Youth Society leaders from around the Northeastern Conference gathered on January 11–14 at The Stamford Westin Hotel in Stamford, Connecticut, for the 2007 Youth Ministries Convention.

message of a soon-coming Savior will be preached in the world (see *EDUCATION*, p. 271). Hence, we are meticulous in training our youth for leadership and service so that the coming of Christ can be hastened.”

A Master Guide



Ednor A. P. Davison

Pastor Adrienne Townsend, associate dean of women for Lamson Hall on the campus of Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan, delivered powerful messages to the young people.

## God Supplies a Win-Win Situation

Community service is a vital part of Christian education. It provides students with the opportunity to be Jesus' hands. We are taught that unselfishness underlies all true development and that the law of life is the law of service.

Ever since I arrived at North Star Christian school in Bangor, I had a burden to increase my students' opportunities for service. We have been able to visit homes and businesses in our community with gifts of plants grown in our greenhouse. We provide for a family or organization in need every year at Christmastime. This year we sent a gift to ADRA (Adventist Development and Relief Agency). We have a Thanksgiving party for students' families and guests from the community each year and we have a Good Samaritan Club. But, as the new school year approached, I wanted to do more, so I asked God to

show me what to do. The answer came to me one day in late August while I was at the Bangor Public Library. I immediately went to the children's librarian, Anne Mundie, and asked her if she could use any help. She said she could, and I when suggested that my students help, she was delighted.

There was some history there. Even before I had my first official school day at North Star Christian school, I regularly visited the library, which houses the largest collection of books in Maine. As I got to know Anne, I shared with her information about our school and its needs. She responded a short while later by giving the school an encyclopedia set that the library could no longer use, and the gifts have continued. We had visited the library as a class on a regular basis so our students and the staff were quite familiar with each other. Thus doing community service for the



Masar Neil, grade 5, with children's librarian Anne Mundie.

library was a natural progression of our relationship.

Starting in September, Anne and her assistants gave several training sessions on the Dewey Decimal System and the students were taught how to re-shelve books. For librarians, returning books to their proper places is like doing dishes or laundry—a job that is never finished. So now we go on a regular basis and re-shelve books for an hour and then we get to personally enjoy the library for a half hour. Our

Home and School leader made us badges identifying us as library volunteers from North Star Christian school.

God supplied a win-win situation. The librarians are getting much-needed help and the students are learning a valuable skill. The students' interest in reading has been stimulated by their exposure to so much literature and it seems that I need extra air in my tires on library days to support the weight of all their books!

*Susan Strickland, teacher  
North Star Christian school*

## Doors Open for Witnessing Experience

Tonya might have been disappointed that Sabbath had local elder Gary Boisvert not decided to forgo camp meeting and open the church just in case there were any visitors. A Ukrainian college student, Tonya, was working at a New Hampshire summer camp and had asked a staff member to bring her to church, trusting that the Lord would provide her transportation home. With no formal service planned and no one else in attendance, Gary and Tonya had the opportunity to get acquainted. Thus began Boisvert's summer Sabbath routine, two 70-mile round trips to be sure Tonya could attend church.

Talking about Jesus is the joy of Tonya's life, and she did indeed share her Christian walk with coworkers.

Nataliya, Tonya's roommate, became interested and was able to arrange her work schedule to come to church



Impressed to leave the doors of the church open at camp meeting time, Gary Boisvert, second from left, could not imagine the impact his decision would have on the lives of these young women, (left to right) Tonya, Nataliya, and Stacy, and their walk with God.

with Tonya most weeks. Natailya and Tonya quickly developed a friendship with Stacy Medley who also attends

the Laconia church, and the three girls spent most Sabbaths with the Boisvert family, forging bonds of closeness that will last through eternity.

Late August came, the camp job ended, and Tonya went home, but Nataliya's visa did not expire until October 26. So deep was her desire to enhance her knowledge of Jesus' love and plan for her life, she chose to remain in the United States to attend the Revelation of Hope seminar in early autumn. Nataliya was baptized on October 18 and returned to the Ukraine the following week where new Adventist friends (that Tonya had contacted) were ready to welcome her.

*Linda Griffin, communication correspondent  
Laconia church*



## Education Rally—a Spirit-filled Day

Children, music, and laughter filled the Worcester Seventh-day Adventist Church during Education Rally day on January 20.

More than 200 people witnessed the talents of Kathleen Robidoux, an eighth-grade student at Worcester Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School, and Vocé, a choral group from South Lancaster Academy.



Keyanna is just one of the students benefiting by attending the Worcester Seventh-day Adventist School.

Worcester students shared “Why I Love My School” and Barbara Stowell, the Worcester school principal, shared what was happening at the school.

Chaplains Jeff Marshall from South Lancaster

Academy and Mark Ishikawa from Greater Boston Academy gave testimonies to the value of Christian education.

During his message, “The Journey of Church Schools—Is it Worth It?,” Donald King, Atlantic Union Conference president, discussed that we are not on a monorail system, we are on a two-track system, the church and the school, both needing each other to work properly.

Frank Tochtermann, Southern New England Conference president, told about his children’s experience with a one-teacher school, sharing the pride of how successful they are today.

“There are hundreds of children in the Worcester area who would benefit from a Seventh-day Adventist education,” Tochtermann says. “We pray for them and for our churches in the Worcester area that they will combine their resources to make a difference in the lives of the children in their area.”

*Tamara Michalenko Terry  
assistant communication director  
Southern New England Conference*

## Sterling Church Pastor Baptizes Seven New Members



Sterling church’s new members: Isadora Ferreira (from left), Jim Hodson, Kiara Pitcher, Michael Maki, Arlan Gagnon, Helio Ferreira, Kim Pitcher and Pastor Nahor Muchiutti.

On Saturday, January 20, in the presence of family and friends, seven individuals dedicated themselves to Christ through baptism at the Sterling Seventh-day Adventist Church.

By being baptized one is saying, “Yes” to Jesus and that’s exactly what Isadora and Helio Ferreira, Michael Maki, Jim Hodson, Arlan Gagnon, and Kiara and Kim Pitcher did on this day. This was the second baptismal service held in the Sterling church since December 23, 2006, when Leonardo Vilas Boas Zamo was baptized.

Pastor Nahor Muchiutti shared the story of Phillip and the man who stopped

his chariot in the tracks when they saw water. At the close of the baptismal service at least five young people responded to his invitation to join the family of God.

The Sterling church is following the “Truth 4 Youth” baptismal program. It is a fun way for eight-year-olds and up to learn about our church’s fundamental beliefs.

“The Sterling church is embracing the spirit of mission in the community and the results are tangible,” said Muchiutti. “The Bible study program on Wednesday night has become the focus of our attention and has a good attendance. Since the Lord is impressing people’s hearts and many are willing to accept the message, we are offering Bible studies on Saturday afternoon for those interested in baptism.”

*Eugene Pollard, head elder  
Sterling church*

## What I like About My Church

I attend Bethel Haitian Seventh-day Adventist Church. I enjoy being an Adventist and going there for worship. There are many reasons why I love my church. The most important reason is because my church loves God. I also enjoy being a part of my church because the people are wonderful and feel like family. Though I was baptized in December 2005, I feel like I’ve known these people my entire life.

I also enjoy the way we worship because we sing in English and

Creole. I like my church because we have activities we can participate in that strengthen our leadership and social skills while staying focused on God. We have Master Guide, Pathfinders, B.Y.E. (the church choir), youth days, socials, and more.

I love how my church puts on programs for our youth. It’s exciting and gets us “fired up” for God. Being a part of Bethel is great and I love being a Seventh-day Adventist because we have the truth and

practice it. I love the environment and community. We come together to worship the same God, our Lord and Savior, who gave us all that we have. I’m proud and I know God is proud of the work we’ve accomplished and would want us to continue the good we do on this earth.



*Precious Erving, junior  
South Lancaster Academy*



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# Bulletin Board



## Sunset Table

May 2007	4	11	18	25
Bangor, ME	7:44	7:53	8:01	8:08
Portland, ME	7:47	7:55	8:03	8:10
Boston, MA	7:48	7:55	8:02	8:09
South Lancaster, MA	7:50	7:58	8:05	8:12
Pittsfield, MA	7:56	8:04	8:11	8:18
Hartford, CT	7:53	8:00	8:07	8:13
New York, NY	7:55	8:03	8:09	8:16
Albany, NY	7:57	8:05	8:12	8:19
Utica, NY	8:06	8:14	8:21	8:28
Syracuse, NY	8:09	8:17	8:25	8:31
Rochester, NY	8:16	8:23	8:31	8:38
Buffalo, NY	8:20	8:27	8:35	8:41
Hamilton, Bda	8:01	8:06	8:11	8:15

Eastern Daylight Saving Time

ronald.harris3@comcast.net. Space is limited, please call soon.

## OUT-OF-UNION

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, La Mesa Adventist Community Church**, La Mesa, Calif., May 5. A full orchestra and choir presentation, "I Can Only Imagine," will lead the worship in two thrilling services (1<sup>st</sup> Service – 9:00 a.m.; 2<sup>nd</sup> Service – 11:30 a.m.). Seating is free, but reservations are required. Call (619) 461-5703 for service and seating information.

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**Health Fair/Screening and Food for Life, May 19-21 at Berea Seventh-day Adventist Church**, 108 Seaver St., Boston, MA 02121. Chef Sualua Tupolo from Atlantic Union College will provide cooking classes on planning healthy meals for cancer prevention including low fat foods, high fiber, dairy alternatives, replacing meat, maintaining healthy weight and immune-boosting foods. Food sampling and health screening will also be provided. For

**Tune in to Voice of Hope every Wednesday at 1:00 p.m.**, on WMCA 970 AM. Warner A. Richards, pastor of the Corona church in Queens, N.Y., hosts the program. Listen live on the Internet on the WMCA Web site, www.wmca.com, click the "Live on the Internet" link, and then click on "WMCA 970 Live Stream."

### SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND

**South Lancaster Academy Alumni Cruise to Alaska**, July 9-20, 2007. This time we are heading for Alaska. Two options are being offered. A 7 day cruise only from Vancouver, BC to Anchorage (Whittier) or a 12 day Sea and Land tour which continues on to Denali via glass domed train where we spend 2 nights, then to Fairbanks for 2 additional nights. For more information contact our travel agent: Kathy Rice at (215) 412-8367, e-mail: krice@aaaeastpenn.com. Also contact June Harris, at (978)368-1667, e-mail:

## ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE 120<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Graduation

### Consecration Service

Friday, May 11, 2007

7:30 p.m.

College Church

### Nurse's Pinning Service

Sabbath, May 12, 2007

4:00 p.m.

College Church

### Baccalaureate Service

Sabbath, May 12, 2007

11:00 a.m.

College Church

### Commencement

Sunday, May 13, 2007

10:00 a.m.

W. G. Nelson Recreational Center

Thank you in advance for your prayerful gifts to the Semi-Annual Offering for Atlantic Union College on May 12, 2007.

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REGISTRATION FORMS AND MORE DETAILS WILL BE MAILED OUT SOON.  
[www.atlantic-union.org/acs2007.htm](http://www.atlantic-union.org/acs2007.htm)

# THE ATLANTIC UNION GLEANER

The Official Publication for the Constituents  
of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the  
Northeast United States and Bermuda

Established January 1, 1902

Atlantic Union Conference  
400 Main Street, South Lancaster, MA 01561  
Phone (978) 368-8333, Fax (978) 368-7948  
Web site: [www.atlantic-union.org](http://www.atlantic-union.org)

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