



# FLORIDA FOCUS

A Bi-monthly Publication of the  
 Florida Conference of Seventh-day Adventists  
 Volume 16, Number 5 • November–December, 2000

## A GREETING FROM FLORIDA'S NEW PRESIDENT...



PHOTOS: MARTIN BUTLER

**"...All in favor say 'aye.' Opposed 'no.' Thank you very much. I'd like to invite Lewis and Anne to join me on the platform," said Malcolm Gordon, right, Southern Union Conference president. Gordon presided over the September 24 Constituency Meeting when Lewis Hendershot was elected president.**

Since our Conference session on September 24, life has been on the 'fast track' as we have experienced many new opportunities and responsibilities. What a wonderful Confer-

ence—and what a precious Savior we serve! Florida is blessed with outstanding pastors, teachers, evangelists, literature evangelists, office staff, and thousands of committed laypeople.

As we have been working with our new committees and boards, it is obvious that the Lord has placed many gifted people in positions to help advance His work. It is constantly an en-

couragement to me to remind myself daily that it is ultimately God who is in control of His work in this Conference. This is not of man's doing. Our best effort is to simply make ourselves available for His divine purpose each day, and it is Christ who accomplishes His work through us.

Anne and I want to thank you for the many expressions of prayer support. This has been a tremendous source of strength to us. Someone once said, "The greatest answer to prayer is more prayer." It is our desire that Florida Conference will be focused on "more prayer." The Lord is able to do abundantly more than we can ever imagine as

we pray for one another and the advancement of the Gospel.

We are confident that the Lord "who is



**Anne and Lewis Hendershot.**

mighty in strength" will continue to bless His cause in the great Florida Conference. As ministers and laypeople join hands for a finished work, surely we will one day rejoice in His return!

—Lewis and Anne Hendershot

## ADVENTIST AWARENESS IN OCALA PARADE

Pathfinders, parents, and 8-year-old Pearl Johnson created Church awareness with 60,000 area residents by being part of the Ocala 2000 Christmas Parade, December 2. Johnson submitted

the winning theme, *Christmas Miracles*, and was named junior grand marshal.

The Pathfinder float won second place in the youth-built float category.  
 —Herb Pritchard



PHOTOS: CINDY KURTZHALS

# Adventist Book Center



CINDY KURTZHAIS

**The Camp Kulaqua General Store opened July 18, 1999, in High Springs to serve north Florida customers.**



GERALD BOND

**The Miami Springs Adventist Book Center at 1 South Royal Poinciana Blvd. opened July 7, 1996.**



MARTIN BUTLER

**The Forest Lake Book and Nutrition Center at 3909 East Semoran Blvd. is on the campus of Forest Lake Academy in Forest City.**

It is a privilege to present this report on the progress of the Adventist Book Center and to praise God for His leading and for the many blessings that are clearly evident.

Our goal is evangelism—our method is retail. The Adventist Book Center is business-based—and ministry-motivated.

## GOOD BUSINESS...

1. provides the environment for sales
2. displays racks full of books
3. is what we do

## EFFECTIVE MINISTRY IS...

1. the result of those sales
2. the type of books on the racks
3. the manner in which we conduct business

## OUR HERITAGE

The Adventist Book Center was founded 131 years ago on June 6, 1869 by Stephen Nelson Haskell, a pioneer evangelist and administrator. It was called “The Vigilant Missionary Society” and was designed for the purpose of supplying literature to the young Church.

One year later, on November 6, 1870, the name was changed to “Tract and Missionary Society” and also became part of the New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

In 1926, the name



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**Gerald Bond, general manager, Florida Adventist Book Centers**

“Book and Bible House” was selected and, in 1972, the name “Adventist Book Center” was adopted by the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists.

Could Haskell have ever dreamed of the flow of gospel literature distributed around the world by Adventist Book Centers? Even today, we work with that same sense of mission and call from God as did that visionary pioneer.

## OUR MINISTRY

Ministry happens every time a product is sold to a customer that fulfills a need and enhances that person’s

spiritual growth.

Many people visit the Adventist Book Centers—some looking for literature, others just to browse. Some search for material to help them with a specific situation or to find answers to perplexing questions. There are those who are looking for counsel and others looking for encouragement.

To give the best client/constituent service, our staff of Adventist Book Center employees must be lovers of literature, finders of answers, suppliers of reading material for people of all ages, an information center, a closer of the Church’s back doors, a source of supplies for every outreach project of the Church, and a guide to complete Christianity.

The mission of the Adventist Book Center is to lift up Christ through the printed word—a mission that will continue until He returns.

“The publications sent forth from [the Adventist Book Cen-



RHEA HARVEY

**Ingrid and Richard Struble, Gainesville members, were the first customers at the Camp Kulaqua General Store. Also pictured, Gerald Bond.**



GERALD BOND

**Wesley Simpson stocks shelves in the Winter Park and Forest City Nutrition Centers with meat substitutes, nuts, vitamins, beverages, and more.**



**“Our goal is evangelism—our method is retail. The Adventist Book Center is business-based—and ministry-motivated.” —Gerald Bond, general manager, Florida Adventist Book Centers**



**Marti Camp, sales representative, has served the Florida Adventist Book Center for 26 years.**



**Displays of seasonal gifts greet every customer as they enter the Adventist Book Center in Winter Park.**

ter] are to prepare a people to meet God....

“...And in a large degree through [the Adventist Book Center] is to be accomplished the work of the other angel who comes down from heaven with great power and who lightens the earth with His glory.”  
—*Testimonies, vol. 7, pages 139-140.*

The Adventist Book Center is a spiritual book center doing spiritual work. The employees are spiritual leaders of the printed page. Literature to strengthen the spiritual life of our church members is the goal of the Adventist Book Center. It is through the Adventist Book Center that the Church’s publishing houses serve members.

### FINANCIAL STATUS

This triennium has been a time of continued progress for the Florida Adventist Book Center—the most stable Book Center in the North American Division. Its strong financial position allows for improved service to

constituents.

This was accomplished in 1996 with the new store in Miami Springs and in 1999 with the new store at Camp Kulaqua; continued service with the Bookmobile; and the toll-free line—1-800-765-6955—which lets customers call from anywhere in the state.

### CAMP KULAQUA GENERAL STORE

The highlight of 1999 was the grand opening of our newest branch at Camp Kulaqua. People who have visited the camp say it is the most beautiful Adventist Book Center they have seen.

The Book Center assumed operation of the Camp Store on January 1, 1999, making it the only Camp Store in the denomination operated by an Adventist Book Center. The grand opening of the Camp Kulaqua General Store, including the integrated Camp Store, followed on July 18 at the beginning of the Ministers’ Retreat.

In past years, sales during the Retreat in

the on-site Bookmobile were approximately \$3,000. Sales in the new store were more than \$16,000.

Sales for 1999 totaled \$234,905.11, an average of \$19,575.43 per month. Sales for the first 10 months of 2000—January-October—were \$324,499.10 for an average of \$32,499.91 per month.

### FOREST LAKE BOOK & NUTRITION CENTER

Sales at the Forest Lake store for 1999 were \$206,448.69, an average of \$17,204.06 per month. Sales through October, 2000, were \$162,122.28.

### MIAMI SPRINGS BOOK CENTER

The sales of our Miami Springs store continue to be strong as we give service to our constituency of south Florida.

In 1998, Miami Springs was the first branch store in North America to top \$1 million in sales. Sales were \$1,017,004.00 for an average of \$84,750 per month. Sales for 1999 totaled \$1,131,510.30

for an average of \$94,292.53 per month. Sales for the first 10 months—January-October, 2000—were \$1,027,727.62.

### BOOKMOBILE

The Bookmobile continues to be a blessing to our constituency from Tallahassee to Key West. Sales for 1999 were \$241,387.04 on 225 stops. Sales for the first 10 months of 2000 with 195 stops were \$212,491.35.

### SALES FOR 2000

For the first 10 months of this year—January-October—combined sales totaled \$3,573,446.65. This is nearly 10% higher than the same time last year. Sales for the entire year are expected to surpass the 1999 total of \$4,035,697.38.

### NET WORTH

In 1999, our increase to net worth was \$119,211.93. Our net worth at the beginning of this year, 2000, was

\$1,933,718.79—the highest net worth of any North American Division Adventist Book Center—and we are getting stronger as we approach Christ’s second coming.

### GRATITUDE AND PRAISE

Thank you for your continued support and prayers for the Adventist Book Center. We thank the Lord for His watch care over us during this past triennium. We give Him the glory for the accomplishments and for the souls that have been won through the Holy Spirit’s use of truth-filled literature.

I cannot help being impressed by the dedication and skills of each Book Center employee. Together, we form a strong team with one purpose—to hasten our Lord’s return through the distribution of literature.

We look forward to serving you.

—Gerald Bond



**Sairy Denizard, right, and Kelian, her daughter, look at videos for sale in the main Winter Park store located at the Florida Conference office. Adventist Book Centers carry books, videos, games, activities, and more for children of all ages.**

## 2001 WOMEN'S MINISTRIES RETREATS

### LOCATION

- Camp Kulaqua, High Springs

### ENGLISH RETREAT

Theme: *Taking Time to Know Him*

- February 9-11
- February 16-18
- February 23-25

### SPANISH RETREAT

Tema: *Tiempo para Conocerle*

- March 2-4

### COST

- \$80-\$165 depending on choice of accommodation

### REGISTRATION

- Camp Kulaqua, (904) 454-1351



—English Retreat—  
**Ginny Allen, guest speaker; women's ministries board, Oregon Conference; and registered nurse, Portland, Oregon.**



—Spanish Retreat—  
**Lourdes Bonilla, guest speaker; home-maker from Puerto Rico and popular Spanish language women's ministries speaker.**

### INFORMATION

- Florida Conference women's ministries department, (407) 644-5000 x188

## 2001 MEN'S MINISTRIES CONVENTIONS



PHOTOS: EDWIN RIVERA

MICHAEL YANCEY

Theme:  
**Standing Firm**

MARCH 16-18 AND 23-25 • CAMP KULAQUA

### Guest Speakers:

- Eradio Alonso, associate North American Division ministerial secretary;
- George Brown, retired Inter-American Division president;

- Derek Morris, religion professor, Southern Adventist University

**Cost:** \$45.50-\$174

### Registration:

(904) 454-1351

### Details:

(407) 644-5000 x135

## FEBRUARY IS FILING WINDOW FOR LOW POWER RADIO STATIONS

THINKING BIG—FLORIDA LAY ELECTRONIC MEDIA BOARD

Our objectives should be evangelism that include satellite, medium-power, and full-power radio stations throughout Florida, while providing global access to Florida outreach ministries and educational programs.

"The Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America seeks to lead people to a saving relationship with Jesus. To accomplish that mission, the Church seeks to do good in the community and become known for the good it does. The Church needs to focus its energies once again on developing public awareness and positive perceptions of the Church. ... The Adventist Church must

make changes in order to impact the public image of the Church." —*Quality of Life, the Report of the Commission on the Public Image of the Church, North American Division, October 8, 1997.*

Two of the mandates set forth by Florida members and the voted priorities at the 1997 Constituency Meeting was for evangelism/church growth ministries:

- Effective communications to people in Florida through mass media.
- Enthusiastic support of global outreach opportunities for the Church.

Participation in a public broadcast service encompasses many opportunities for the Church: the oppor-

tunity to provide a daily informational resource for community services, health education, and evangelistic programs and events. As a result, denominational awareness of a people that uphold the scriptures and Jesus' love will be advanced.

What target audience would receive the greatest benefit from a media ministry? Thirty-five percent of radio listeners in the general population are "unchurched."

The operational expense of a radio station can be fully funded by listener support if sufficient power is chosen to cover a 100,000 population base. Locating a 4,000- to 5,000-watt transmitter site within a metro area would be as effective as

25,000-40,000 watts in a sparsely populated rural area. The maximum FM power of 100,000 watts should be considered as a goal to reach the most population with the greatest efficiency.

For those interested in the low-power FM 100-watt license, the filing window is February, 2001. The 10-watt license filing window will be 2002.

The first order of business is to choose a transmitter/antenna site that can be leased or purchased. Next, FCC Form 318 must be filed with an available frequency determined by a frequency search, and an engineering study to verify the frequency. Then, contact a broadcast attorney.

Churches or groups

interested in a radio station can purchase a complete studio/radio station equipment package through agreements with the Three Angels Broadcasting Network or LifeTalk Radio Network. Individual audio/video broadcast-quality equipment can be purchased from several resources at significant discounts and shipped from the factory with full factory warranty.

Radio is much like a knife—we should not reject it because it can hurt people. Instead, we can use it to cut fruits and vegetables to feed the hungry.

—Wade Burby, chair,  
Florida Lay Electronic  
Media Board,  
[wade@netpass.com](mailto:wade@netpass.com),  
(407) 238-1145,  
fax: (407) 238-1186





# A NEW NAME FOR YOUNG ADULT PATHFINDERS

Varsity Pathfinders—the new name for high school-aged Pathfinders—was prayerfully considered, then officially voted, August 12, 2000, by the Florida Conference Pathfinder Advisory Committee. This new name for Pathfinders in grades 9-12 solves the long-standing challenge of identifying them from elementary-age Pathfinders in grades 5-8.

There has never really been a term to designate and identify this upper level of Pathfinders which includes students of public high schools, academies, home school, satellite education, GED, special education, and teens who have chosen not to complete their secondary education.

These older Pathfinders need special attention, instruction, guidance, and age-specific programming.

## NEW NAME, SAME PATHFINDERS

Varsity Pathfinders does not replace any existing programming. Its foundation is to learn about Jesus Christ through the completion of the *Voyager* and *Guide* curriculum levels.

Beyond the basic curriculum levels, the Florida Pathfinder department has taken huge strides to reach Varsity Pathfinders by offering a wide range of activities. These include:

- North American Division Bible Bowl
- Counselors in Training



The Florida Pathfinder department web site is at [www.florida.pathfinders.com](http://www.florida.pathfinders.com). Plans are being made for Pathfinder leaders to order material online.

- Island Navigator Outpost
- Mission Trips
- Reveille: Back to Basics
- Strike Force One
- Teen Leadership Training

- Varsity Pathfinder Camporees and events
- Xtreme Teen Adventures (XTA)

- Theme: *Trans4mation*
- Register: On the web site, [www.florida.pathfinders.com](http://www.florida.pathfinders.com)

## VARSITY PATHFINDER CAMPOREE

One of the special events coming up for this new division of Pathfinders is the Varsity Pathfinder Camporee.

This event will be similar to traditional camporees, in that each club will have their own designated campsite, and they must bring their own tents, food and equipment. However, this camporee will only be for Varsity Pathfinders and their staff, and the programming will be anything but traditional!

- When: April 6-8, 2001
- Where: The "Back Forty" of Forest Lake Academy, Apopka
- Cost: \$15 per person

## NEW WEB SITE

Florida Conference Pathfinders, Adventurers, and Varsity Pathfinders (PAVP) have a new web site. It's still under construction, yet there is a variety of interesting information about Florida PAVP, including the latest calendar of events.

The goal for this web site is to provide local clubs with a 24-hour source of information, materials, and assistance to facilitate their ministry. Soon, directors who have little time to do everything through the mail, or cannot visit the Conference office, will be able to order needed items, register for events, and communicate their opinions through the web site.

—Luis Gracia



Whitewater rafting is one of several "Xtreme Teen Adventure (XTA)" trips.

## WHO ARE VARSITY PATHFINDERS?

The new Varsity Pathfinder name refers to **all** Florida Conference Pathfinders who are:

- in grades 9-12 or its equivalent ages—15-18
- registered Pathfinders with a local club who attend the majority of their club's functions and abide by club rules
- working on the *Voyager* or *Guide* levels

# ADVENTISTS MINISTER IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

Our chaplains are a visible reminder that we are all human—dealing with human beings. Whether it's a deputy, clerical worker, sheriff, member of the general public, or prison inmate, we are all children of God. Our chaplains point out the fact that, as God's children, we all deserve to be treated as human beings.

—Detective Larry Green, chaplain liaison, Orange County Sheriff's Department

## THE CROSS IS THE DIFFERENCE

Stephen Hall is in his eighth year as a volunteer chaplain for the Orange County Sheriff's Department in Central Florida and is the only Adventist among the 30 chaplains on staff. In uniform, the Kress Memorial church member looks like any deputy. However, there is one difference—a cross on his collar.

Hall's background includes religious qualifications helpful for the job: a degree in theology, church elder, and member of the International Conference of Police Chaplains.

When it comes to re-

lating with the deputies, it certainly doesn't hurt that Hall has a master's degree in

criminal justice and taught the subject for 10 years at Rollins College in Winter Park.

Yet, it is the cross on his uniform that reminds him of his reason for working with the force. "My main responsibility is to be a spiritual presence for the deputies and their families," says Hall. "I visit the sick, give

counsel, serve as a sounding board when a deputy needs to talk with someone, and assist in funerals."

Hall is among a limited number of field chaplains on staff who have completed 80 hours of specialized law enforcement training. The retired financial planner, who now owns a chaplaincy con-

sulting business, says, "It is my desire to see policies and procedures standardized for training chaplains who work in the areas of law enforcement, fire, and public service."

From conversations with officers, he knows they would like to see ride-along chaplains better versed in patrol procedures, emergency communication skills, death notification procedures, and stress and anger management. Hall, who is working on his doctoral degree in law enforcement chaplaincy, will use his dissertation to outline standardized policies and procedures for training law enforcement chaplains.

"There are two reasons I volunteer," says Hall. "I'm able to live my religion in a practical way and also give something back to the community."

—Martin Butler, Cindy Kurtzhals



**Chaplain Stephen Hall, left, visits with Corporal John Weisner, field training officer, outside Orange County Sheriff's Department headquarters in Orlando.**

MARTIN BUTLER

## THE DREAM, PASSION, AND MISSION OF A POLICE CHAPLAIN

Dan Pabón was a chaplain at Hialeah Hospital in south Florida when the city's police chief was admitted as a patient. The two became friends and, before long, the chief encouraged Pabón to do something he'd always dreamed of doing—become a volunteer police chaplain.

Soon afterward, Pabón was asked to join the staff at Florida

Hospital East Orlando as a chaplain. Subsequently, his dream came true and he became a volunteer chaplain—the only Adventist—for the Orlando Police Department (OPD).

"This is my missionary work," says the Winter Park Spanish church member. "I don't watch television or spend endless hours on the computer. My extra time is spent with the officers." On Saturday nights, he often rides in a patrol car.

This association develops friendships, trust, and opportunities to talk. Sometimes



**Dan Pabón**

officers will cry with him, sing with him, and pray with him.

ORLANDO MAYOR'S OFFICE

Pabón sends the officers a birthday card each year and every Monday there's a note with a thought-for-the-week from him in their mailbox. His ministry has brought invitations to conduct weddings for officers and funerals of family members.

Like other chaplains in law enforcement, Pabón isn't allowed to bring up denominationalism. However, if someone asks, then "the door is open to tell them what I believe," he reveals. "It's amaz-

ing to see how the officers' concept of our Church has changed for the positive."

"We can tell that he is really dedicated to his job because he's always there when we need him," said OPD Detective Ivan Cabrera. Then, with sadness in his voice, Cabrera, who had just learned that Pabón was leaving to become associate pastor for nurture at the Takoma Park, Maryland, church, added, "We'll really miss him."

—Martin Butler

# Calendar of Events

## A POLICE CHAPLAIN BY PROVIDENCE

Rus Aldridge believes he's a Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) volunteer chaplain by Divine providence.

"I saw the Lord's hand at work when I met a state trooper in Forest City and told him about my desire to become a volunteer chaplain," says the retired Florida Conference pastor. "We need a chaplain at our post in DeLand," the officer responded. "Our former chaplain recently passed away."

Aldridge spoke with the captain and was appointed to the position on September 21, 1998, as chaplain to the 75 officers on staff. Later,

he would minister to the captain whose wife died suddenly.

The DeLand post covers the unincorporated areas of five counties, so troopers are rarely at headquarters. "The officers' cruisers are their main office," says Aldridge. "If I'm needed, the troopers know I am just a cell phone call away, 24 hours a day."

Aldridge particularly enjoys riding with the officers which allows him to visit, build trust, and form friendships. If the officer with whom he's riding is called to an accident, Aldridge may help direct traffic, inventory contents of vehicles, or comfort victims.



Rus Aldridge

"I'm always treated special by those on the force," he says. "I thank God for the privilege of ministering to my parishioners—the FHP troopers and their families."

Aldridge and Marilyn, his wife, are members of the Groveland church where he pastored until February, 2000.

—Martin Butler



Bob Burns

## CHAPLAIN AWARDED

Bob Burns, chaplain at Florida Hospital Kissimmee and Florida Hospital Celebration Health, was honored in October by the Mt. Dora police department for six years of volunteer chaplain service. During that time, he was a chaplain at Florida Hospital Waterman in Eustis.

The award of appreciation read, "Presented to Bob Burns for his exemplary service and dedication to

the citizens of the City of Mt. Dora and to the men and women of the Mt. Dora Police Department."

"I have a real conviction that we, as Adventists, need to be more involved in our communities," says Burns. "We need to rub shoulders with people and get to know them if we are going to witness to them."

He believes that volunteering or belonging to civic organizations, such as the Rotary Club, serve as a canvass to "paint a more accurate picture of Adventists to people with preconceived

ideas that may not be correct."

Burns currently anticipates being appointed as a Civil Air Patrol chaplain.

—Martin Butler

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### Florida Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

655 North Wymore Road  
Winter Park, FL 32789-1715  
Phone: (407) 644-5000  
Fax: (407) 644-7550  
<http://www.adventist-fl.com/>

#### PRESIDENT

Lewis Hendershot

#### COMMUNICATION DIRECTOR

Cindy Kurtzhals  
Editor, Creative Director

#### ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Martin Butler  
Writer, Photographer

#### ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Lee Bennett  
Desktop Publishing

#### OFFICE SECRETARY

Margaretta Cone

Complete calendar online: <http://www.adventist-fl.com/calendar.html>  
Florida Pathfinder events: <http://www.floridapathfinders.com/>

## JANUARY, 2001

### Evangelistic Series.

Jan. 5-Feb. 10. Kissimmee. Lester Pratt and Roy and Amy Pauley.

Jan. 6-Feb. 24. East Pasco. Bill and Cora Waters.

Jan. 12-Feb. 10. St. Petersburg. Ric Swaningson.

Jan. 13-Feb. 24. Wauchula. Art and Margo Swaningson.

Jan. 14-Feb. 23. Interlachen. Mark and Sarah Swearingen.

Jan. 20-Jan. 27. South Orlando. Ralph Ringer.

Jan. 27-Mar. 10. Marion Oaks Spanish. Bob and Mary Goransson.

Feb. 9-Mar. 4. Poinciana Spanish. José and Ophelia Fuentes.

Mar. 24-Apr. 28. Miami/South Florida area-wide meetings. Ft. Lauderdale, Dwight and Connie Davis; Hialeah Springs Spanish, José and Ophelia Fuentes; Plantation, Lester Pratt and Roy and Amy Pauley; Eden French, Art and Margo Swaningson; Temple of the Advent Hope, Ric Swaningson; Homestead, Mark and Sarah Swearingen; Miami Springs, continuing through May 12, Bill and Cora Waters.

**Communication Director/Team Training.** Jan. 12-14. Pine Lake Retreat, Groveland. Instructors: Conference communication department team and Kermit Netteburg, North American Division assistant to the president for communication, Silver Spring, Maryland. Cost: \$58.25, includes meals and lodging. Registration: (904) 454-1351.

**Lay Pastor Assistant Training.** Jan. 12-14. Florida Conference office. Instructor: Ron Halvorsen, church growth director, Southern Union Conference. Local pastors will have registration forms. Details: (407) 644-5000 x149.

**Florida Adventist Bookmobile.** Shop online: [www.adventist-fl.com/abc/](http://www.adventist-fl.com/abc/) or order by e-mail: [FloridaABC@southernunion.com](mailto:FloridaABC@southernunion.com)

Jan. 13. Port Charlotte.

Jan. 14. North Port, Venice-Nokomis, Sarasota, Palmetto, Brandon, Tampa First.

Jan. 20. Maranatha.

Jan. 21. Plantation, Lauderhill, Pompano Beach, Boynton-Delray.

Jan. 27. Tallahassee.

Jan. 28. Perry, Lake City, Ocala, Belleview, Silver Springs Shores.

Feb. 3. St. Petersburg.

Feb. 4. Clearwater, New Port Richey, Spring Hill, Brooksville, East Pasco in Dade City, Lakeland.

Feb. 10. Naples.

Feb. 11. Ft. Myers, Ft. Myers Shores, Arcadia, Walker Memorial in Avon Park, Lake View, Winter Haven.

Feb. 17. West Palm Beach.

Feb. 18. Jupiter-Tequesta, Jensen Beach, Ft. Pierce, Palm Bay, Cocoa, Titusville.

Mar. 3. Port Charlotte.

Mar. 4. North Port, Venice-Nokomis, Sarasota, Bradenton, Brandon, Tampa First.

Mar. 10. North Miami.

Mar. 11. Ft. Lauderdale, Lauderhill, Pompano Beach, Boynton Beach.

Mar. 17. Jacksonville Mandarin.

Mar. 18. Jacksonville First, Jacksonville Southpoint, St. Augustine, Palatka, Palm Coast.

**Andrews University Master's Extension Program** for Spanish-speaking pastors. Jan. 14-18. Pine Lake Retreat, Groveland. Instructor: Atilio Dupertuis, professor, Andrews University Theological Seminary, Berrien Springs, Michigan. Details: (407) 644-5000 x153.

**Hispanic Youth Leadership Convention.** Jan. 19-21. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. Speaker: Luis Gracia, associate Florida Pathfinder director. Details: Sergio Torres, (305) 225-0528.

**Festival de Laicos (Spanish Festival of Laity).** Jan. 20, Tampa First church. Jan. 27, Forest City Spanish church. Details: (407) 644-5000 x135.

—continued on page 8



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

—continued from page 7

**REV 2001 Youth Leadership Convention.** Jan. 26-28. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. \$55 per person, includes lodging, meals, leadership guides and resources, training, and programming. Details: (407) 644-5000 x129.

**“Binding the Wounds” Family Ministry Seminar.** Jan. 27-28. Holiday Inn-Ft. Lauderdale. Presented by Faith for Today Television and Drs. Ron & Nancy Rockey, Christian counseling psychologists and family health educators. Details: (888) 940-0062.

**FEBRUARY, 2001**

**Boot Camp for Evangelism and Lay Bible Worker Training.** Feb. 8-11. Pine Lake Retreat, Groveland. Instructor: Oliver McKinney, ministerial director, Southern Union Conference. Local pastors will have registration forms. Details: (407) 644-5000 x149.

**Women’s Ministries Retreats.** English: Feb. 9-11, 16-18, & 23-25. Spanish: Mar. 2-4. Details: see page 4.

**MARCH, 2001**

**North Florida Camp Meeting.** Mar. 9-11. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. Details: (904) 454-1351.

**Fifth Annual West Coast Convocation.** Mar. 16. Tampa First church. Guest speaker, José Rojas, youth/young adult ministries director, North American Division.

Mar. 17. Mahaffey Theatre at Bayfront Center, St. Petersburg. Sabbath school speaker, Charles Bradford, retired North American Division president. Sabbath worship speaker, José Rojas.

**Men’s Ministries Conventions.** Mar. 16-18 & 23-25. Details: see page 4.

**CAMP MEETINGS**

**English-language.** May 25-June 2. Forest Lake Academy, Forest City.

**Spanish-language.** June 6-10. Forest Lake Academy, Forest City.

—A. Lee Bennett, Jr.

**SABBATH SCHOOL LEADERS LEARN STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS**

Adult Sabbath school teachers and superintendents from 33 churches attended *Four Steps To Success* workshops in April and October to learn strategies for making Sabbath school programs more effective in their churches.

Faith Crumbly, editor of *Sabbath School Leadership* magazine, presented the weekend seminars at Pine Lake Retreat in Groveland and the Radisson Hotel in Miami.

Crumbly said a superintendent’s biggest challenge is getting people to Sabbath school on time. Teachers’ challenges are getting members to study their lessons and not having enough time for class lesson study.

Creative ideas that are working in other churches around the country were shared: Family Sabbath, Pew Day, and Action Units are a few she mentioned. She suggested that members be surveyed to “find out what they want, then make changes. Involve members. Every class should have an outreach



**Ninety-two Sabbath school leaders met October 6-8 at the Miami Radisson Hotel.**

EZINA QUARRIE



**Approximately 60 Sabbath school teachers and superintendents met April 28-30 at Pine Lake Retreat in Groveland with presenter Faith Crumbly, second row, standing 5th from left; and Glen Altermatt, Conference adult Sabbath school director, front row, kneeling right.**

YASMIN MISURACA

project.”

“I really appreciated the emphasis on program preparation,” says Dinorah Rivera, Sabbath school superintendent at the Miami Temple church. “I learned ways to be more creative in planning programs to meet the needs and interests

of Sabbath school members. Now, I plan to go back to my Sabbath school and present the same goodness in a new box with a new freshness.”

“Our Sabbath school leaders were inspired and challenged by these workshops,” says Glen Altermatt,

Conference adult Sabbath school director. “I believe the tips and tools shared by Faith to assess what members want, and strategies to implement what is learned, will help our Florida members claim greater ownership of their Sabbath schools.”

—Martin Butler



**FLORIDA CONFERENCE**  
OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS  
P.O. BOX 2626  
WINTER PARK, FL 32790-2626  
(407) 644-5000  
FAX: (407) 644-7550  
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