

# the Adventist Woman

Nonprofit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Silver Spring, Md.  
Permit No. 3302

Alyce Pudewell  
12168 Mt. Vernon Ave. #58  
Grand Terrace, CA 92324

Volume 8, No. 2

Publication of the Association of Adventist Women

April/May 1989

September 28 - October 1

## Florida sun and fun beckon AAW conferees

by Jane Allen

Orlando—the land of Mickey Mouse, Baby Shamu, alligators and flamingos—is the site for this year's national conference of the Association of Adventist Women, September 28 through October 1. The Central Florida Chapter is making plans for an enjoyable, educational, and exciting conference, according to Ethel Stewart, chapter president.

For convenience and to reduce transportation needs, all meetings this year will be in the Altamonte Springs Hilton Hotel. Arrangements have been made for a special room rate of \$59 for conference attendees. Up to four persons can stay together for the \$59 rate, which would reduce the cost to less than \$15 per night per person.

A block of 150 guest rooms have been reserved for the AAW conference. Attendees need to mention the AAW conference when making reservations. The reservation cut-off date is September 14.

The decision to hold the conference in a hotel was based on several factors, explains Stewart. The major consideration was convenience.

For one thing, Adventist institutions

and churches in the Orlando area are scattered around the city, which would require many attendees to rent cars or make other transportation arrangements in a city in which they are unfamiliar.

Another factor was the abundance of excellent and competitively priced hotel and conference facilities in Orlando.

All meeting rooms in the Hilton will be provided free to the association. The hotel also will transport AAW conference attendees to nearby shopping malls. The Altamonte Mall, one of Florida's largest, is a five-minute drive from the hotel. In addition, a large number of restaurants are also in the area.

Attractions, such as Disney World and Sea World, however, are on the opposite side of the city, approximately 25 miles from the hotel. Attendees wanting to go to those locations will need to get there on their own.

The Altamonte Springs Hilton has a heated outdoor swimming pool, whirlpool spa, complimentary membership to a

See AAW CONFERENCE, p. 3



The Altamonte Springs Hilton Hotel in Orlando is offering rooms to AAW conferees at \$59 per night for up to four occupants. Call 1-800-247-1985 for reservations.



Ethel Stewart, president of the Central Florida Chapter, visits a room in the Altamonte Springs Hilton Hotel reserved for the September 28-October 1 AAW conference.



On March 19 the Office of Human Relations' Women's Commission invited leaders of Adventist women's groups to a summit in Washington, D.C. Those attendees included (left to right, seated): Warren Banfield, Carole Kilcher, Kit Watts, Elizabeth Sterndale, Thesba Johnston, Rosa Banks. (Left to right, standing): Penny Shell, Ellen Bresee, Beverly Habada, Junell Vance, Pat Habada, Nancy Marter, Pam Whitted, Fay Blix, Vivian Barron, Dorothy Williams, Betty Rayl, Evelyn Glass, Ramona Greek, Karen Nicola, Karen Scott, and Lourdes Silva. Not pictured: Carol Huenerdard.

## First NAD women's summit attracts nine group leaders

Nine leaders of Adventist women's groups paid their own way from across the North American Division to Washington, D.C., for a historic meeting on March 19 with the Office of Human Relations (OHR) Women's Commission.

"We want to know what the Commission can do for you, and what you can do for the Commission," Elizabeth Sterndale said candidly. Since 1986 Sterndale has sat with the North American Division officers—at their request—to represent women's concerns. She is also an ex officio member of the Commission.

### Consensus reached

By day's end a consensus emerged that women will be best able to serve the church when they are able to pool their talents and coordinate their efforts. Drawing on this input the Commission promised to draw up an appropriate recommendation to the North American Division.

Throughout the 1980s Adventist women's groups have sprung up to meet all kinds of needs. Sensing this climate, OHR director Warren Banfield in 1983 established a commission to listen to women's concerns and promote their cause in the church. Each union president in North America was urged to appoint one woman to the Commission.

Since 1986 the Commission has met three times each year, chaired by Thesba Johnston of Andrews University. Wanting to get in touch with women at the grass roots, the Commission has hosted Town Meetings in various regions of the country including the Lake, Mid-American, North Pacific, Atlantic, and Columbia unions.

This year the Commissioners sought to identify active Adventist women leaders with group activities or projects that go beyond the borders of a local church and bring some of them together to talk.

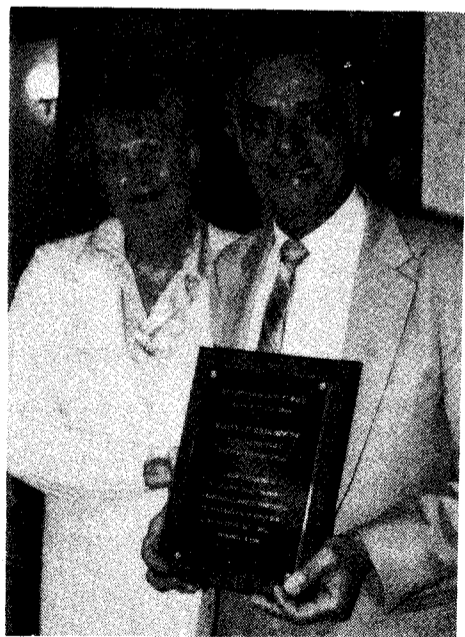
"We have four purposes today," Johnston stated at the outset. "To receive and share information. To promote networking and understanding. To avoid unnecessary duplication and promote cooperation. And to help open a channel of access to the official church."

At best the access route is circuitous. The Women's Commission has only the power to *recommend* proposals to OHR—which is not a policy-making group. OHR *recommends* proposals to the NAD officers—who in turn must seek support from NAD union presidents.

Of more than a dozen women leaders invited, nine were able to arrange to attend. They were:

**Fay Blix: Adventist Women's Institute (AWI).** AWI organized in January 1988 with 11 individuals "to promote equality for all people." It now has a mailing list of 10,000. "One of our ministries is to reach out to Adventist women who are ready to give up on the church because they feel women are not being

See WOMEN'S SUMMIT, p. 3



For willingness to hear women's concerns and interact with the church on their behalf, AAW president Nancy Marter presented a plaque of appreciation to retiring OHR director, Warren Banfield, during the March 19 summit

### Women members added

## GC study committee examines abortion issue

Five additional women were invited to participate in a General Conference sponsored committee that met April 17-19 in Washington, D.C., to hear papers on the abortion issue. Of the 29 members on the standing committee, seven are women, or 24 percent. The five invitees raised women's representation to 34 percent.

This fall the same group will meet in Loma Linda, California, and is expected update policies on abortion to guide the church and its hospitals.

Early in 1988, the General Conference Health and Temperance Department set up an ad hoc committee to review issues relating to the Seventh-day Adventist Church's stand on abortion. The committee was established in part because con-

cern about the conference on abortion to be held by the Loma Linda University ethics center had raised questions about the Seventh-day Adventist Church's official policies on abortion.

### Current guidelines

A statement by the GC officers issued in 1970 and modified in 1971 remains the church's position on abortion for its hospitals.

Briefly, these guidelines state that therapeutic abortions may be done when the continuation of a pregnancy may (1) threaten the life of a woman or impair

See ABORTION STUDY, p. 3



# On from the summit

by Nancy Marter

Imagine an all-day meeting of those who lead various Adventist women's groups. An expressive time during which nine different organizations representing women from all over the United States share ideals, hopes, and goals.

An accepting time where women with widely differing philosophies- and, indeed, some strongly held preconceived opinions-listen, discuss, and find common ground.

An altogether exciting time when you consider that Adventist women's groups have never done this before.

March 19, 1989, was such a day. The opportunity came about through the work of the North American Division Women's Commission chaired by Thesba Johnston. Other key people were Elizabeth Sterndale (liaison for women at the North American Division level), and Warren Banfield, Rosa Banks, and Carole Kilcher of the NAD Office of Human Relations.

These people believed a Women's Summit Meeting would be both possible and beneficial and worked together to make it a reality.

### What happened?

During the morning each of the nine leaders made a short presentation telling the purpose and special ministries that their groups emphasize. We heard from such diverse groups as the Christian Women's Retreat (Pat Whitted), Shepherdess International (Ellen Bresee), and the Adventist Women's Institute (Fay Blix).

In the afternoon, we discussed concerns we hold in common and something we wished to propose jointly to the church. In concept we called for a full-time Coordinator for Women's Ministries to be funded by the church.

Such a woman would encourage and oversee a whole range of activities from spiritual, educational, personal growth opportunities for women, to supporting Adventist homemakers and women in ministry. She would also represent women's concerns to church bodies and committees.

Some will say, and did, that in this time of budget tightening another salary is unlikely to be approved. That may be. I believe, however, that as the women of the Adventist Church demonstrate their creative, energetic commitment to the mission of the church, and their ability to pull together for the good of all as we did on March 19-(isn't that unity in diversity?)-that the obvious validity for such a position becomes compelling.



### From the Pulpit

# This old house

by Margaret Turner

I have lived a lifetime in a house called Fear. It had been in the family for generations when my parents bequeathed it to me.

When I acquired it, Fear had a massive beam in it called, "What will people think?" I had grown up believing it to be a load-bearing beam; I believed it was necessary to the integrity of the structure.

A few years later, in the midst of a Dale Carnegie course assignment, I caught on to the excessive globalness of this premise. It was a decided relief to discover that most folk I pass on the sidewalks of life do not "think" of me at all!

In that moment of truth, I knew I wanted to remove this old beam. But, over the years, it had become so solidly wedged in place by its own weight that removing it has been a painful and laborious process.

There was also a partition in my house of Fear that took me many years to recognize and name. I only knew it gave me a cramped feeling, a feeling that life could not be fully lived.

One day my 75-year-old mother told me a story from her childhood. I had known my grandmother had tuberculosis, but this was the first and only time I ever heard about her lung hemorrhage. For the first time I sensed the fear that enveloped my mother as she grew up knowing her mother could die at any time.

As the story unfolded I saw my mother as a diminutive eight-year old called to her mother's bedside out of a sound sleep. I saw this small child, lantern in hand, hurry along the dirt roads of a Mississippi River hamlet in the dark of night for help from her married sister. I felt the fervor of her prayer for Papa's speedy return from an emergency errand. I felt her fear that no one would get back to Mama in time.

When she finished her story, I began to realize that the partition in my house was borrowed fear-and that it would continue to cramp my life, as it had hers, unless I chose otherwise. The sadness I felt for her, and what she had missed in life, became both a catalyst and a stimulus for me. I began the tedious task of dismantling that wall of fear.

Like a colony of termites other nameless fears ate at the inner structure of life. I found myself in crises with my husband and with each of our children. I found myself angry about this, but afraid of my own feelings. I was afraid to be angry! I didn't know how to make my emotions useful or productive.

About this time I took two quarters of clinical pastoral education (CPE), and began serving as a volunteer chaplain on a hospital maternity unit. To my amazement, something began to happen to this old house. The training to help others helped me. I began to identify the many fears that had sapped my strength for so long. I began to find integration of all I have been and done as a woman, daughter, nurse, wife, mother, and Christian.

I perceived this integration as a call to ministry and began three years of seminary training, followed by more CPE.

I am grateful to the God of truth and love who walked beside me through my house of Fear and provided me with the courage to recognize the beam, the partition, and the termites of fear that had constricted my life. I am thankful for the continuing presence of the master mansion builder who makes all things new, through whose grace I have the strength to find freedom from unwarranted fears.

Margaret Turner has just become a Fellow in the College of Chaplains. She is a member of the pastoral care department at Kettering Medical Center in Ohio.

### Letters

1985 GC—corrections

Dear Editor:

I read Nancy Marter's editorial in the February/March issue of *The Adventist Woman*. There were more women represented at the 1985 Ministerial Presession to General Conference than she mentioned.

Marie Spangler and myself were on the presession planning committee and our input involved several women. Some that I remember were:

Dr. Millie Youngberg, who with her husband did a seminar on "Clergy Marriage"; Carole Kilcher and Sue Patzer on "The Role of the Minister's Wife"; Sharon and Jim Cress on "Team Ministry"; Kay Kuzma, "Understanding Children"; and Dottie and Norman Versteeg, "Small Group Ministry."

I'm on the 1990 presession seminar committee and have suggested several other women. However, I'll have to admit that there is a shortage of women who can lead out in a theological and dynamic way.

Ellen Bresee, Coordinator Shepherdess International

**Thank you for your gracious letter. When I wrote my communique I was remembering the general public meetings of the presession. However, when I checked again what I had written, I see that I mentioned the seminars as well. Thank you for correcting the record as I did not intend to be unfair or inaccurate.**

**The thing that hit me at the time was that when folk walk up on the platform they are all men. I would like to see a variety of people taking part-men, women, older and younger people, and many different races-as if it were the most natural thing in the world.**

Nancy Marter

### New Women's Department

Dear Editor:

I wanted to let you know that Washington Conference has a Women's Ministries Department. Last August I was asked to assume that work along with other responsibilities.

I work part-time at the conference office and have a yearly budget. We have a monthly newsletter entitled W.I.N.G.S. (Women In God's Service), through which we share various activities that are going on in each church.

Many are having monthly meetings as well as luncheons, prayer groups, and all-day seminars. Three separate retreats will be conducted this spring by local churches, and the first conference-sponsored retreat will be September 8-10, 1989.

Several months ago our conference executive committee asked Lucy Torrey, a

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Copy deadline for the next issue of *The Adventist Woman* is June 7.

Mail copy at least 5 days in advance of the deadline. The editor schedules the Friday and Sunday afterward to put material together.

Send to Beverly K. Habada, Editor, *The Adventist Woman*, Box 3884, Langley Park, MD 20787.

### EDITORIAL STAFF

The Adventist Woman

Volume 8, No. 2

Editor Beverly K. Habada  
Assistant Editor Beverly Rumble  
Circulation Vera Capman  
Mailing Carol Stewart  
Vera Capman  
Delight Clapp

member of the Puyallup church, to serve as our representative on the North Pacific Union Women's Commission.

Lucy joins 18 other women who serve with me on the Washington conference Women's Ministries Committee. We will be hosting Pastor Nancy Canwell from the Walla Walla College church at an all-day seminar on April 2.

We are pleased to say that we have total support on the part of our conference administration, and are extremely excited to see what is happening in our area.

Beverly Brass,  
Director Women's Ministries  
Washington Conference of SDA  
Bothell, Washington

### Advances in Michigan

Dear Editor:

I have been receiving and reading *The Adventist Woman* for the past several months.

It has been interesting to see the role that many women are filling in the church. I wanted to let you know what has been happening here in Michigan.

We have promoted one of our ladies who was a secretary to the position of Assistant Treasurer for Loss Control, Insurance, and Transport.

We have also promoted another lady from the position of Accountant to Assistant Treasurer for Payroll, Church Remittances, and Church Auditor.

Currently we have a third lady that we have recently promoted from secretary to an Accountant/Secretary classification. She came to us from our boarding academy at Holly, and has had an accounting background.

Marjorie Snyder was recently promoted to Communications Director and Children Ministries Director. Before that time, she had been an Associate for Children's Ministries.

For several years Patti Revolinski has been Assistant Director of the Education Department here in the Michigan Conference.

Recently Virginia Pfeifle was appointed as Director of Community Services for the conference and is carrying that role on a part-time basis.

I have noticed in the paper that many different responsibilities have been highlighted, but I have not seen any references to ladies who are filling positions in conference offices similar to those that we have mentioned here. I am certain that there are some, and I thought it might be well to mention this so that these ladies and others around the division who are in similar positions could also be featured in your paper.

Hubert E. Moog, Treasurer  
Michigan Conference of SDA  
Lansing, Michigan

**Thank you for the information. We hope other readers will go and write us likewise.**

### HOW TO SUBSCRIBE

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

I am enclosing \$15 to subscribe to *The Adventist Woman*.

My tax-deductible contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is also enclosed.

name

address

city, state, zip

Mail this form with your check or money order payable in U.S. funds to:

*The Adventist Woman*  
Box 3884  
Langley Park, MD 20787

the adventist woman &  
**RELATIONSHIPS**  
pursuing the ideal



Orlando,  
Florida  
Sept. 28 - Oct. 1  
1989  
featuring  
Lindy Chamberlain  
Banquet Speaker

**AAW CONFERENCE**

From front page

nearby health club, restaurants, and handicapped facilities.

Transportation to and from the Orlando airport will be the responsibility of each attendee. Bus service is available, and the Hilton Hotel will pick up conference attendees at the terminal in Altamonte Springs. More information on transportation will be provided in the confirmation letter mailed to preregistrants. However, hotel reservations can be made directly with the Hilton at any time. Early reservations are suggested.

For those who wish to combine the conference with a vacation to Central Florida, arrangements have been made with the Hilton to extend the special \$59 room to AAW conference attendees for two days prior to and two days after the conference.

**Seventh National Conference  
The Association of Adventist Women**

**Banquet Speaker:**  
Lindy Chamberlain  
**Sabbath Sermon:**  
Kit Watts

**Seminars\***

Leadership Styles  
Family Relationships  
Divorce/Grief Recovery  
Abuse (CE credit available)  
Single Parenting  
The Christian and AIDS  
Feminine Images of God  
Biblical Studies  
Death and Dying  
Spouses of Women in Ministry  
**\*Some seminars in Spanish**

**Agape Feast:**  
"Daughters of Sarah"  
**Special Report:**  
Women in Ministry

**Child Care Available**

**Registration Information:**

Before August 31:  
\$50 for AAW members;  
\$65 for nonmembers.  
After August 31:  
\$60 for AAW members;  
\$75 for nonmembers.  
(Fee includes all meetings, banquet, and Agape Feast.)  
Banquet only: \$20 per person.  
For more information:  
Write to the Central Florida Chapter, Association of Adventist Women,  
P. O. Box 576, Maitland, FL 32751.

For hotel reservations call the Altamonte Springs Hilton, 1-800-247-1985. To get the special room rates, be sure to mention that you are attending the AAW Conference, September 28-October 1

**Women's summit brings common goal into focus**

Continued from front page

heard," Blix explained. "We are not out to destroy but to build up."

**Ellen Bresee: Shepherdess International.** Organized in 1982 by Bresee and Marie Spangler (now retired), Shepherdess International has offices at the GC headquarters and offers support for ministers' wives throughout the world church. Among their projects: a quarterly resource materials bulletin; one article per issue of *Ministry Magazine* devoted to issues involving the ministers' family; and meetings for minister's wives at each GC session.

**Patricia Habada: TEAM.** TEAM (Time for Equality in Adventist Ministry) is a group of professional men and women who organized in April 1988 to focus on women's ordination in the Adventist Church. They work to raise consciousness on the issue through seminars, ads, and distribution of educational materials.

**Carol Hunergardt: Kansas/Nebraska Women's Commission.** Hunergardt, a lay woman living in Kimball, Nebraska, has been recently appointed to lead a women's Commission for her conference. The group received \$1,500 set up their program. This fall they are sponsoring their first retreat to be led by Virginia Richardson Cason.

**Nancy Marter: Association of Adventist Women (AAW).** The Adventist Woman was first published in 1980, and the association incorporated in 1982. "Our bottom line is to build and affirm people, and women in particular," said Marter, AAW president since 1986. AAW has held seven annual conferences in many regions of the country. It also promotes Women of the Year Awards and scholarships for promising young women

in school.

**Karen Nicola: Adventist Women's Speakers Guild.** "As more and more groups sponsor retreats for Adventist women we have a demand for good speakers," Nicola explained. The guild is holding training sessions and workshops to help women polish their communication skills for this type of ministry, and prospective speakers may advertise in their directory for \$50 per year.

**Penny Shell: Editor, Adventist Women in Ministry.** When Shell became a hospital chaplain in 1984 she determined to overcome her sense of isolation in ministry by reaching out with a newsletter to other women chaplains and pastors. From 1986-1988 she also chaired the Committee on Women in Ministry for the SDA Health Care Chaplains.

**Kit Watts: GC Women's Ministries Advisory Committee (WMAC).** Watts, from the Adventist Review staff, spoke for chairperson Karen Flowers who was in Singapore on itinerary. Established in 1985, WMAC is an in-house group made up mostly of women who work at GC headquarters. It has encouraged denominational editors to publish more news about women, and successfully helped place more women on standing committees of the GC and North American Division. The group has also been asked to prepare a paper for the GC Committee on the Role of Women in the Church, which meets in July.

**Pam Whitted: Christian Women's Retreats (CWR).** Begun with the cooperation of the Northern California Conference, CWR has conducted seven annual retreats for women seeking spiritual de-



Karen Nicola (left), representing the Adventist Women's Speakers Guild, visits with Vivian Barron, commissioner from the Southwestern Union.

velopment. More recently, CWR women have also "adopted" mission families to give them support and are developing Bible study fellowship groups. One spin-off of the ministry is the first Christian Men's Retreat in the conference, set for May 5-7.

**Current Commissioners**

Members of the OHR Women's Commission are: **Elder Warren Banfield**, retiring OHR director; **Dr. Rosa Banks**, new OHR director;

**Vivian Barron**, Southwestern Union; **Evelyn Glass**, Mid-America Union; **Dr. Ramona Greek**, Southern Union; **Dr. Thesba Johnston**, Lake Union; **Carole Kilcher**, Center for Human Relations, Andrews University;

**Betty Rayl**, North Pacific Union; **Karen Scott**, Canadian Union; **Dr. Lourdes Silva**, Pacific Union; **Elizabeth Sterndale**, for NAD officers; **Junell Vance**, Atlantic Union; **Dorothy Williams**, Columbia Union.

**Abortion study seeks Christian view of life**

Continued from front page

her health, (2) result in a child with physical deformities or mental retardation, when (3) the pregnancy resulted from rape or incest, (4) an unmarried child under 15 is involved, or (5) the requirements of functional human life demand the sacrifice of the lesser potential human value. According to these guidelines, therapeutic abortions should take place during the first trimester of the pregnancy.

**Wider view**

The ad hoc committee, which originally contained few women and limited its discussion to abortion, eventually broadened both its focus and its representation. Today it is called the Christian View of Human Life Committee with these terms of reference:

1. Identify social and technological issues that impinge upon the dignity and value of human life.
2. Study, from a biblical base, moral and ethical implications of defined issues as they may relate to the choices of individuals, and the stance of the corporate

church and its institutions.

3. Provide information that will assist in making choices that affect the dignity and value of human life.

4. Make recommendations concerning a corporate stance on policy concerning issues relating to the Christian view of human life.

All committee recommendations will be referred to the General Conference officers for action. No women are GC officers.

Euthanasia, organ transplants, genetic engineering, and other issues relating to bioethics will probably be discussed in the future by the committee.

The seven women among the 29 standing members of the committee are:

**Lyn Behrens**, dean of the School of Medicine at Loma Linda University; **Karen Flowers**, assistant director of the GC Church Ministries Department (Family Life); **Thesba Johnston**, professor of psychology at Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan;

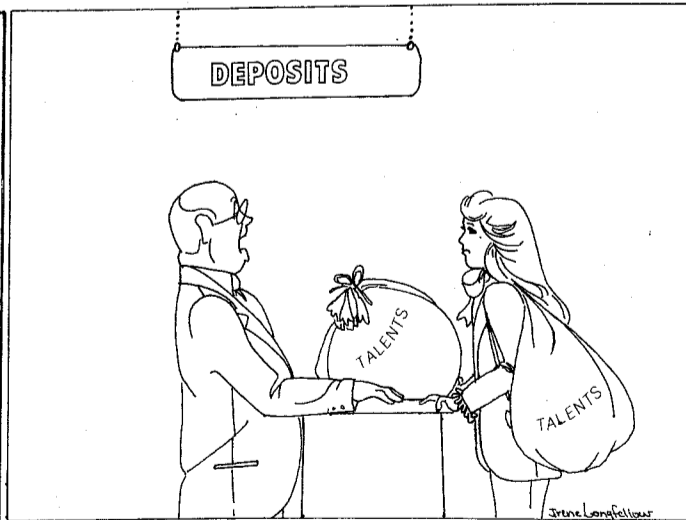
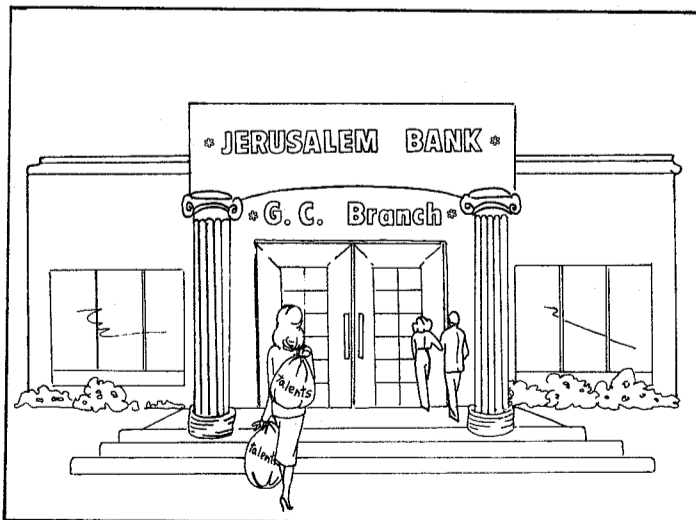
**Beatrice Neal**, professor of theology

at Union College, Lincoln, Nebraska; **Beverly Rumble**, associate editor of *The Journal of Adventist Education* and member of the GC Women's Ministries Advisory;

**Mary Small**, physician in the department of obstetrics and gynecology at the Loma Linda Medical Center; and **Elizabeth Sterndale**, associate director of the GC Health and Temperance Department and North American Division nursing.

Persons with expertise in areas related to each topic under discussion will be invited to join the committee on a temporary basis. The five women invitees for the abortion study are:

**Cynthia Fleisher**, social work department, Union College; **Diane Forsyth**, associate pastor of the University Church in Loma Linda, California; **Betty Lonnstrom**, associate professor of nursing, Loma Linda University; **Alberta Mazat**, retired professor of marriage and family therapy, Loma Linda University; and **Margaret McFarland**, assistant attorney general, State of Maryland



"Honey, why don't you go bury all this in your back yard?"

# Members named, begin work on gender inclusiveness task force

by Jocelyn Fay

The Southeastern California Conference (SECC) Task Force on Gender Inclusiveness met for the first time on March 27. Established at a special constituency meeting on January 29, the task force will "plan and implement a broad spectrum of programs and materials on gender inclusiveness in family and church."

The SECC executive committee has named 12 members to the task force:

**Matilda Barker**, sociologist and educator from Riverside; **Fay Blix**, attorney from Santa Ana; **Jocelyn Fay**, conference communication director; **Diane Forsyth**, associate pastor of the Loma Linda University church; **Veronica Gil**, social worker specializing in domestic violence, from Riverside; **Fritz Guy**, associate pastor of the Loma Linda University church;

**Madelynn Haldeman**, associate professor of New Testament studies, Loma Linda University; **Penny Miller**, associate professor and director of continuing education, Loma Linda University School of Nursing; **Ruben Rodriguez**, pastor, La Sierra Spanish church;

**Gail Saxby**, English teacher at Loma Linda Academy, and an M.Div. graduate

from the SDA Theological Seminary; **Maryan Stirling**, homemaker and freelance writer from San Jacinto; and **Jim Walters**, associate professor of Christian Ethics, School of Religion, Loma Linda University.

The constituency action specified that the task force should include "at least one representative each from the Conference Executive Committee, the Loma Linda University School of Religion, and the Association of Adventist Women." Of the nine members listed above, Gil and Miller were selected as representatives of the SECC executive committee; Haldeman and Walters represent the LLU School of Religion; and Fay and Stirling represent AAW. (Miller also is an AAW member; both she and Stirling are former presidents of the Inland Empire Chapter.)

Task force members will be meeting fairly often during April and May in order to establish their priorities and begin work on some of their projects.

## Gender inclusiveness resolution

The following is the full text of the

SECC resolution that established the task force at the January 29 constituency meeting.

In order to put into practice the declaration of our new constitution that in the church "all are equal, are one in Christ," the constituency of this conference directs its Executive Committee and its administrative officers as follows:

1. To establish immediately a Task Force on Gender Inclusiveness, funded by a budget that is at least the equivalent of a half-time pastor in addition to the costs of materials and programs. (It is expected that modest reassignment of present support personnel will avoid any net increase to the Conference staff budget.)

(a) The Task Force will consist of 12 members chosen because of their recognized concern regarding this issue, including at least one representative each from the Conference Executive Committee, the Loma Linda University School of Religion, and the Association of Adventist Women. The Committee will have a half-time executive secretary.

(b) The responsibility of the Task Force will be to plan and implement a broad spectrum of programs and materials on gender inclusiveness in family and church (positive education based on biblical principles) including such elements as the following: seminars for all pastors and churches in the Conference; "Mission Spotlight" type videos; a series of articles in the *Pacific Union Recorder*; a series of pamphlets, includ-

ing book reviews and annotated bibliography; and recommendation of materials to be available through the conference's Adventist Book Centers.

(c) by the constituency meeting on May 21, 1989, the Task Force will have scheduled seminars, and will have begun work on the requested videos and pamphlets.

2. To encourage the pastors of the Conference to educate the members of the churches in regard to gender inclusiveness and involvement of women in all dimensions of the church's life and leadership.

3. To communicate to the Pacific Union Conference, the North American Division, and the General Conference, the will of the constituency of this conference to ordain qualified women in ministry as soon as possible.

4. To place the topic of gender inclusiveness in ministry on the agenda for our next scheduled constituency meeting, May 21, 1989, for an officers' report on all the ways in which this directive is being implemented, and for general discussion of further steps the Conference may desire to take

### AMENDMENT VOTED:

Voted to present both sides of the proposed issue, both pro and con, in a balanced manner.

Jocelyn Fay is the communication director of the Southeastern California Conference.

## People and Places

### Pioneer woman pastor retires from LLU church

Margaret (Peg) Hempe, dean of Adventist women in ministry, has retired after 22 years of service at the Loma Linda University church, Loma Linda, California.

The three senior pastors with whom she worked during those 22 years—Paul Heubach, William Loveless, and Louis Venden—all paid tribute to her at the University church's recent farewell reception and program in her honor.

Heubach recalled wanting to hire a Bible worker who knew how to give systematic Bible studies, but most of all, who understood and loved people. He found that person in Peg Hempe. She has seen a number of people baptized as a result of her ministry and had the privilege of baptizing more than 20 of these herself. But to countless others she has been, as described at the farewell, the hands and arms of a loving God-nurturing, encouraging, and supporting.

The official church farewell on February 12 was only one of a number of occasions at which Hempe's church members, friends, and fellow workers expressed their thanks for her love, friendship, and ministry as she retires from full-time service.

Before Hempe preached her last sermon as a member of the University church's pastoral staff on January 28, members of one of the groups she sponsors, the Young Adults Plus, gave her flowers. Louis Vender presented a gift from her coworkers—a silver tray on which was engraved the names of the staff along with words or phrases that they felt best described her ministry.

Other retirement honors came from the Southeastern California Conference, which gave Hempe a plaque in appreciation of her 22 years of service in Southeastern; the University church's single adults, another group she sponsors; and Southeastern's women in ministry, who have looked to Hempe as their pioneer and role model.

Hempe says that as she retires from full-time employment, her satisfaction comes from knowing she has been God's



Pastor Margaret Hempe shows off a silver tray given by the University church staff upon her retirement.

person in the right place at the right time to influence people for Jesus Christ.

"My rewards have been greatest in two areas," she says. "Bringing people to baptism, and helping people survive the pain of abandonment experienced through divorce."

Her retirement plans include traveling in her RV, and visiting Ireland, where she looks forward to researching family history and doing some personal evangelism

—Jocelyn Fay

### Seminar for GC brethren

Dr. Patricia Mutch and Dr. Winton Beaven led a three-day colloquium for General Conference elected personnel on March 9-11 that zeroed in on the use of among Seventh-day Adventists in North America.



Since 1984 Mutch has been director of the Institute of Alcoholism and Drug Dependency at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan.

She was also appointed to the GC study commission on chemical dependency which was created by the Annual Council of 1985. Two years later the commission brought 93 recommendations back to Annual Council.

One of them was that the GC devote one of its annual colloquiums to giving top leadership an understanding of the drug and alcohol problem—and how the church can respond positively in this crisis. Mutch presented the results of a massive research study among Adventist adults showing that while Adventists use far less alcohol and drugs than those in the general population, more are involved in chemical abuse than was previously believed.

Unfortunately, the church has become lax in promoting temperance. Most Adventist schools, for example, cannot qualify as "drug free" in the eyes of the federal government because, for one thing, they have no antidrug classes.

Mutch has also been influential in starting the Youth-to-Youth program among Adventists. The anti-drug program not only teaches young people to say No to drugs, but also trains them as peer counselors.

### Textbook author honored

Dr. Sandra Price, chair of the business and information systems department at Oakwood College, has coauthored a new textbook entitled *Business Communication: A Strategic Approach*.



Coauthors are Dr. John S. Stallard of Western Kentucky University, and Dr. Ray E. Smith of Western Illinois University.

The three writers were honored at a National Business Education Conference in Indianapolis.

According to a report in the March issue of the *Southern Tidings* the new book is a composite of principles, concepts, and activities designed to assist students with the development and refinement of their communication skills. The text embraces a five-part strategy that helps students work logically through any situation—evaluating options, avoiding confusion, and turning communication into a powerful business tool

## South Pacific women need your input for their outreach

How can the church reach women in the secular societies of Australia and New Zealand?

This very question is under study by a task force of the South Pacific Division of Seventh-day Adventists. Dr. Jennifer Knight is chairing a group of four professional women assigned to the topic. Other task forces are focusing on business and professional people, the media, youth, and academia.

"We are eager to know of any studies or projects that may have been conducted in the United States that cover ground similar to our assignment," said Knight in a letter to AAW president Nancy Marter. "Our committee hopes that AAW mem-

bers may be able to provide us with information relevant to our assignment."

The SPD has asked the task force to "explore what approaches might be taken by Adventist women professionals to sponsor and conduct events to minister in some way to colleagues "outside" the Adventist community...and to expose them to Christian perspectives about our world and Christian principles of life."

In addition to seeking input from women in the United States, Knight says the task force plans to initiate a thorough survey of Adventist business and professional women in Australia and New Zealand to "determine what approaches are considered most appropriate and effective."

Knight observed that while Adventists have published some papers at the Andrews University Press by the Committee on Secularism, none of them were written by women. "Nor do they address the specific issue of women ministering to secular colleagues," she added.

"We would be pleased to accept written submissions from women working outside the church in the United States who have given thought to this and who have practical experience in presenting Christianity to the secular society they work within," Knight stated.

Interested individuals are urged to write immediately to Jennifer Knight, 5/12 Harvard Street, Gladesville, 2111, N.S.W. Australia