

the Adventist Woman

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March 1986



Elizabeth Sterndale: NAD



Betty Holbrook: GC

NAD welcomes Sterndale's input

Not only has the North American Division appointed Elizabeth Sterndale as Women's Advisory Representative, in accordance with the Annual Council action voted last October, but they have also asked her to be present for every NAD officers' meeting. In addition, she has been invited to join with the NAD officers and union conference presidents during their regular meetings, which occur at least three times a year.

The NAD action is a significant step. By comparison, Betty Holbrook, who chairs the GC Committee for Women's Ministries, has been invited to meet with the GC officers only four times a year.

Miss Sterndale reports that NAD President C.E. Bradford and Secretary Fred Thomas

have encouraged her to participate in the discussions on all issues during the officers' meetings, not just those of special interest to women.

She will also work closely with Warren Banfield of the Office of Human Relations in an effort to strengthen the role of the NAD Women's Advisory Commission, which OHR established in 1983.

Miss Sterndale's major responsibility continues to be with the Health and Temperance Department where she works closely with nursing personnel leadership throughout the Adventist Health Systems in North America. She is Executive Director of the Association of Adventist Nurses (ASDAN).

GC adds new members to women's ministries group

by Shirley Burton

Two more women have been added to the Committee for Women's Ministries, established during the October Annual Council.

They are Elizabeth Sterndale, an associate director in the Health and Temperance Department of the General Conference, and Marjorie Felder, administrative assistant in Trust Services for the General Conference. Miss Sterndale has been in her current position four years, moving from Harding Hospital in Worthington, Ohio. A former teacher at Oakwood College, Miss Felder started at the General Conference six years ago as a secretary in the Sabbath School Department.

Already functioning in two-hour monthly meetings, the Committee for Women's Ministries is chaired by Betty Holbrook. Earlier named members were Shirley Burton, Jocelyn Fay, Beverly Rumble, and Marie Spangler. Selection of an Hispanic representative has yet to be made.

Charged with encouraging more active women's participation in church activities as well as helping church leaders at all levels become aware of both the public and personal roles of Adventist women, the committee is giving consideration to organizing a data bank of skills as well as focusing women on the skills they possess.

"Local churches, by and large, do a good

job of using those skills," says Mrs. Holbrook. "What we need most is to help everyone know that there are few responsibilities on the local and union conference levels that women probably should not fill or where they would be less effective.

"Those areas," she says, "are as conference president, ministerial director, or other posts which might be influenced by culture."

Among early committee projects are materials to assist guidance counselors in directing young women to proper education for those positions.

"We will not appeal for women to be placed in responsibility for the sake of position," Mrs. Holbrook says. "We will rather promote awareness of qualified people."

Correspondence for the committee should be addressed to Mrs. Betty Holbrook, 6840 Eastern Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20012.

The South American Division appears to be the first to set up a commission similar to that of the General Conference. It will be headed by Lydia Justiano. Miss Sterndale will also head a similar one for North America.

Shirley Burton is News Director for the Communication Department of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in Washington, D.C.

Amine Bolinger Varga

A safe harbor for abused children

by Jean Anderson

As owner and operator of Odyssey Harbor in Keene, Texas, Amine Bolinger Varga sees her life focalizing into fulfillment. She feels all her past experiences have prepared her for her current career endeavor.

Odyssey Harbor is a treatment center for mentally disturbed children who have been physically and sexually abused. Its unique program designed by Mrs. Varga helps children develop physically, mentally, and emotionally. Indoor and outdoor recreation, individualized and group therapy, a special education program and a diet following the principles of E.G. White provide the basis of successful treatment.

Currently, there are 31 residents ranging in age from 5 to 16, most of whom have been severely and sexually abused. Even the state hospitals send their unmanageable children to Odyssey Harbor. They are all aggressive, unsocialized, and unlovable, but in the eyes of Mrs. Varga, they are frightened little children crying for help and love. And this is what they receive from her, the dedicated staff of 65 employees, and interested community folk.

"I've always ended up with children or young people," explains Mrs. Varga. Born in Honolulu, Hawaii, as the daughter of missionary teachers, she remembers her parents keeping foster children or taking in others' children. Prior to receiving her undergraduate degree from Pacific Union College in 1965, she worked as a teacher, pediatric charge nurse, and a psychiatric technician. After marrying Laszlo Varga, a psychiatrist and neurologist originally from Hungary, she worked in child welfare services for the state of Wisconsin. She obtained her M.S.W. from the University of Wisconsin in 1970.

After this she and her family moved to California where Loma Linda University employed her to develop and initiate a social services department and curriculum. In 1980 Southwestern Adventist College asked her to perform the same function for them.

When her students at SAC did a survey revealing a need for a children's facility, she wrote a proposal for such a project and submitted it to the Texas Conference for their

approval and backing. Upon receiving word that they could not participate in the venture, she pledged an African gold coin, a gift from her husband, as down payment on 32 acres of land.

She had no other resources at the time. However, the Lord honored her faith and desire to provide for His unloved children. By bringing about the sale of their California home that had been on the market for four years, He sent the needed money on the very day of the closure on the Keene property.

Construction began and the facility opened in October, 1983. Due to its close proximity to Southwestern Adventist College, it also serves as a field placement for social work students.

Dealing with the unpredictable behavior and pathology of the children and the endless details of running a business are time consuming and nerve wearing. How does Mrs. Varga feel about these demands? "It's fun! I like the constant challenge and change. It allows me to be creative, try out new ideas, and satisfies my natural impulsivity." Her creativity, enthusiasm, and accomplishments have won her recognition by state mental health workers and resulted in her recent appointment as a member of the Texas Advisory Board for Child Care.

What about the future? Besides adding a licensed adoption agency, she envisions Odyssey Harbors all over the United States. Located near all our colleges, they will employ Adventist young people and help change mentally disturbed children into happy, productive citizens. She also sees Ad-



Amine Bolinger Varga hugs one of the residents of the Odyssey Harbor treatment center for abused children.

ventist foster homes connected with the facilities to help children make the transition from residential treatment to adoptive homes. And when all of these dreams become a reality, Amine Varga will probably have new ideas, dreams, and plans for child welfare services.

Jean Anderson is a clinical psychologist living in Keene, Texas.

Presidential Communique

Individual gifts, common cause

Separate can never be equal. The civil rights movement taught society that separating black people from white people by designating which race could use which school, washroom, or drinking fountain, prevents humans from interacting as equals. Separating the task of finishing the gospel into tasks performed by male people and tasks performed by female people, runs contrary to the good news that all people are equal in Jesus Christ.

God does have a plan for giving different gifts to different Christians, but the designation is not based on the sex of the believer.

"There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them . . . To each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good" (1 Corinthians 12:4-7, NIV).

How is the common good served if a woman with the gift of understanding university administration is primarily assigned the task of teaching in the cradle roll division of Sabbath school?

How is the common good served if a man with the gift of understanding small children is asked only to be on the board of trustees of a Seventh-day Adventist college?

The common good is best served when each Christian utilizes the special gifts that God gives to her or to him. The church is the body of Christ. The activities of each member are important to the overall functioning of the body.

Handicapped people have shown society that when one part of the body is unable to function, another body part can do the job of the disabled member. Toes can do the work of fingers. Hands can do the work of feet.

The body of Christ need not be disabled. "God has combined the members of the body . . . so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other" (1 Corinthians 12:24, 25 NIV).

It may be easy for Seventh-day Adventist women to separate themselves in spirit from the male-dominated administration of their church and to point a finger at the ways in which that administration seems to have separated women from certain tasks of the church. Such separation and finger-pointing can only serve to harm.

Women are an integral part of the body of Christ. We must not separate ourselves from the male members of that body. We must work together as persons: as Christians who have been given heavenly gifts, and as members of the same body.

We must move forward to utilize our own gifts and recognize the gifts of others. We must not separate "women's concerns" from the concerns of the church.

Separate can never be equal.

—Betty Howard

From the Pulpit

by Jan Daffern

Although we lived there for almost two years, and it did become home, the house on Franklin Street could never be considered "ideal" for newly married students. But Gene and I moved there after only five months of combining medical school (for him) and college (for me). Since then, the Franklin Street house has become a symbol for an experience that stretched us beyond our sheltered Adventist backgrounds.

Neither of us had lives so easy that we simply breezed toward our goals, but we always knew we would make it and assumed that everyone, with a little effort, could make it also. The house on Franklin Street challenged several of our assumptions.

The place was distinctive. It had one of those old covered porches that sagged with the rest of the two-story structure. Inside, the plaster was falling off the walls. Light bulbs hung bare in each room and pipes ran around the ceiling in the kitchen. This is not to say that the house didn't have some class. The bathtub had feet and the dining room was paneled with mahogany. Outside at the end of a palm tree-lined drive was a carriage house that diverted attention away from the empty lot littered with trash and broken bottles. And the rent was free—if we would help the City Parish Adventist congregation in downtown Riverside minister to the neighborhood.

The Franklin Street neighborhood, like the house, had changed. On our block, all the older people who had owned the big homes had died or moved and been replaced by less stable groups (for instance, our place had recently housed the local chapter of the Hell's Angels, a motorcycle gang). Nearly all the residents had come across the border from Mexico in groups of 10 or more adults and as many children. The local market was called the "mercado" and the record store on the corner blasted out music with words we didn't understand. Because the adults in the community worked either harvesting or packing citrus, the families did a lot of moving around. The public elementary school across the street from us reported a 75 percent turnover in students each school year with some children reappearing at certain times each year only to leave again.

In the work of Jesus there's joy in saying Yes

The City Parish congregation leased the Franklin Street house to work with these kids. Gene and I, with help from other Loma Linda University students, worked on several programs. We assisted the teachers at the school with tutoring and enrichment classes. We held summer day-camps, took camping trips, excursions to the library, and demonstrated bread-baking. Several La Sierra students came every Sabbath year-round to hold a Bible Story Hour. I attended PTA meetings, organized birthday parties, and attended school plays. However, in retrospect, I know that the Franklin Street neighborhood gave me more learning than I ever provided for it.

One of the things I observed was how little attention we middle-class Adventist Christians give to those unlike ourselves. Our little congregation was only one project in a large city. There were hundreds of Adventists in dozens of churches in the area, but they seemed unaware of neighborhoods like ours. We have been educated to give to the poor somewhere else while sometimes remaining out of touch with those close by. While I say this, I admit that even after living in the inner city, Gene and I tend to return to our patterns of forgetting too.

We also discovered that living in a borderline, slum community was not all joy in service. It was maddening to set out garbage only to have it spread all over by dogs because it wasn't collected. We began to suspect that "trashy" neighborhoods might owe their problems more to city hall than to the residents.

When we came home each evening, there was the inevitable scurrying of roaches and rats. We valiantly went to war with the pests, only to discover that they were resistant to almost any technique. Some of our friends preferred not to visit us at home after an encounter with one or two "beasts." Our depression and embarrassment over roaches and rats diminished when we realized that our neighbors battled with them for the health and safety of their small children.

Once when Gene was scheduled to be on call all night at the hospital, I stayed late on campus to study at the library. When I arrived home, the lights were on and the doors were standing open. I knew someone had burglarized our home. Frantic, I called the police. My fear deepened when the officer said that he would take a report over the phone and not send anyone out "because after all, these things happen all the time in your area." At the time I was too shocked and scared to protest. Later, when we demanded that the police respond to our calls, we discovered that our neighbors did not feel protected but threatened, fearing that they would be thrown out of the country.

In many ways Gene and I were relieved to leave the Franklin Street house. But we have often wondered about those neighbors we left behind. We can only imagine the despair they must feel, faced with the daily fight against poverty and rats and the indifference of those in power. When we look at our pictures from those days we remember the pride they had in their children, the close-knit fami-

lies with uncles and aunts and cousins helping one another in a new place. We recall the hope they expressed for future generations and the deep Christian faith which offered an anchor in the storm of Riverside's north side.

When Gene and I read the stories of the New Testament now, we no longer visualize Jesus on a green suburban lawn in heaven, but living in the Franklin Street house. He is there with the children, helping to get the garbage problem solved, working on a way to keep rats away from babies, and asking police to be more cooperative. This is a comforting picture. What is unsettling is to hear His voice calling us to join Him in the struggle with the many powers of darkness present in the city. We know from our years in the Franklin Street house that there are too few to answer this call. From our comfortable Silver Spring home we remember that it is sometimes hard, depressing, frightening work, but it is still the work of Jesus and there is joy in saying yes.

Jan Daffern is a member of the Sligo Church pastoral staff in Takoma Park, Maryland. She is the mother of Judson James Steele Daffern born October 23, 1985.

Editorial Staff

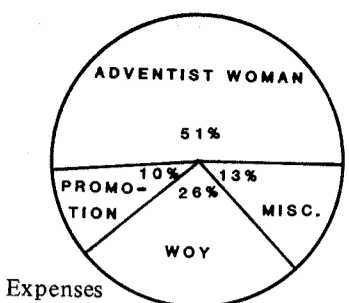
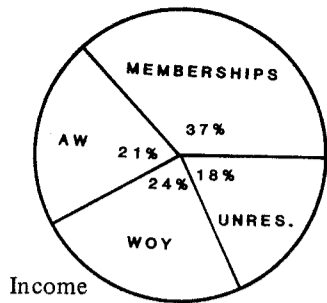
The Adventist Woman
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Editor Kit Watts
Assistant Editors Beverly Rumble,
Penny Shell
Circulation Vera Capman
Mailing Norma Osborn
Vera Capman

Mark your calendar

March 14 and May 16 are the deadlines for the next issues of *The Adventist Woman*.

Mail your copy at least 5 days in advance of the deadline to have it in Berrien Springs on time. The editor schedules the Sunday after the deadline to put the material together. Use an airmail express service if you mail later in the week of the deadline.



The graphs portray the 1985 financial picture for AAW. (See figures below).

Contributions keep us solvent

Treasurer reports AAW status

by Delight Clapp

The generosity and the commitment of many in both time and money have made it possible for the Association of Adventist Women to meet some of its goals for 1985.

The breakfast to honor the Women of the Year was held at General Conference time in New Orleans. Six issues of volume four of the newsletter, *The Adventist Woman*, were published. A major step in the publication of *The Adventist Woman* was the addition to the staff of a paid editor. The 1985 annual conference of the Association of Adventist Women was held at Atlantic Union College in October under the sponsorship of the Massachusetts Chapter. These activities along with the ongoing program of representing you, the membership, and reporting on the activities for and about women in the church made 1985 an unusually busy year.

The graphs and figures below show the income and the expenditures. As you will quickly note, the expenditures exceeded the income. This was not entirely unexpected in a very busy year. As you will also quickly note, the generosity of the members and friends has made it possible for AAW to meet many of its goals. And a balance brought forward from 1984 kept us solvent.

We ask for your prayers and your continued support in 1986.

Income		Expenditures	
Memberships	\$4606	The Adventist Woman (0305 - 0406)	\$6514
Contributions		Promotion	1271
The Adventist Woman	2565	Woman of the Year	3375
Woman of the Year	2922	Misc.	1608
Unrestricted	2197	Total	\$12,768
Total	\$12,290		

Mission Statement

"So God made man in His own image, in the image of God created He him, male and female created He them."

Genesis 1:27

In God's sight each individual has the potential to make a valuable contribution to our world. It is the purpose of this group of Adventist women to help the individuals in our church reflect more fully the image of God in their relationships to each other in the home, the church, the work setting and in the community.

Through the means of this publication which focuses on the development, discoveries, interests and potential of Christian woman, our goals are:

1) To encourage communication, support and wider understanding among Adventist women in diverse situations.

2) To acquaint the church community at large with Adventist women's potential and achievements.

3) To assist Adventist women in achieving fulfillment in their interpersonal relationships, personal development and relationships to God.

4) To help Adventist women to maximize their options, whatever their age and situation, that they may reflect more fully the image of God.

Introducing: Association of Adventist Women national officers, Part I



**Betty Howard
President**

The president of AAW is, among other things, a single parent. When her husband, who was a doctor, died, Betty had a four-year-old son to raise. In this work she has been eminently successful. She has supported Frank not only educationally (he has a Ph.D. from Stanford and an M.D. degree from Harvard Medical School), but also emotionally and spiritually.

Betty has pursued her own education to the doctoral level while working in student services in the Adventist educational system. She is presently dean of students and dean of women at Columbia Union College.

A member of the committee appointed to bring structure to the organization of Adventist women, Betty was elected AAW's first president, and has entered a second term in that office. "I think it is meeting the needs of women in the church at all levels," she says of AAW. Of course, more needs to be done. She has great hopes that AAW will not be seen as trying to fragment the church or aggravate church policies or structure, but to improve "all of the above."

Our president's favorite Bible text is John 10:10. Her desire for the organization which she leads is that it will help to make possible the abundant life—for all God's people.

—Josephine Benton

Judith Nembhard Chapter Development

How many teachers do you know who have instructed every grade from first through graduate school? This is not the only uncommon achievement of Judith Nembhard, AAW's Director for Chapter Development. She has also been a radio personality on station WEUP in Huntsville, Alabama, playing gospel records interspersed with the news and commercials. Now she is assistant professor of English at Howard University, a Ph.D., the mother of two sons, and the wife of an educator.

Asked about her motivation for becoming part of AAW, Judith admitted frankly that curiosity played a part. When the opportunity came, "I just put my nose in," she said, rather than sitting back and waiting to be urged. She wanted black people to be represented in this organization, because she considers it important. Judith has served in AAW since its organization in 1982, starting with the special committee that put it together.

"I think the organization serves a vital role in the denomination," Judith says, "to help women to realize what they can accomplish, not only as individuals, but also as part of a group."

—Josephine Benton



**Nancy Marter
President-Elect**

Nancy is a homemaker *par excellence*. She cooks and entertains and mothers—she and her husband have two sons and two teenagers that they are raising as their own.

When Nancy consented to marry Lyndon Marter, she was agreeing to leave her home turf for a while. Having graduated with a B.S. in nursing from Columbia Union College, she worked as a nurse in South Africa while her husband attended medical school. Later they were missionaries in Nigeria.

After the family settled in the Washington D.C. area, Nancy was Home and School leader for J.N. Andrews School; at Capital Memorial church she led the Vacation Bible School and Sabbath schools at different levels, besides doing most of the plantings on the church grounds; she became an elder. It surprised her to be asked to become a member of the Potomac Conference Committee, on which she has served for seven years.

When Nancy joined the conference committee, she was not a crusader. But on the committee she "began to realize more and more the ramifications of how women are treated in the church."

As president-elect of AAW, Nancy Marter is impressed with the need for women "to help one another, support one another, and be aware of our responsibility to use our gifts. We shouldn't be afraid to use them," she asserts, "because they are God-given."

—Josephine Benton

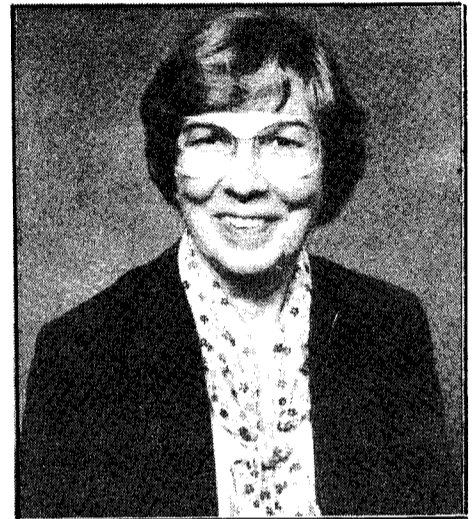
Delight Clapp Treasurer

Dee knows how to enjoy life. She delights (no pun intended) in traveling to Europe and elsewhere, doing needlework (not cooking), and playing golf with AAW friends two or three times a week when the weather is good.

Delight also is committed to service. She taught at Arizona Academy, was a mathematics resource teacher in the Montgomery County school system, and after her "retirement" taught simultaneously at Montgomery College and the University of Maryland. She volunteers in the gift shop at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, and since its organization in 1982 has been keeping AAW straight financially.

What she likes best about AAW is the association she enjoys with interesting and dedicated people. When someone expresses pleasure upon finding out that there is such a network for women, Delight is well pleased. "I think it has been serving an important purpose," she says concerning AAW, "and it seems to be spreading around still more."

—Josephine Benton



**Kathryn Show Fahrbach
Secretary**

Why would a fifth-grade teacher, who sees stacks and stacks of papers every day, want to serve as AAW secretary, where she has to process numerous documents, send out many copies of reports and letters, and write page upon page of minutes? Because she feels that she can help make a difference. Kathryn Show Fahrbach says she has long felt that the women of the church weren't "getting a fair shake," that they have a lot of unused talent that she'd like to see used to serve the church and society.

The same philosophy—seeing people realize and fulfill their potential—is seen in her decision to go into elementary education, and in her eight years of successful teaching. She is excited at the challenge of helping kids and showing them that learning can be enjoyable—throughout their whole lives.

Kathryn was raised in the Andrews University area, where she attended Adventist schools. She earned an M.A. in education at American University, and now teaches in the Montgomery County, Maryland, public school system.

And what of the future? Kathryn says she looks forward to additional opportunities to help further the cause of Adventist women.

—Beverly Rumble

With five resolute people

You can start an AAW Chapter

by Judith Nembhard

More and more people are writing to find out how to become active participants in the Association of Adventist Women. "I saw a newsletter for the first time," one person writes, "and would like to know how to start a chapter." Another one states: "This is just what I have been looking for. How do I begin a group here?" AAW is pleased to receive requests like these because chapters mean growth; chapters are the life-blood of the organization.

What is an AAW chapter? A group of women—and men—of any size, committed to the goals and ideals of the Association of Adventist Women, having a recognized organizational structure, and meeting regularly represents a chapter.

Leadership is provided by a chapter president and other officers stipulated in the chapter's by-laws. The officers plan programs that meet the needs of chapter members and also help promote the objectives of the national organization. Chapter meetings are not simply a time for getting together; they provide opportunities for women to learn how to enhance their total growth and to use their talents to contribute to the work of the church.

We'll help you

How does a chapter get started?

Usually there is one interested person whose drive spearheads a beginning. This individual sends to the national organization for information. The chapter development director sends a packet containing the material needed to begin: a model constitution, brochures outlining AAW's goals, copies of newsletters to distribute to interested in-

dividuals to acquaint them with what the organization is about, a "Chapter Guidelines" sheet with suggested activities, and copies of activity announcements sent out by other chapters that provide ideas for what can be done at meetings. Included in the packet is the newly published "Speakers Directory," listing names of talented, dynamic women who are available to speak at chapter functions.

A minimum of five interested, resolute persons is all that it takes to establish a chapter. Chapters set their own agenda; they decide when to meet, what to discuss, and what to do that will benefit their group. They also set the amount of dues to be paid by each member to the local chapter.

About dues

There is an important point to be made concerning dues. A chapter member is not a member of the national AAW organization unless she or he subscribes to the newsletter *The Adventist Woman*. Currently the national dues that cover the newsletter are \$10 and are in addition to the dues for the local chapter's business. (Local chapters usually advertise membership dues to include this \$10, which they then forward to the national organization.)

A number of energetic AAW chapters can be found in the U.S. and Puerto Rico. Others are in the making not only in the U.S. but also in British Columbia, Australia, France, and India. Women are marshaling the energies of other women to help create groups that will promote their emotional, spiritual, and intellectual growth and use their combined

strength to advance the cause of God where they are.

Once formed, chapters must be active to stay alive. Regular meetings help members keep in touch. Besides meetings and high-interest special programs, the Michiana chapter publishes its own newsletter. The president of the Inland Empire chapter in the Los Angeles area keeps members informed with detailed, news-filled letters.

Chapter activities generate news. Some chapters created awareness of their existence as well as of the national AAW organization by sending news items to their local union paper. The editor of *The Adventist Woman* is eager to have 200-300 word reports about special events and photos to publish. It would be good for each chapter to appoint a public relations officer who would help get news out.

A major event for AAW has become the annual national conference. Thus far three conferences have convened. The first one was organized by the national officers, but the second and third were hosted by local chapters—the Michiana chapter at Andrews University in 1984, and the New England chapter at Atlantic Union College in 1985. What an outstanding job these two chapters did in conducting the conferences! They highlighted, in ways no other gatherings could have done, the vast array of talent that Adventist women have to place at God's disposal. The Inland Empire chapter at Loma Linda is preparing for a similar display of talent and commitment when the Fourth Annual Conference is held there in the fall of 1986.

Anyone who feels a need to help women and men come together to strengthen their commitment to the church and to work for fuller participation in all phases of the work of giving the gospel to the world may send for a chapter development packet. With more chapters, AAW can continue to grow and communicate the value of Adventist women.

Chapter News

Inland Empire: Film, workshops

On January 19 the made-for-television program, "A Matter of Sex," was shown by the Inland Empire AAW Chapter at the Loma Linda Community Hospital. The videotape re-enacts a story of sex discrimination among women employees at a Minnesota bank. The lead character is played by Jean Stapleton.

Maryan Stirling, chapter president, commented, "The program should raise some consciousness; it might help some women know that it is okay to go after what you want. It's a slow process teaching women that they

are people, but we want to keep trying."

Maryan has been asked by the Loma Linda University Church to present six Monday night workshops for women in January and February. Among the topics: domestic violence, ordination of women, incest, and the "feminization of Sabbath keeping." Maryan notes on this latter topic that Sabbath is often the worst day for Adventist women because the burden of preparation and serving often falls almost entirely to them.

Metro Washington: GC speakers

Guest speakers from the General Conference headlined the last meeting of 1985 and the first meeting of 1986 for the AAW Metropolitan Washington Chapter.

Dr. William Johnsson, editor of the *Adventist Review*, spoke about writing for Adventist publications at the November 5 meeting at Columbia Union College. He gave an overview of the needs of various publications and stressed the need for good writers and good writing. He also answered questions about Annual Council, which had convened a few weeks earlier.

GC Vice-president Dr. Calvin B. Rock titled his January 6, 1986, talk, "The Women in My Life: Their Impact on My Work in the Adventist Church." He outlined specific character traits of his grandmother, mother, wife, daughters, and secretary that influenced his own development and helped shape his ministry. During the discussion period that followed he said that as a result of his interactions with them, he is very sympathetic to the problems women face.

—Vikki Montgomery Fields

Michiana: Single parent potluck

A harvest cornucopia and bright candles decorated the tables at an AAW-sponsored Thanksgiving dinner for single parents and their children, Sabbath, November 23, on the Andrews University campus.

Of the approximately 50 adults present, about half were AAW members and their families and half were the invited single parents. Accompanying the single parents were their children—a total of 21.

The Michiana AAW undertook the dinner project in response to concerns that Chaplain and Mrs. Glenn Bowen have frequently expressed regarding the needs of AU students who are single parents. Bowen serves as cha-

plain for the seminary and graduate school student families.

"So many single parents are women, and because the AAW is concerned with the needs of women, especially the need to have a support group, we wanted to reach out to them," said Stella Greig, program director.

As *The Adventist Woman* goes to press the Michiana Chapter is organizing a February 14 agape supper to which all AU International women students are being invited. The theme is how women are "Co-Bakers with God."

—Jane Thayer

Benefit concert set for March 22

Faith Esham, acclaimed soprano who has performed in the leading opera houses of the United States and Europe will present a benefit concert on March 22 for the Metro Washington Chapter of the Association of Adventist Women. Proceeds will be used for the chapter's scholarship fund for young women attending Columbia Union College.

Miss Esham, a graduate of Columbia Union College, studied at the Juilliard School of Music, completing a B.M. and M.M. in music. During the summer of 1983 she made a film, *Carmen*, playing the role of Micaela opposite Placido Domingo and conducted by Lorin Maazel. In the fall of 1985 Miss Esham appeared at the Kennedy Center Opera House in Washington, D.C. in the role of Zelina in the Ponnelle/Barenboim production of the opera *Don Giovanni*.



Faith Esham, soprano

The benefit concert will be held at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, March 22, 1986, at Takoma Academy in Takoma Park, Maryland. For ticket information call (301)891-4132.

LLU site for next AAW conference

Plan your Thanksgiving in California in 1986 and take in the fourth national AAW conference in Loma Linda on November 28-30, Friday through Sunday of the holiday weekend.

Maryan Stirling, president of the Inland Empire Chapter, reports that intensive planning is already underway for the event. Among the steering committee members for the conference are:

Linda Halstead, chairman; Charles and Marta Teel, co-chairmen of the program committee; Kathleen Zolber, finance committee; Lourdes Silva, liaison with institutions; Ardyce Koobs, hospitality; Phyllis McElmurry, speaker liaison; Bonnie Dwyer, PR; Myrna Huenegardt, secretary; Jean Lowry, invitations; Robin Webb, registration.

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The Association of Adventist Women is a national organization that sponsors local chapters. Its newsletter, *The Adventist Woman*, is published six times per year.

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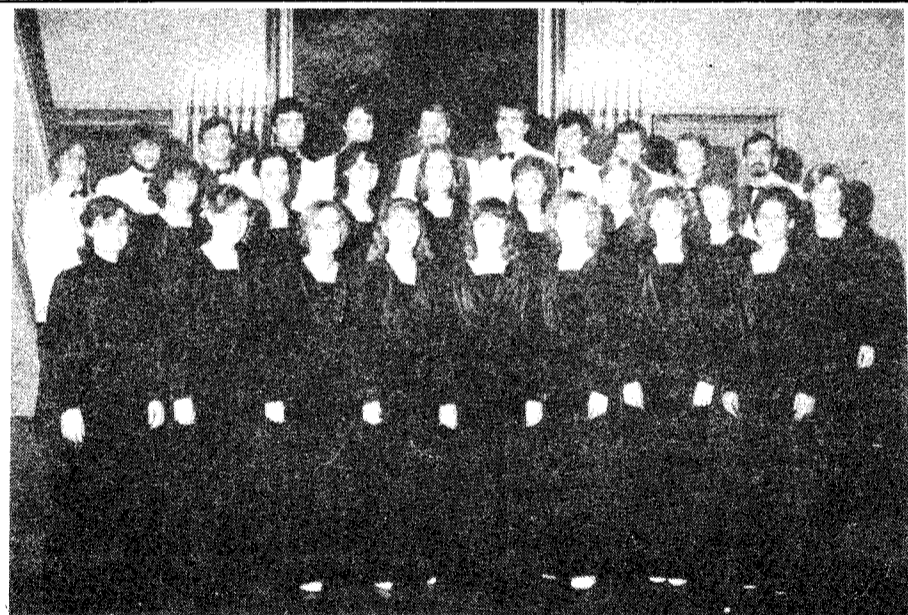
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Last summer the Angelos Chamber Choir from Finland sang at the New Orleans General Conference session and toured the United States. The group was founded by Tytti Rouhe and she is also its conductor.

Finnish musician creates therapy for learning-disabled children

by Sara Terian

"And I will account for my talent, how I used my *kantele*." Tytti Rouhe has certainly lived up to this pledge that concludes a well-known Finnish song of praise, performed by The Angelos Chamber Choir from Finland on their visit to the United States last summer. Mrs. Rouhe, the founder and director of the choir, is using her extraordinary musical and pedagogical talents for the preventive therapy and holistic growth of disadvantaged children in Finland.

Mrs. Rouhe comes from a family in which music was the most important form of togetherness; "I started playing the piano on my father's knee," she smiles. She studied also flute, guitar, and cello, but majored in piano at Turku Conservatory of Music where, since 1979, she has taught keyboard and pedagogy. She graduated as a music teacher from the Sibelius Academy of Music in Helsinki, but also studied psychology and pedagogy at Abo University in Turku and



Tytti Rouhe

now holds both a Philosophy Candidate and Music Science Candidate degrees.

Sports and gymnastics have also been of great interest to Mrs. Rouhe all her life, and she became quite accomplished in gymnastics, competing on the county level. No wonder, then, that she decided to merge the two interests and began to use rhythmic exercises in teaching music to children. But this was just the beginning; "I began to have ethical questions pertaining to social justice," she explains. "Can music be an instrument for helping? If so, then everyone should have an opportunity to learn music."

At Turku Conservatory, Mrs. Rouhe established a beginners' group for small children in instrumental music and began to experiment with music therapy. She especially worked with children who had slight learning disabilities, visual and aural problems. The

psychology department of the University of Turku soon contacted her, suggesting research in music therapy for preschoolers. The results, which Mrs. Rouhe has recently published in three volumes, have been surprisingly good in all areas of learning for the children who take part in the music therapy. "Music serves the child's total needs, not only musical needs," Mrs. Rouhe concludes.

Last year, Mrs. Rouhe authored four books on music pedagogy. The first was a piano primer using a method developed by her. In subsequent books she has focused on music therapy, showing how children, by coming in touch with their bodies, can find their own sense of rhythm and then learn the standard rhythms of music. Her methods are now used throughout Finland for both normal and disabled children. The Ministry of Education and the local universities have invited Mrs. Rouhe to conduct continuing education seminars for music teachers and kindergarten teachers. After her U.S. tour, her first project was to conduct such a seminar at the Sibelius Academy of Music in Helsinki.

Tytti Rouhe gives full credit to her husband Erkki, a medical doctor, for encouraging her to develop and use her talents. Their sons Erkki and Jarkko, 13 and 14 years old, have also given their help and support. Whether she now has time for her many hobbies—sewing, knitting, needlepoint, painting, poetry—is doubtful, but through her dedicated use of the talent God has given her, many Finnish children can now join in praising the Creator for their "gift of song."

Sara Terian received a Ph.D. in sociology from Notre Dame last summer. She is Assistant Director of the Institute of Church Ministry and also teaches sociology at Andrews University.