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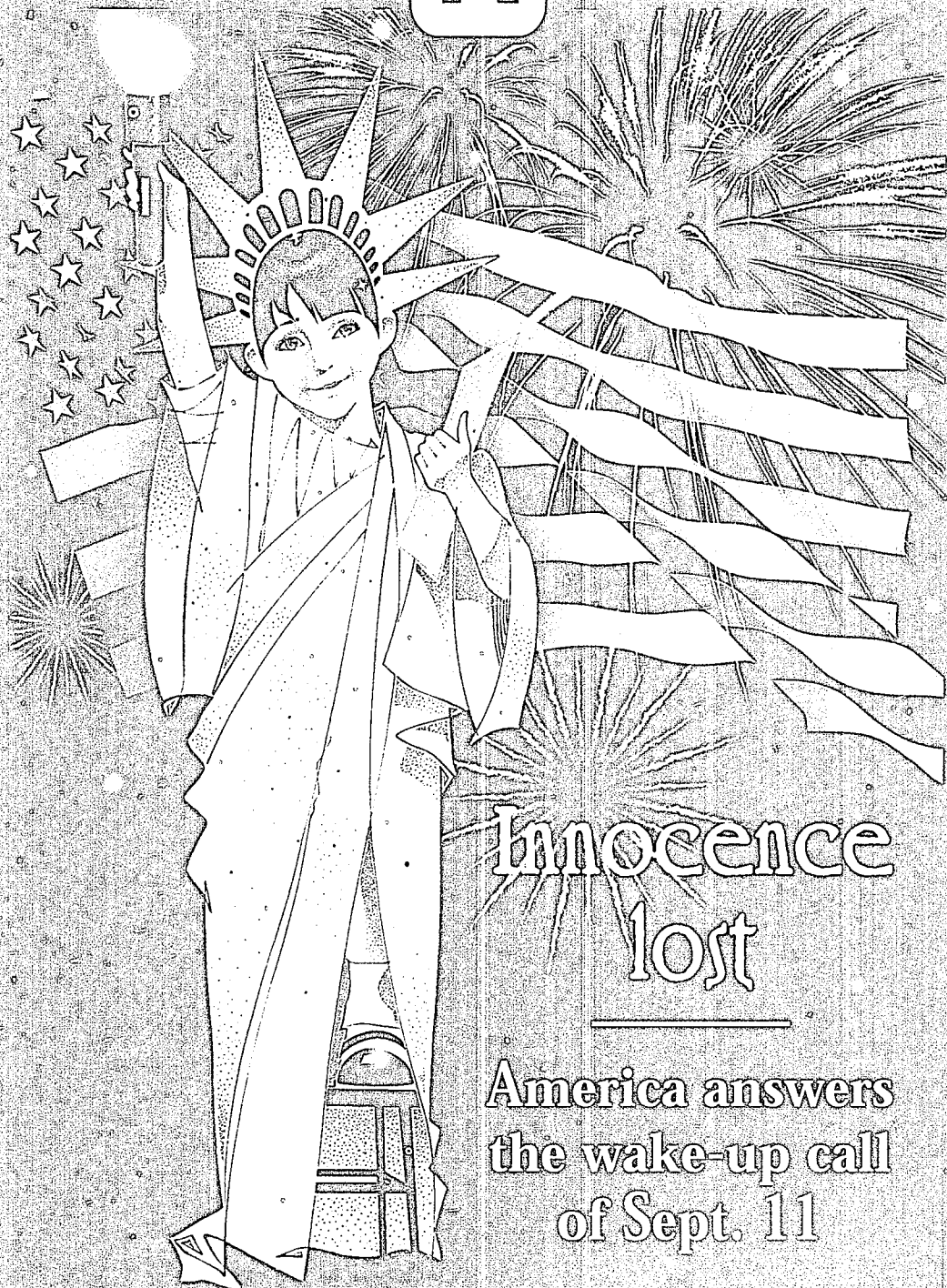
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News for and about
Seventh Day Baptists

November 2001

R

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Innocence lost

America answers
the wake-up call
of Sept. 11



Who are Seventh Day Baptists?

If you've never read *The Sabbath Recorder* before, you might be wondering who Seventh Day Baptists are. Like other Baptists, we believe in:

- salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ.
- the Bible as the inspired word of God. The Bible is our authority for our faith and daily conduct.
- baptism of believers, by immersion, witnessing to our acceptance of Christ as Savior and Lord.
- freedom of thought under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
- the congregational form of church government. Every church member has the right to participate in the decision-making process of the church.

The seventh day

God commanded that the seventh day (Saturday) be kept holy. Jesus agreed by keeping it as a day of worship. We observe the seventh day of the week (Saturday) as God's Holy Day as an act of loving obedience—not as a means of salvation. Salvation is the free gift of God through Jesus Christ. It is the joy of the Sabbath that makes SDBs just a little bit different.

If you would like more information, write: The Seventh Day Baptist Center, 3120 Kennedy Road, PO Box 1678, Janesville, WI 53547-1678. Phone (608) 752-5055; FAX (608) 752-7711; E-mail: sdbgen@inwave.com and the SDB Web site: www.seventhdaybaptist.org

The Sabbath Recorder

Establ. 1844



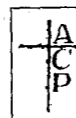
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Features

Call it a "gut feeling" 4
World Trade Center worker decides not to go to work on September 11. Her story.

Reflections from Ground Zero 6
by David Massengill
A Wall Street lawyer, living one block from the disaster site in New York City, shares two big lessons learned.

Statements from Baptist organizations and a 10-year-old girl..... 9-10

A time to teach 11
by J. Otis Ledbetter & Tim Smith
Each month gives families an opportunity to make memories and develop family traditions. Start some this month!

Robe of Achievement awarded..... 12

Departments

Women's Society 13
Too mean to be seen

Pearls from the Past 14
Conference recollections thirty years later

SR Almanac 15
Looking back 5, 10, 25... years

Christian Education 16
New "Church Honor Roll" for Scripture Memorization

Focus 17
More plans for 2003 in Brazil

The Beacon 18
New Beacon editor

Pete's Prescriptions 19
Some weighty issues for SDBs

President's Page 20
Dress up at Conference

Reflections 21
Gravy, gossip, and gratitude

Local news 22-23, 25
Pontotoc, MS 22
St. Mary, Jamaica 23
Alfred Station, NY 23
Paint Rock, AL 25

SR Reaction 25

Family flux 24-25
Accessions, marriages, births 24
Obituaries 24-25

Kevin's Korner 27
Air travel since 9/11

Job opening

The Riverside, Calif., Seventh Day Baptist Church announces an open application process for a part-time Director of Christian Education, beginning August 1, 2002.

The fundamental responsibilities of the Director will be to serve the spiritual needs of the church family by focusing on ministry to families with youth and children. This ministry will include evangelism, instruction, and counseling. The minimum requirements are:

- 1) Preferably has completed or is pursuing the completion of a ministerial education degree.
- 2) Has experience in the area of Christian Education.
- 3) Demonstrates a deep, personal relationship with the Lord and maintains a good reputation.
- 4) Understands and is in agreement with the Seventh Day Baptist Statement of Belief and the local Riverside SDB Church's mission statement and congregational goals.
- 5) Should be a member in good standing of an SDB Church.

Interested parties should request a job description from the Riverside church and submit a resume by June 30, 2002. You can call (909) 686-0545, or write to:

Seventh Day Baptist Church of Riverside
5901 Chicago Ave.
Riverside, CA 92506

Young Adult Year-End Retreat Registration



Who: High School Graduates
Where: Camp Paul Hummel, Boulder, CO
When: Dec. 28, 2001 to Jan. 2, 2002
Cost: \$15.00 by Nov. 19. Make checks payable to Kecia Thompson Gordon with "YA Retreat" in the memo line.
Send fee to Kecia Thompson Gordon
515 1/2 E. High St., Milton, WI 53563

Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone () _____

Arriving by: _____ private car
_____ plane _____ airline _____ flight# _____
arrival date/time _____
departure date/time _____

_____ bus arrival date/time _____
departure date/time _____

If arriving by plane or bus, make reservations into Denver. Bring warm clothing, sleeping bag/linens, Bible, flashlight, towel, shower stuff.

If you have any questions, please call Kecia at (608) 868-6130 or e-mail her at kecialatifah@hotmail.com

Call it a "gut feeling"

Cleo LaTouche started working at the World Trade Center in March of 2000. But something kept her from going to work on September 11, 2001. She shared her story with us exactly one month later.

What was your job; what floor did you work on?

I'm with the legal firm of Sidley, Austin, Brown and Wood. They occupied the 56th through 59th floors, and I worked on the 59th.

How long was your usual commute?

From Jersey, it wasn't too bad going there. I took the 7:40 bus to the train right to the World Trade Center—where it actually went underneath the building—then I'd go straight up to my office and be at my desk by 8:30.

What caused you not to go to work on September 11?

I had had a pain in my side for about a week, but I was still going in to work. That Monday [the 10th] it occurred to me, "Wait a minute; you're not supposed to have a pain like this for a week...." So I called my doctor, and she was going to give me an appointment for the following week. Then, they discovered that their office closest to me had an opening for 10:30 the next morning.

And that was September 11th?

That was the 11th. So, I almost didn't get that appointment.

Did you hear about the crashes right away?

Since the appointment wasn't until 10:30, I was at home watching



the Today Show. They interrupted the program and showed that the first tower, the building that I worked in, was on fire! I'm stunned because I'm watching this on TV, and I'm like, "Oh my goodness!" I couldn't

I screamed, and started to cry because I didn't know if my co-workers had gotten out of the building or not.

think of anything. All I could do was look at the television.

When I saw the second plane hit, I knew that we were under attack.

So when you saw the fire from your building, you didn't know what had happened.

Actually, I thought that a plane had accidentally flown into it. A co-worker had commented just the other week that, "Oh, the planes are really flying low!" So that's what I thought had happened, even though it was a beautiful day with no clouds.

What was going through your mind then?

After the second plane hit, it was

like watching something that just wasn't real! I sat there listening to the reporters, and then I phoned my sister. There was some trouble getting through to New York, but I did manage to reach her. She was so frantic! She said, "Cleo, I've been trying to call your work number and I couldn't get through and kept getting busy signals..."

She said, "Call Liz." That's my other sister. So I called her to tell her I was okay. It still didn't seem real. Nobody had any idea at that time of the danger, or what was going to come.

I got ready to go to the doctor, and still had the television on when I saw that the first building had crumbled. I could not accept it, and just said, "No! No!"

You must have been concerned about the status of your co-workers.

At the doctor's office, the local TV channels had been affected so they were watching the Spanish station. They confirmed that Building 2 was gone, and Building 1 was still burning. I'm sitting in the waiting room, and that's when I saw Building 1 crumble.

I screamed, and started to cry be-

cause I didn't know if my co-workers had gotten out of the building or not.

Even talking to the doctor, I was like in a daze. When I came home later, I spoke to my supervisor who said that most everyone had made it out of the building. We did lose one of our telephone operators, Rosemary Smith. We heard that she made it down to the lobby or plaza, but wasn't far enough away when it collapsed.

We heard that you saw one of your co-workers being interviewed on TV.

He got out of the building and was telling the Today Show how calmly everybody was going down the stairs.

I can't imagine them remaining calm like that.

Well, Building 1 was bombed in 1993 and that caused a lot of panic then. This time around, I don't think people were aware of what was happening and how serious it was.

Do you have any feelings of "survivor's guilt"?

I actually don't. I've had some thoughts about not being there, feeling a little bit guilty about not being there, but more of a feeling of being blessed not having to go through it.

Have you visited the disaster site?

No. I just can't. One of my co-workers got fairly close two or three weeks after the disaster and he said the air was still burning, with ash all around. I can't make myself go down there. I don't know how long it will be before I can.

How has this event affected your faith?

Our Bible study is going through the Revelation, and the first quote I thought of was, "There will be wars and rumors of wars." I feel that this is a definite sign that Jesus is com-



Cleo LaTouche

I feel that it was definitely the hand of God working. If I had been sitting at my desk at 8:30, I would have been in the middle of all that.

ing. Nobody thought that we could be attacked like this!

I have had some bouts with sleepless nights, having nightmares and dreams of buildings and bridges collapsing. But for the most part, my faith hasn't been shaken.

I used to work in Jersey, and a friend asked me if I was going to go back to work in Jersey. This could have happened anywhere! We just have to be right with God and know His plan. He told us these signs, He told us it was going to happen. We just have to be ready. I think my faith is stronger now.

Do you feel that your not being at work was God's providence, or just a coincidence?

Like I said, I had had that pain for about a week, but that particular morning when I woke up, it was really bad. I was planning to go to work; just thought it was a "bug." But it was really bad in the morning and I thought, "No, I've got that doctor's appointment and I'd better go get this checked."

I had e-mailed my office the day before telling them about my appointment, and that I'd be in at 1:00. I feel that it was definitely the hand of God working. If I had been sitting at my desk at 8:30, I would have been in the middle of all that.

We understand that you are back to work. Where is your office, and what is it like working now?

We've relocated to mid-town. My commute is longer and a little more complicated, but I come in because the disaster could've happened anywhere.

You don't feel unsafe going into New York?

No, not really. In the beginning, I didn't want to come out of my house! [Laughs.] But this is such a massive country; it could happen anywhere.

Anything else you'd like to share?

Just that Scripture, "There will be wars and rumors of wars," and that we have to be ready. This is a wake-up call for us. Jesus is coming again.

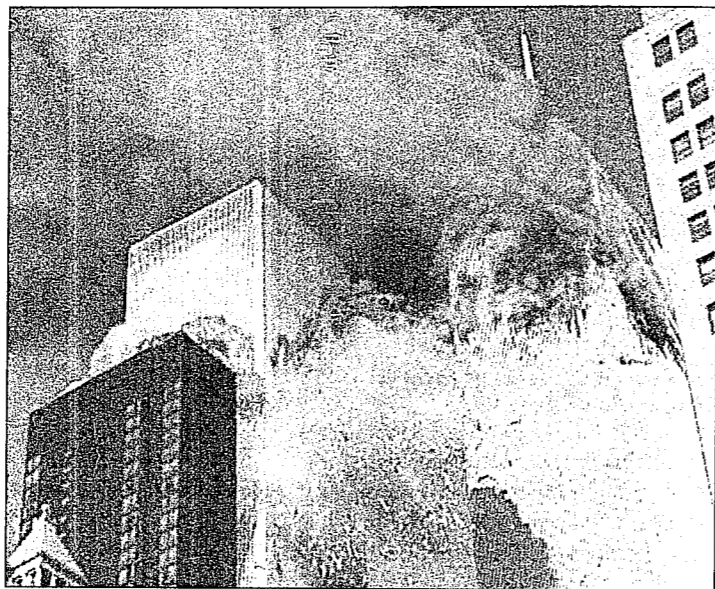
It's sort of like the days of Noah, where the people were warned and they didn't react, they didn't do anything, they didn't believe. This is definitely a sign that He's coming again. **SR**

Cleopatra LaTouche and her husband Anthony live in Parlin, New Jersey. She has been attending the Raritan Valley, N.J., SDB Church since 1999. Cleo's first phone call after contacting her sisters was to Pastor Jeanne Yurke because the church is "like family."

The first films of Cleo's stomach pain showed what appeared to be a cyst, but a follow-up exam proved negative. She is feeling fine.

Reflections from Ground Zero

by David Massengill



We saw on September 11 just what a toxic combination religious zeal and physical power can be.

My name is David and I am homeless, temporarily. But I will be home soon. Home is on Broadway, one block east of what was the World Trade Center.

The last time my family and I slept at home was Monday, September 10. The next morning my daughter and I left home early for midtown Manhattan. But at 8:25 a.m., my wife and 11-year-old son were standing in front of 5 World Trade Center, hailing a cab to take him to his school in Greenwich Village.

She dropped him off and walked to the nearest subway station. She was going to take the Number 1 train back home, to the subway station in the basement of the World Trade Center—a stop that no longer exists. When she got to the subway entrance, people were standing and staring downtown, at the gaping hole in one of the World Trade towers and the smoke pouring from it.

While she watched, she saw the second plane hit and an orange fireball bursting from the other Tower. She turned north and walked to our church, Metro Baptist. Since then I have pondered God's mercies, and what a difference a mere 20 minutes on either side of her schedule could have made in our lives.

The day after

We spent that night at our pastor's house, but the next day I headed back downtown. Our dog and two cats had been left without food or water, since my wife was only going to be away for "a half-hour or so."

I did not know what I could do, so I just started walking south from 14th street. The wind was blowing from the south, and it was bitter with

smoke. By the time I reached Canal Street most people were wearing masks. There were police checkpoints every block.

Because I had photo identification showing that I lived there (and because police have a fond spot for dogs), they let me through. The last four blocks I had a National Guardsman by my side as an escort.

Those last few blocks were hard. It was late afternoon on a sunny day, but there, it was twilight. Everything

was covered with an inch or more of gray ash. Everything, that is, except for a carpet of papers on the ground.

I had to walk on them, and as I did I saw letters, memos, bills, all of the paper that makes up an office. But there was no office anymore, and every third or fourth page was partly burned.

When I went into our apartment I was shocked. It was untouched. The lights were on and there was running water. It was as if time had stopped on Tuesday morning at 8:25. I took care of the animals and then went, reluctantly, back into the world *after* September 11.

I walked into a war zone. But I knew this war zone. It was where I had spent most of the last 20 years of my life.

When you are a Wall Street lawyer, you get to know the area around Wall Street very well. But that afternoon, everything was different. I really didn't know this place. As I

walked away from there, the radios went off around me with an emergency warning. The remaining buildings in the World Trade Center were collapsing behind me.

Two things I've learned

It has now been three weeks. The debris has stopped burning, and we are going home this week. But it will be a very different place. It is a different world.

I have done a lot of thinking, and two things are clear to me. The first is the importance of a clear separation of church and state. And the second is the importance of "the invisible city."

We saw on September 11 just what a toxic combination religious zeal and physical power can be. In the past, my motivation in this area was my concern about the damage we do to our *own* religious faith when we combine it with easy access to secular power.

Faith means we have doubts, times when we start to wonder if what we believe is right, if we can finish what we have begun. When those doubts grow, there is an extraordinary temptation to solve them the easy way—by decree—if we know the guys with the guns, or if *we* are the guys *with* the guns. When that

happens, God becomes unnecessary, and faith ceases to be faith.

But even more deadly is when faith is transformed from a limit on power—the defender of the powerless—into a justification for the use of power.

The men who flew those planes into the buildings were not cowards. They trained for years with the goal of causing their own swift and violent death. They were zealots, true believers who had been freed from all moral limits by that zeal.

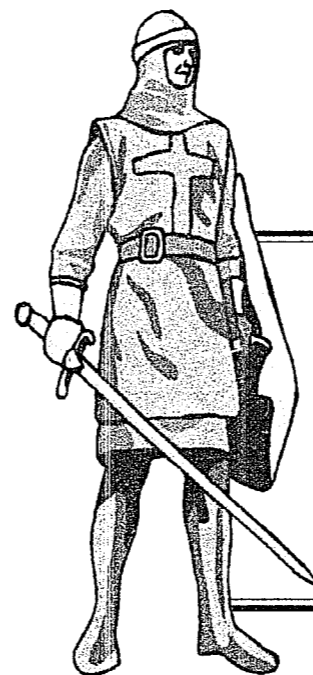
If that zeal came from what they believed was a religious mandate, it would not be surprising.

It certainly should not surprise us. Islam has a long way to go before it matches the carnage committed in the name of the Lamb of God and the Prince of Peace. The history of the Church includes too many examples of what happens when religious faith and secular power merge. We remove the last and greatest limit on our capacity to destroy: our reliance on God's power.

Zealots of all faiths have been praying for the destruction of the "godless heathen" in New York City for decades, yet God has been curiously unmoved. This is not the first time in history that zealots used secular power to make their prayers a reality, when it appeared that God did not intend to do so any time soon.

Our country learned this lesson long ago, and the revolutionaries insisted on a First Amendment that protects both the church and the state from the corrupting influence of too close a bond. We owe it to those who died, and to those who survived, to work to keep religious faith a moral boundary for the government, and never a moral license to commit inhuman acts in God's name.

But I learned something else as well: the importance of the "invisible



The history of the Church includes too many examples of what happens when religious faith and secular power merge.

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city." We have heard sermons about building up treasure in heaven. But we *can* build up treasure on earth, a treasure that is harder to destroy than any building.

In New York City, that treasure has been obscured by the giant buildings, but you saw it on September 11. You saw it when world-class chefs were serving gourmet food under makeshift tents to rescue workers, when steel workers came from every construction site in the City without a call, when firefighters charged into burning buildings that were raining flaming debris.

You saw it in the following days, as plays went back on and our churches filled. You saw a city that no terrorist could destroy, a city built of creativity and freedom, a city based on an overwhelming belief in the value of human talent.

Already I am hearing people say that they will not let fear and anger destroy that part of our City. We will *not* finish the terrorists' work for them.

That same fierce drive should be part of our national will, as well. We

cannot let fear and anger turn us into accomplices after the fact, destroying the freedoms that so angered our enemies.

One more story

Metro Baptist Church is across the street from the Port Authority bus terminal. When disaster struck, the staff put up signs offering a place to come and pray, or talk, or just sit.

In the early afternoon a man came in, shaking. He asked if he could stay. David Waugh, the pastor, said, "Of course." But the man said, "You don't understand, I am a Muslim." And David said, "This is God's house and you are welcome here."

That night about 35 people slept on the floor of Metro's sanctuary: Muslim, German Lutheran, Baptists, others. They were the family of God, and they were home.

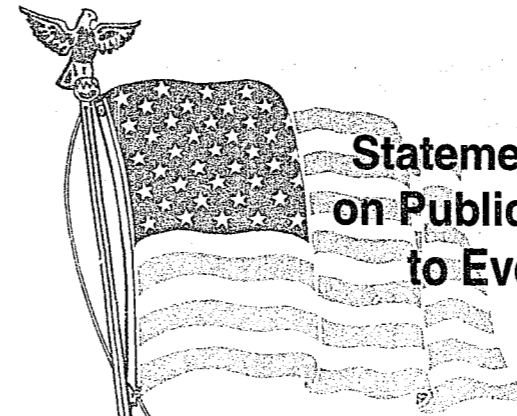
Our new associate minister said later that although everyone is calling for a return to normalcy, she was hoping for continued "abnormalcy,"

like the abnormal amount of caring and decency and community she saw that night.

That's not a bad lesson for anyone these days. *SR*



David Massengill is an attorney in New York City, a member of Metro Baptist Church, and a board member of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs. © 2001, BJCPA. Used by permission.



Statement of Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs on National Response to Events of September 11, 2001

Citizens of this country and the world have recently suffered the most brutal acts of terrorist aggression on American soil. Our heartfelt sympathy and prayers go out to the families and friends of those who died or were injured in the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and Western Pennsylvania.

Since Jesus taught us to pray for our enemies, we also pray for those who perpetrated or aided in the aggression and those who wish our country ill.

We pray, too, for President Bush, members of Congress and the Cabinet, and all policy makers. And as Baptist Christians who are citizens of the United States, we support their efforts to seek justice and protect American citizens and our national sovereignty. Believing, however, that the complete elimination of evil from the Earth will be brought about only by the ultimate reign of God, we urge our governmental leaders to use language that is consistent with the role of civil government.

As our country responds—diplomatically and militarily—let us be careful not to compound the tragedy by

sowing seeds of hate, casting blame where it does not belong, and seeking vengeance instead of justice.

The response should be directed in ways that respect the religious freedom and civil liberties of all Americans, reject religious and ethnic stereotyping, and avoid the loss of innocent life. We applaud the administration for defending in particular the rights of American Muslims and Arab-Americans.

We affirm the right of peaceful dissent as protected by the First Amendment and express faith in the Constitution and our ability to protect liberty while providing adequate security for all Americans.

As we come together experiencing a sense of heightened patriotism and national unity, let us also respect each other and our differences, take the necessary steps to seek justice without forgoing our way of life, and remember that being free is at the core of what it means to be Baptist Christians in the United States.

This statement was drafted by BJCPA Board members at their annual meeting in Washington on October 2.

We cry out to God...

...in this day of grief, September 11, 2001, following the attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

How are we to respond?

The church's evangelical mission involves speaking this truth: We reap what we sow. These incidents are but the harvest of prior planting and tilling. We must declare this message with prophetic vigor, with analytical clarity, and with pastoral wisdom.

Prophetic vigor

These terrorist attacks are a parable of the realities of our warring world. As these events unfold we will gain a better understanding of what we are

cont. next page



to proclaim. We do know that we will be speaking in an alternative language, grounded in the Gospel of Jesus Christ the Prince of Peace.

Analytical clarity

Drawing on the compassionate and intelligent courage from many quarters, we must lift up the voices of those who can help us understand the underlying dynamics which have set us on this course, as well as new public policies which can steer us in a new direction.

Pastoral wisdom

Local congregations themselves must devise creative and redemptive ways to invest their own resources in the broader struggle against violence, as well as the specific task of nurturing all who find themselves on the margins—and not just those in our own membership, but in all communities, beginning with those closest at hand. We dare not speak out unless we are willing to pay up.

“At some ideas you stand perplexed, especially at the sight of human sins, uncertain whether to combat it by force or by humble love. Always decide, ‘I will combat it with humble love.’ If you make up your mind about that once and for all, you can conquer the whole world. Loving humility is a terrible force; it is the strongest of all things and there is nothing like it.”

—*The Brothers Karamozov* by Dostoyevsky

*God is our
refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble*

—Psalm 46:1a

From the Fall 2001 “Baptist Peacemaker,” publication of the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America, based in Charlotte, N.C.

“Out of the mouths of babes...”

Child offers insightful prayer

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (ABP) – “Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark,” says Psalm 8:2. Isaiah 11:6 adds, “a little child shall lead them.”

So in a time of crisis, it should come as no surprise to hear prophetic words from a child.

Emily Woodell, a 10-year-old member of Pulaski Heights Baptist

Church in Little Rock, Ark., offered the following prayer on the steps of the Arkansas State Capitol during a prayer vigil:



Dear God, I come to You on behalf of children like me. We don't understand everything that has happened in the past few days, but we do know that You are with us and care for us. Some children have been affected more than others by this tragedy. Some don't have moms, dads, or other family members anymore. Some are scared that it will happen where they live. Still others are concerned for friends and families they have not heard from yet. So God, come and be with us in a special way.

Help us to know You are there and care for us.

Let us also remember that while there are people in the world who do bad things, You have asked us to do the right thing. Let us show Your

love to others who are different from us, because they may be scared too. Thank You for loving and caring for us. We need Your love more now than ever.

In Your name I pray, Amen.

A time to teach

by J. Otis Ledbetter and Tim Smith

Our days are filled with anxiety, activity, and work. Parents feel pulled in a variety of directions at once. We may feel uncertain of what to teach our child, or how to do it.

There won't be an ideal time to teach anything. There won't be an ideal child to learn. We won't be an ideal parent to discipline and guide the children. All we have is the reality of this day, this child, and who we are as parents.

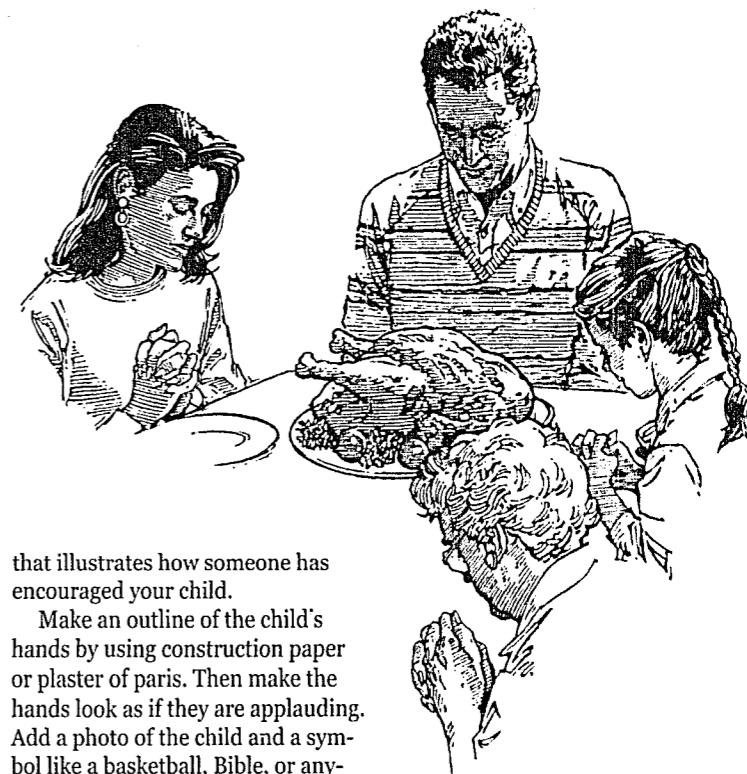
A wise parent makes the most of every moment. The Apostle Paul wrote: “So be careful how you live, not as fools but as those who are wise. Make the most of every opportunity for doing good in these evil days. Don't act thoughtlessly, but try to understand what the Lord wants you to do” (Eph. 5:15-17 NLT).

Making memories will take initiative that requires openness to risk and failure. To be the kind of parent who passes on a favorable impression, we must be courageous.

A courageous and wise parent will look at the calendar of the new year and see 12 gifts from God. Each month is an opportunity to shape and mold your child into a person reflecting the character of Christ.

You don't have to wait for Christmas or Easter to develop meaningful family traditions. You can do it year round. But it will take some time. It will require you to slow down and make the most of doing good with your kids.

You can start this month. Make November the month of Gratitude. Teach your children gratitude to God and others by making a Thanks Gift



that illustrates how someone has encouraged your child.

Make an outline of the child's hands by using construction paper or plaster of paris. Then make the hands look as if they are applauding. Add a photo of the child and a symbol like a basketball, Bible, or anything that indicates the connection between your child and the person being thanked. Write their name at the top and a heading like, “My thanks to Coach Jim from Sally.”

To express gratitude to God, make a Family Collage with clippings from magazine ads for all the things your family is grateful for: health, pet, car, Bible, food, family, furniture, fun together. Place the collage in a prominent spot for your Thanksgiving meal. Have one or two of the children explain the collage and why you are grateful for these things.

Create a “Family Time Line of Big Events.” Make a time line on poster board beginning with your wedding. Record significant events that you are grateful for: “Our first vacation as a married couple.” “When we first found out we were expecting.” Ask children to suggest things they are thankful for and then list them

on the time line. When you have completed it, post in a prominent place.

Prior to the Thanksgiving meal, read portions of Psalm 136. Note that there is a responsive reading in the chapter; adapt this to your Family Time Line. Have each family member read a big event in sequential order. The reader might say, “Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!” Then respond as a family, “His faithful love endures forever.” Repeat the process. **SR**

Excerpt from Heritage Builders: Family Traditions by J. Otis Ledbetter and Tim Smith, Cook Communications Ministries. Used by permission.

2001 Women's Society Robe of Achievement awarded

The choice for this year's recipient of the Women's Society's Robe of Achievement exemplifies the traits referenced in Proverbs 31:10-31:

"If you can find a truly good wife, she is worth more than precious gems! Her husband can trust her, and she will richly satisfy his needs. She will not hinder him, but help him all her life. She finds wool and flax and busily spins it. She buys imported foods, brought by ship from distant ports. She gets up before dawn to prepare breakfast for her household, and plans the day's work for her servant girls. She goes out to inspect a field, and buys it; with her own hands she plants a vineyard. She is energetic, a hard worker, and watches for bargains. She works far into the night. She sews for the poor, and generously gives to the needy. She has no fear of winter for her household, for she has made warm clothes for all of them. She also upholsters with finest tapestry; her own clothing is beautifully made—a purple gown of pure linen. Her husband is well known, for he sits in the council chamber with the other civic leaders. She makes belted linen garments to sell to the merchants. She is a woman of strength and dignity, and has no fear of old age. When she speaks, her words are wise, and kindness the rule for everything she says. She watches carefully all that goes on throughout her household, and is never lazy. Her children stand and bless her; so does her husband. He praises her with these words: There are many fine women in the world, but you are the best of all. Charm doesn't last, but a woman who fears and reverences God shall be greatly praised. Praise her for the many fine things she does. These good deeds of hers shall bring her honor and recognition from even the leaders of the nations."

One of the letters of recommendation for this year's recipient includes the following: "Proverbs 31:17 states that the wife of noble character 'sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks.' (Our recipient) is a wonderful example of this truth, as she has been a tireless servant in her family, in her job, in her congregation, and in her denomination."

During the time she has been a member of two churches, she has served as deaconess, a Sabbath School teacher, Steering Committee member, committee chairperson, Women's Society officer, Youth Advisor, and has been involved with the community outreach program and is treasurer at her current church.

Our honoree has been actively involved in the Association, serving on

the Executive and Camp Committees, and working on the camp staff, both as teacher and cook.

This outstanding woman has been a member of the General Council, and served as president of the Women's Board, representing Seventh Day Baptists at national and international meetings.

During the time she has been a member of two churches, she has served as deaconess, a Sabbath School teacher, Steering Committee member, committee chairperson, Women's Society officer, Youth Advisor, and more.

She and her husband of more than 50 years have raised five children and have 19 grandchildren.

In spite of the recurring effects of multiple sclerosis, our recipient has worked tirelessly with her husband to build and manage a multi-million dollar company.

She has been invited to be a guest speaker at Fuller Seminary on several occasions to testify to God's healing power.

Floy Owen, member of the Foothill SDB Church in Montrose, Calif., is our recipient of the 2001 Robe of Achievement. She regularly gives God all the credit for her accomplishments and thus serves as an inspiration to all who know her. **SR**



Women's Society page by Laura Price

Too mean to be seen "Love thy neighbor"

Maybe it had something to do with the waxing moon that would soon be full. I was glad it was Friday, but it had been a strange day at work.

A baby bawled all morning for no apparent reason, a distraught patient cried over the phone, there were a number of emergency "work-ins," and the phone rang incessantly. Only half of my eight-hour work day had gone by, but it felt like I had been there forever. I probably should have had "decaf" tea. What a doozy of a day!

On top of everything, a crazy-acting, rude, grouchy old man got up and left halfway through the interview for his eye exam. He didn't understand that the other systems of his body are related to his vision and that his medical history could be helpful in assessing his visual health.

He wouldn't answer most of the questions and didn't bother to ask why the ophthalmic technician was asking them. Instead, he repeatedly announced, "I didn't come in for my system! I came in for my eyes!"

He also came in with an attitude of distrust. He didn't believe in doctors, and he kept telling us that he used to be a detective—an offhanded comment to let us know that he was "on to us."

"He gave me a hard time and didn't want to answer any of my questions," the technician reported. "When I asked him how much he smoked, he went totally ballistic."

Grumbling all of the way out of the office, the angry man stopped at the sign-in window long enough to point a finger at the doctor.

"I'm not crazy!" the old man bellowed. "You're the one who's crazy!"

This was "Doc's" first encounter with the man, who we happily wrote off as "too mean to be seen." None of

us should have to subject ourselves to such an abusive, hostile, uncooperative patient.

The patient did call back, wanting to talk to Doc. I told him that the doctor was busy with another patient but that he could leave a message. The "grouch" accused me of fabricating a story and reiterated that he was a former detective who simply needed an eye exam—not his "system" examined. He remained irate.

I calmly suggested that he consider finding someone else to examine his eyes, since he didn't agree with our standard exam methods. (I thought a psychiatric referral might be helpful, but I held my tongue.) Hopefully, that disturbed gentleman will be more courteous and respectful on his next visit to a doctor.

We are free to choose how to behave and respond. In the case of this angry patient, we calmly chose to let him go instead of enduring his abusiveness. We remained polite in the face of his hostility, thereby not encouraging his rude behavior.

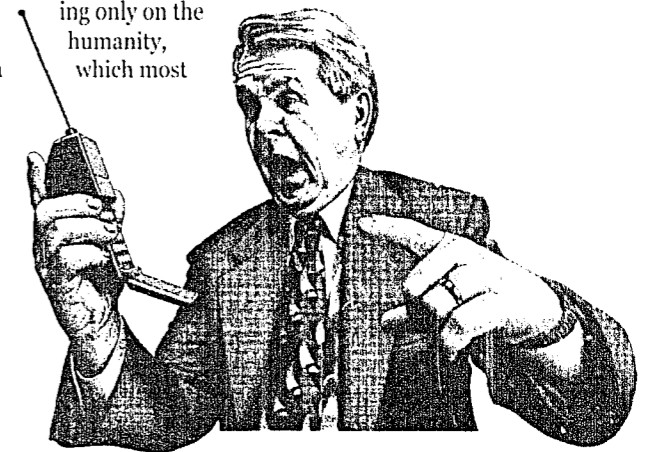
Perhaps the man is simply a grouch. Or maybe his experiences as a detective have given him a warped sense of the world. Perhaps he's focusing only on the dark side of humanity, which most

people are either scheming, deceitful, lying, hostile, hurtful or hateful—or all of the above.

Some people react to the world with only bitterness and animosity. How unfortunate to be caught up in such an attitude of mistrust, resentment, and relentless anger. And how pitiful to have such narrow-mindedness deprive them of so many of life's benefits; those that, by God's grace, exist eternally and are free to all: love, truth, peacefulness, and gentleness. Such people are not only miserable unto themselves, but they are also a nuisance to others.

"Love thy neighbor as thyself" (Lev. 19:18; Matt. 19:19). What is the
cont. on page 26

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Pearls from the Past by Don A. Sanford, historian

Conference recollections thirty years later

Personal memories of General Conference often change with the passing of time.

Conference sessions in Salem, W.Va., in 1903 (one year after the Centennial celebration) were important because they tried to make the Conference more efficient. The minutes of their business meetings appear to have been centered around ways the various boards and agencies could work together more closely.

They discussed how to consolidate the Missionary Society, the Education Society, and the Sabbath Tract Society. One of the suggestions was that the president of General Conference automatically become the president of each of the three societies. Various legal considerations involving state charters and investments were discussed, and that idea was ceremoniously discarded.

L.A. Platts brought up publicly his little grievance about M.B. Kelly holding evangelistic meetings in Milton when Platts thought it was not needed. L.C. Randolph censored Platts privately for his attitude.

In 1927, Benjamin F. Johanson became president of General Conference. He had been one of the del-

egates to the 1903 Conference in Salem and recorded his remembrances of that event. Those memories had little to do with Conference business. Instead, he concentrated more on physical and emotional experiences. Thirty years after that Salem Conference, Johanson wrote:

This conference made such an impression on me that I am tempted to



The Dining Hall (tent!) at a General Conference gathering in Salem, W.Va., at the turn of the 20th century.

believe that I went to Salem at least twice about this time, but I can find no record of it in the Year Book.

Salem was in the midst of the oil boom. There was no pavement but a lot of deep mud holes in the main drag which ran in the valley between the hills. Large heavy wagons with several teams of horses were used to haul the piping along the thoroughfare.

All night long could be heard the clanging of the unloading of these heavy pipes. There was a short metal rod with a fork dragging under the wagons to prevent the loads from rolling down hill when they stopped for a rest on the way up.

George H. Utter used this illustration. He was trying to prevent the conference from going too fast on

some proposition and he represented himself as this fork to act as a kind of brake while they stopped to consider.

Flag stones were set up on the edge at the side walk crossings to step on to keep the feet out of the mud. They stuck up, it seems to me, six or eight inches. The wagon wheels passed between them.

There was some kind of a Randolph feud on. The one who was

considering himself ostracized came in on Sabbath Day about noon just at the closing of the morning meeting with a retinue of liveried horsemen. He stopped outside the conference tent and wanted a hearing.

The local people got the conference to stay in session, and George Hills to preach. Then they told the old boy to move on as he was disturbing a religious meeting. He did. Someone reported that he was living with his third wife. He thought she was so good that he was looking for wings to sprout on her....

They only had one building, the original two-story wood structure, it has since burned down. A tent was

cont. on page 26



SR Almanac

A look at where we have been from the pages of The Sabbath Recorder

One year ago—November 2000

The Boulder, Colo., SDB Church dedicates their new facility in September. Articles from Richard and Mary Steele, Jim August, and Jennie Wells Munn share the long and sometimes frustrating process of the building program.

Executive Secretary Pete May presents his "20/20 Vision for 2020."

Biography shared of the 2000 Sabbath School Teacher of the Year, Esther Burdick, from Waterford, Conn. Miss Burdick passed away in July.

Photos from Scott Smith show how the Ashaway, R.I., church is used as a safe haven for the local elementary school in the event of an emergency.

The back page lists the obituary for Rev. Orville Babcock.

A new branch church—Vision Christian Fellowship—begins meeting in Pawcatuck, Conn.

Five years ago—November 1996

Rev. Kenneth Smith's Conference sermon presented, "The Tie that Binds."

Executive Secretary Calvin Babcock shares an "Open Letter to our Baptist Brethren," encouraging other Baptists to reexamine the biblical Sabbath and its need in today's world.

"Blessings in Disguise" reveals Linda Lawton's feelings as she ministered to her dying friend, Irene Rood.

The Toronto, Canada, church receives the Mary G. Clare Scripture Memorization Award at Conference.

North Carolina family shares their short-term mission experiences in the Ukraine.

10 years ago—November 1991

SDBs Marilyn Discher and Linda Greene write about "Singles in the Church."

Article updates Rev. Helen Green's prison ministry in the Verona, N.Y., area.

Nomination letter shared about Robe of Achievement recipient, Gertrude Dickinson Davis.

News highlights come from Nortonville, Kan. (highway litter control project); Riverside, Calif. (recent seminars); and Marlboro, N.J. (auction for missions).

Alfred Station, N.Y., church welcomes new pastor, the Rev. Kenneth Chroniger.

25 years ago—November 1976

"Called to Serve" was the sermon delivered by Rev. Francis Saunders at the August ordination service of Rev. John Peil in Verona, N.Y.

Helen Green accepts the call to serve the DeRuyter, N.Y., church.

Charles Bachman writes about Caspar Schwenckfeld von Ossig, a reformer in the 1500s and defender of Baptists and religious liberty.

Executive Secretary K.D. Hurley shares that SDBs gather strength from their diversity.

Professor John Bond designs and builds new sign in front of the Salem, W.Va., church.

Southwestern Association meets in Texarkana, Ark., in late June.

50 years ago—November 1951

With a rare, words-only cover, the *Recorder* calls readers to protest the possible confirmation of a U.S. ambassador to the Vatican.

Rev. Robert Lippincott's statement of belief is shared from his October ordination in Shiloh, N.J., as part of the Eastern Association Yearly Meeting. One carload from North Jersey traveled "ninety-eight miles in two hours and twenty minutes!... a far cry from the rate of travel in our forefathers' day."

New England Yearly Meeting gathers in Ashaway, R.I.; Mid-Continent Association meets in Denver, Colo.

Pastor J.H. McKay ordained at the Little Prairie SDB Church in Nady, Ark.

One blurb asks, "CHRISTmas or chri\$tma\$?"

...where are we headed?

Pray for—

- the vision and future of our Conference
- our new churches and new facilities
- deepening and abiding friendships
- ministries to special groups
- the work of your Association
- our Baptist brethren and religious freedom
- unity and strength from our diversity



New "Church Honor Roll" for Scripture Memorization

"How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping it according to Your word. With all my heart I have sought You; do not let me wander from Your commandments. Your word I have treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against you" (Psalms 119:9-11 NASB).

God's word should be important in a Christian's daily life. It can provide strength in times of temptation, wisdom in times of decision, restraint in times of trial, and encouragement at all times to act in God's love.

Memorizing Scripture is one important method of keeping God's word present in our lives. For more than a decade, the Seventh Day Baptist Board of Christian Education has been encouraging individual Seventh Day Baptists to memorize Scripture. We have chosen a list of ten verses to memorize. Based on the theme of the Conference president, the list is sent to the pastors and Sabbath School superintendents across the Conference. The verses are published in the *Sabbath Recorder*, made available in a brochure, and placed on our website.

In order to encourage participation in this program, the Board of Christian Education has recognized individuals completing the program each year, as well as individuals completing ten programs, and the church with the greatest number of participants. The recognition for the church with the greatest number of partici-

pants comes in the form of the Mary G. Clare Scripture Memorization Award.

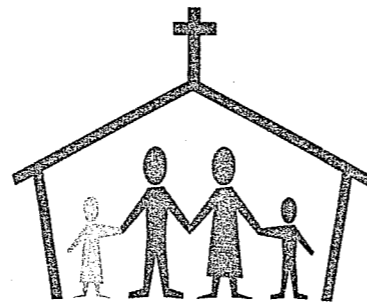
Any time an award program is established, some groups may be better able to compete than others. Because the Mary G. Clare Award is based on the number of participants, it is possible for a church with 100 percent participation to be eliminated from consideration for the award by a church that achieved a 30 percent rate.

This fact caused the Board to carefully examine the Scripture Memorization Program and its methods for determining the recipients of awards. We decided that it is important for the Mary G. Clare Award to maintain its current meaning.

We are pleased to announce that a new church-level program begins with the 2001-2002 Conference year. This program is the Scripture Memorization Church Honor Roll.

The Honor Roll will recognize churches that successfully encourage a large portion of their attendees to complete the Scripture Memorization Program. Each church on the Honor Roll will receive a framed certificate and be listed in the *Sabbath Recorder* as a recipient.

Inclusion on the Honor Roll will be based on two numbers: the average worship attendance listed in the *Seventh Day Baptist Directory*, and the number of participants completing the program. When the number of people completing the program is greater than 50 percent of the



The Honor Roll will recognize churches that successfully encourage a large portion of their attendees to complete the Scripture Memorization Program.

church's average worship attendance, the church will be on the honor roll.

SDBs proclaim that the Bible is their final authority in matters of faith and practice. The Scripture Memorization Program is one way to help us, as a people, to maintain frequent contact with the will of God revealed in the text.

Take the time to learn the verses. Then, memorize more. If you are so inclined, encourage others in your church to participate and see if your local congregation can make the honor roll. **SR**



Seventh Day Baptist Conferences and churches around the world are preparing for the Seventh Day Baptist World Federation meetings scheduled for Brazil in January 2003.

This is an exciting time in Brazil, and the SDB churches there are working hard to ensure the gathering's success. They have undertaken a nationwide campaign to build a Convention Center which will be dedicated during the World Federation session. In addition, many of their youth are preparing for the event by taking beginning or advanced English language courses.

The SDBWF meetings will include non-delegates, which will boost fellowship and help with future planning. After all, the primary purpose of the World Federation is to promote fellowship and cooperation between SDB Conferences and churches around the world. By including non-delegates many attendees will be able to meet other SDB leaders—a chance of a lifetime in many cases.

Funds are needed to help with the travel expenses of these leaders. If you are interested in attending the 2003 World Federation session, you can obtain information from Rev. Gabriel Bejjani, President (909) 682-2002; or Rev. Dale Thorngate, Executive Secretary (304) 782-1899.

The Brazilian Conference's ministries include distributing pamphlets, Bible lessons, and other literature to Peru, Mozambique, Igreja Agua Viva, and Argentina. The Santo Antonio do Sudoeste Seventh Day Baptist Church

sponsors a radio program in San Antonio, Argentina, and a missionary team from Brazil traveled to Paraguay toward the end of 1998.

Their religious education ministries are preparing new evangelists and workers using the Training In Ministry by Extension (T.I.M.E.) program. This includes studies from the T.I.M.E. program that have been adapted to their culture and beliefs as well as other booklets published by their Conference.

An annual workers' meeting trains and reteaches SDB

leaders and allows them to exchange experiences. It is so exciting to hear of their plans and techniques for keeping their leaders up-to-date and encouraged!

They report that they need Sabbath School materials for children as well as adults, so we are looking for contributions to help defray this cost.

Money is also needed for

ensure its success. They wrote, "We would appreciate it if you could send us help in our religious education department."

If you are interested in helping with these requests, you can send funds to the Missionary Society, 119 Main St., Westerly, RI 02891. We will be happy to pass the money on to the Conference in Brazil.

We look forward to the 2003 World Federation meetings and pray that many of our SDB members, worldwide, will attend. A highly spiritual program is being planned, and the more the merrier! So, save your money and make plans to participate. **SR**

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the BEACON

Produced by the Youth Committee of the Board of Christian Education
For and by members of the SDB Youth Fellowship November 2001

New Beacon editor

by Eowyn Driscoll

Hello Readers of the *Sabbath Recorder*. (Wow! I sound like a bad talk show host!)

My name is Eowyn Driscoll, and I am the new *Beacon* editor. I was appointed last summer, after Aubrey Appel resigned to head off to college. I would like to thank the SDBYF for their recommendation of appointing me to this position, Aubrey for her wonderful service to the *Recorder*, and SR Editor Kevin Butler for accepting the recommendation of the YF. Now, with all of that said...

I am a junior at Baldwin, N.Y., Senior High School. Baldwin is on Long Island, approximately 3.5 hours away from the Shiloh (N.J.) SDB Church, which is my home church.

I like books, website building (<http://www.beebeebie.com/~eowyn>), music, long involved heated arguments, Bill O'Reilly, photography, singing, graphic design, Irish dancing, writing, long walks on the beach, and candle-lit dinners for two. (Just kidding about the last two things.)

I eat, sleep, and breathe music. You can identify me from all the other SDBYF at Conference because I am the one singing as I walk

Class). I join school plays and musicals because, that way, I get to sing and dance at the same time. My favorite musical activity is sing-

You can identify me from all the other SDBYF at Conference because I am the one singing as I walk around. (Usually I'm dancing, too, but that's another story.)

around. (Usually I'm dancing, too, but that's another story.)

My favorite class is choir, and the next favorite is "Comprehensive Fundamentals of Music I" (Music Theory



Eowyn Driscoll

ing to God at retreats and when I get to visit my church.

I am considering applying to Houghton (N.Y.) College, and I would like to major in Music Education and Youth Ministry.

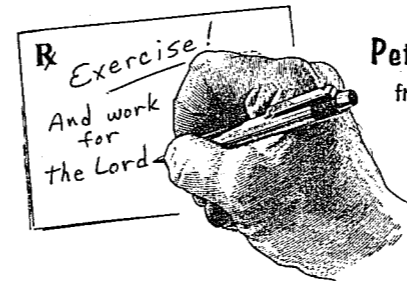
I hope you enjoy the *Beacon* over the next year. I am always looking for questions, comments, complaints, and SUBMISSIONS(!). For any of those, you can e-mail the *Beacon* at:

the_beacon80@hotmail.com
Or e-mail directly to me:

dying_laughter@hotmail.com

Have a wonderful year, and thank you all! SR

"Now the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace and believing, that ye may abound in hope, in the power of the Holy Spirit" (Romans 5:13).



Pete's Prescriptions

from Dr. Pete May,
Executive Secretary

Some weighty issues for SDBs

Weighty exchanges at General Conference came in many interesting and surprising modes.

Some expressions of opinion revealed alternating cycles of high and low vocal voltage. Though faced with

send the denomination a dollar for each pound I lose." If all the weight wasn't lost, a penalty of two dollars per pound would be assessed at Conference.

This would help many SDBs who are battling elevated blood pressure and cholesterol, as well as those with family histories of heart disease. Not everyone with extra "baggage" entered the contest, but three of our men did take up the challenge.

It was my joy at Conference to announce that those three—with their strong dietary wills and limited food intake for one whole year—had lost tremendous amounts of weight: S.P. lost 23 pounds, M.S. lost 37 pounds, and D.T. lost 50 pounds.

How did they do it? By drinking lots of water and low calorie juices, along with a minimal (almost zero) intake of carbohydrates and fried fatty foods. Exercise was steady but of a minor type. You can't believe how much exercise is required to burn up only 300 calories! Therefore, our contestants just didn't eat a lot.

It's hard for a child of the Great Depression not to eat everything on

It was my joy at Conference to announce that three men—with their strong dietary wills and limited food intake for one whole year—had lost tremendous amounts of weight.

extremely different SDB understandings of "recommend," "urge," "suggest," and "refer," the Conference proceeded with gracious language and loving concern for each other. It remained so even through amendments, and amendments to amendments. Moves to *table* were the vocal high-water mark of several motions. Courtesy prevailed, and no one drowned.

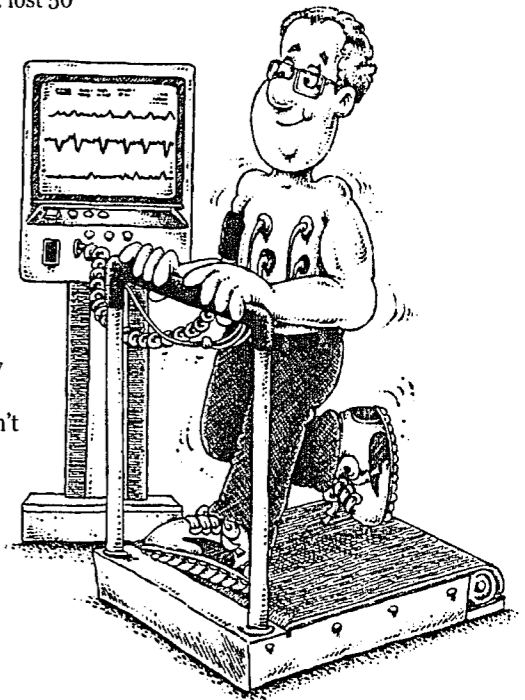
The discussion was noticeably calmer in circles related to that of plain old excess body weight.

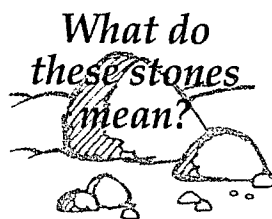
As you might recall, there was a poem about losing weight in a contest to help the denominational budget. One was supposed to say, "I'm going to lose so much weight by Conference 2001, and

his plate, no matter how old he is now. These gentlemen did learn to forget their childhood training. They ate only a quarter of what was on their plates and spooned the rest into refrigerator bags to spread the meal over four days. They survived and felt better for it.

What else have they done? They're now off their blood pressure medicine and have increased energy levels. Also, their hearts and blood vessels are more efficient and less stressed by about seven miles of capillaries per pound.

These three men have rebuilt the Temple of the Lord in their own hearts. SR





Aug. 4-10, 2002

The President's Page Dress up at Conference

by Gordon Lawton

Dear Amanda,

Thank you for your question about the possibility of a dress-up time at the 200th Anniversary General Conference Sessions. A picnic at noon on Friday is in the works when we can dress in period costume.

I would suggest that you research a Seventh Day Baptist figure from history and dress as that person. You might dress as a respected leader in the history of your church or Association, or maybe you might play a denominational leader from the past. I expect that some will come as an ancestor.

You noted that you had costumes from various eras. For most of us, this means old clothes that we may have inherited or not worn for a long time—like that double-knit, bell-bottomed suit with wide lapels, or those dresses that used to belong to grandma.

This picnic then should be a gathering of 200 years of SDBs. It would be interesting if you could speak for or about the one you represent. Who knows, you might get to meet not only pastors, but also educators, abolitionists, conductors on the underground railroad, pioneers, evangelists, industrialists, politicians, soldiers, missionaries, and suffrage and civil rights workers.

I am also hoping that we can have a quartet or two to stroll and serenade the picnickers.

If business is completed before the picnic, then, as has been the current tradition, the afternoon will be free time. A guide to SDB historical sites in Western New York and Northern Pennsylvania will be available for those who would like to take a driving tour of the surrounding area. We need to remember that there were only seven churches represented at the General Conference Sessions in 1802, and that only two (both in New York State) have survived—Berlin and Brookfield (Leonardsville-Brookfield).

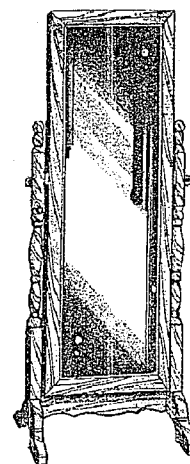
What is now Allegany County was then still Indian Territory, which was about ready to be settled. It soon blossomed with Sabbathkeeping pioneers who cleared the land, farmed, and started Seventh Day Baptist churches.

I hope that you enjoy finding an identity as well as putting the wardrobe together.

Your friend, Gordon



President Gordon Lawton and his "stone" prop at Conference.



Reflections by Leanne Lippincott

"Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face."—1 Cor. 13:12

Gravy, gossip, and gratitude

our extended family—while the men camped in front of the TV, watching passes and tackles and smoking cigars.

This was during those dreadful BAD days—"Before Automatic Dishwashers." But, deep down, I didn't mind helping to clean all of those knives and forks, cups and plates, and pots and pans. That chore gave us women ample opportunity to exchange up-to-date, pertinent information critical to the underlying fabric of our close-knit family. (We gossiped a lot.) We also sang songs, which I think goes back to biblical days when Moses (or *somebody*) urged us to "Whistle while you work."

Over the years, my perspective on Thanksgiving has slowly changed. I still enjoy watching football, singing old songs ("They had music back then, Mom?"), and eating myself into oblivion. But I've learned that the vital core, the heart of the holiday, is the gathering of family and other loved ones; people whose lips overflow with thankfulness as well as gravy and gossip.

This year, Thanksgiving will be especially meaningful to me. My daughter and son-in-law

lost one of their identical twin daughters to TTTS (Twin to Twin Transfusion Syndrome), but little Jordan Joelle is whole and healthy—a bundle of sunshine that reflects God's love and grace every day.

Also, I recently completed my first full year without any "chemo" or radiation treatments. And so far, so good. (I continue to take daily doses of Tamoxifen, and will have one more year of quarterly check-ups before switching to six-month appointments.) Ironically, I've gone from desperately wanting to *gain* weight, to wanting to *lose* weight. Who says that God doesn't have a sense of humor?

My son and his wife (down in sunny Florida) have a beautiful 17-month-old daughter, and are expecting a handsome son the end of this month. Which will make me a grandmother three times over. (Poor editor Kevin. He'll have baby pictures galore flooding his Center desk, courtesy of Grandma Lee.)

Thank You, Gracious Father, for my life, my health, and my job. But most of all, thank You for my precious family and my wonderful Christian friends. SR

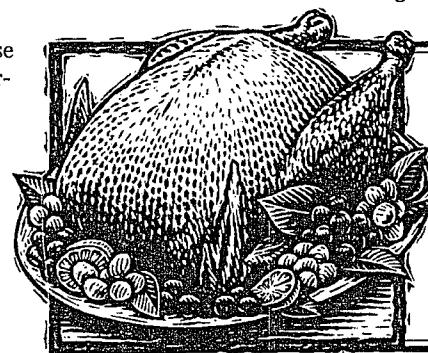
When I was a little twerp growing up in Milton, Wis., the Thanksgiving holiday meant a lot of things to me.

First off, it meant that I would sit at my grade school desk and draw pictures of pilgrims and make turkeys out of construction paper. It was always great fun to cut out and paste all of those colorful paper feathers, even though I was grossed out when some of my classmates put more paste in their mouths than on their art projects...

Like today, Thanksgiving also meant food; mountains of it. While most families feasted on turkey, we often enjoyed a special treat: cornfed Muscovy duck. Dad raised them (in town!) as a hobby, and Mom roasted them to perfection, complete with a delectable stuffing, homemade pepper relish, and the best gravy in the world.

As I grew into a big twerp, Thanksgiving also meant televised football games, which I loved but rarely saw.

During those early gatherings, I was banished to the kitchen—along with the other females in



I've learned that the vital core, the heart of the holiday, is the gathering of family and other loved ones; people whose lips overflow with thankfulness as well as gravy and gossip.

Cornerstone dedicated in Mississippi

by John Bevis

On June 2, 2001, dedication services were held at the Cornerstone Seventh Day Baptist Church in Pontotoc, Miss.

Some 65 people attended the celebration led by Pastor Ron Elston, National Extension Minister for the

Groups and individuals who helped build the church received plaques of recognition.

SDB Missionary Society. He was assisted by Pastor Tom Harp of Memphis, Tenn., and Pastor John Bevis of Paint Rock, Ala. Pastors Harp and Bevis minister at the Cornerstone church as well as in Memphis and Paint Rock.

Dr. Pete and Nancy May represented the General Conference, and Kirk and Vivian Loofer brought greetings from the Missionary Society. The Senior Saints were recognized for their work, as well as Pastor David and Bettie Pearson, who are now in Malawi.

The tastefully decorated metal structure building sits on five acres off Highway 41, just south of Pontotoc and Tupelo, Miss. It includes a kitchen and restroom facilities.

Stained glass greatly enhances the windows, which have special significance since they were part of the now disbanded DeRuyter, N.Y., SDB Church. They were given in memory of all those who had been a part of the DeRuyter congregation over many years.

The name "Pontotoc" is an Indian word which means "land of the hanging grapes." One of the windows from the DeRuyter church appropriately features a cluster of grapes. This window is now at the entrance of the Cornerstone building and creates much local interest. Thus some of the heritage of DeRuyter lives on in Mississippi.

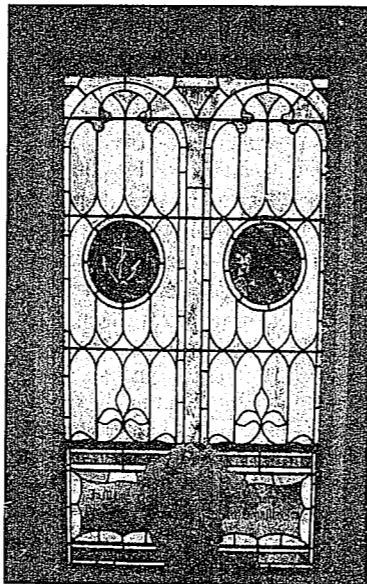
As in most SDB churches, music is an important part of the worship experience at Cornerstone. Adele Brown is the organist, with Myrtis Newsom at the piano. The entire Newsom family is very musical, singing as well as playing several instruments.

The dedication service included congregational singing with vocal specials by Irene Tucker of Paint Rock, Pastor Tom and Pat Harp of Memphis, and the Miller and Newsom family singers.

Groups and individuals who helped build the church received plaques of recognition. A special

presentation was made to Adele Brown in remembrance of her husband, Wayne. His vision and dedication was vital in constructing the building.

Appreciation was expressed to the Woodland Baptist Church for offering their Fellowship Hall for the dinner. The dedication service concluded with a musical concert. **SR**



A stained glass window from the DeRuyter church.



Members and guests gathered in Pontotoc for the dedication service.

Conference Centre progressing in Jamaica

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your faithful, continuing support of the work at our Seventh Day Baptist Conference Centre and campsite at Maiden Hall in St. Mary, Jamaica.

Your commitment is helping us to continue with the building. At Conference in July, the women were able to occupy a new section where the concrete flooring had been poured just days before. As soon as I saw that this large dorm was "ready," I asked if some of us could be assigned there.

Some people felt that the floor was still "cold," and that it might not be healthy for us to sleep there. But since we were all going to sleep on beds, not on the floor, I felt it would be fine. Pretty soon, several of us were bedded down there.

Many thanks to those of you who contributed 38 boxes of chairs for the auditorium, sent to us this year through Pastor Joe and Sister Joyce Samuels from Plainfield, N.J. We

took the cardboard containers and laid them as our "carpet" between the beds, so even the packaging was useful. Within two days, more than 20 ladies were safely lodged in the new space.

I should probably clarify my use of the term "ready" regarding this new dorm on the northern side of the building. "Ready" means that the walls were up, and the roof and flooring had been poured, so we were safe from the sun and rain. However, the windows and doors hadn't been installed yet, so the outside spaces were boarded up and curtains were hung in the doorways leading to the bathrooms.

It was exciting to be among the first to sleep in this section! What was *not* so exciting was the lack of water. New water pipes are being laid in this part of St. Mary parish, and so the water supply was disrupted for several weeks prior to our meetings. We thank God that there was still a little water in the

tank near the old house, and that we could obtain a truckload of water during the Conference.

Since we usually have abundant rainfall from September to January, I believe we need to build a large storage tank and collect the rain-water which pours off the building. This way we will have our own water supply for bathing, etc. We can also purify it for drinking if necessary.

God has been good and gracious to us, and we thank Him that you have had a part in this work. We also thank *you* from the bottom of our hearts. We pray that one day you'll be able to visit and enjoy worshipping with us in this facility.

Please pray for the workers in Jamaica and their families—that we may live and work together in love, and that each of us will be faithful in doing what God has called us to do.

May God's mercy, grace, and peace be with you.

In Him,
Gem Fitz-Henley

Health workers save camp

by Heather Rao



Dan Rao (left), Camp Harley Sutton Health Director, recognized these area volunteers: Ray Scheesley, George Quint, Tammy Burdick, and Sandy Quick holding baby Samantha.

On Sabbath, September 8, 2001, the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Alfred Station, N.Y., made it a point to honor the EMTs and nurses who gave their time to help serve (and

save) Camp Harley Sutton this summer.

The State Department of Health told Camp Harley that they had to staff the camp with an EMT, nurse, or doctor who would be available 24 hours a day. With the help of area volunteers from Almond and Alfred, N.Y., 73 campers were able to enjoy Camp Harley Sutton this summer.

As part of our church service, the volunteers were called up front and introduced to the congregation by Dan Rao, the Camp Health Director. Each volunteer was given a framed certificate by Dan, Pastor Kenneth Chroniger,

and the Alfred Station church, thanking them for the time they donated to save the camp.

After the service, everyone had a chance to talk to the volunteers during a fellowship meal and hear reports from those who attended Conference this year. **SR**

New Website for Mexico SDBs

www.prodigyweb.net.mx/
pccenter

"PC Center" stands for
Center for Christian
Publications

New Members

**Bronx, NY
(Faith SDB Church)**
Joined after baptism
Anthony Fuller
Leticia Fuller
Antoinette Mallony
Joined after testimony
Venis Headley
Mavis Taylor

Little Genesee, NY
Gordon Lawton, pastor
Joined after baptism
Heidi Kinnicutt
D. George Kinnicutt
Richard Thering
Joined by letter
Kristin Camenga

Marriages

Van Horn - Tullar.—Daniel Phillip Van Horn and Ashlie Elizabeth Tullar were united in marriage on September 9, 2001, at the North Loup, NE, Seventh Day Baptist Church. Pastor Christian Mattison officiated.

Williams - Palermo.—Seth Adam Williams and JoElle Denise Palermo were united in marriage on October 7, 2001, at the North Loup, NE, Seventh Day Baptist Church, with Pastor Christian Mattison officiating.

Births

Tucker.—A son, Augustus Steven Tucker III, was born to Augustus and Irene Tucker of Huntsville, AL, on July 15, 2001.

Cook-Watt.—A daughter, Haliagh Autumn Cook-Watt, was born to Dylin and Samantha Cook-Watt of Jacksonville, NC, on September 16, 2001.

Dutcher.—A daughter, Jordan Joelle Dutcher, was born to Jamie and Jennifer (Lippincott) Dutcher of Janesville, WI, on September 17, 2001. Jordan's identical twin sister, Joelle Ann Dutcher, died before birth.

Obituaries

Maxson.—Rolland Arthur Maxson Sr., 81, of San Clemente, Calif., passed away on August 24, 2001, from complications of lung cancer.

He was born on July 22, 1920, in Milton, Wis., the son of Rolland and Melva (Thorngate) Maxson. On June 29, 1978, he married Judith Van Horn.

After serving with the Army in World War II, Rollie graduated from Milton College in 1947. He was comptroller of the Highway Trailer Company in Wisconsin and California, and for the Bertha Corporation in California. He became Senior Accountant for the city of San Clemente, and later Assistant Director of Finance for Oceanside, Calif. He retired in 1992.

Rollie joined the Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church on April 15, 1954, where he was a trustee. After moving to California, he joined the Riverside, Calif., SDB Church and served on its Pacific Pines Camp Committee. He

Paint Rock, Alabama, church celebrates 75th anniversary



Former, present pastors: Robert Harris, Arthur Rowe, and John Bevis.

The Paint Rock, Ala., Seventh Day Baptist Church celebrated its 75th Anniversary on August 11, 2001.

The church was organized in 1926 in Athens, Ala. The congregation relocated to the village of Paint Rock in 1953. The church structure erected that year was built in memory of James Edward Butler, who gave his life for his country over the skies of North Africa in World War II.

Obituaries, continued

was a descendant of Richard Maxson, who fled England in 1631 in search of religious freedom. His family was involved with the earliest SDB churches in Rhode Island.

In addition to his wife, Judith, Rollie is survived by two daughters, Kathleen of Mission Viejo, Calif., and Kristine Kopp of El Monte, Calif.; two sons, Rolland Jr. of Monrovia, Calif., and Eric of Santa Ana, Calif.; four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by two brothers, Keith and Kenneth Maxson.

Memorial services were held on September 8, 2001, at the Riverside SDB Church, with the Rev. Eric Davis officiating.

Some 60 members and friends gathered for the Anniversary celebration. Brief messages were brought by former Pastor Robert Harris, now of Colorado Springs, Colo., and by Pastor Arthur Rowe of Decatur, Ala. Several letters from other former pastors were read.

The church's only remaining charter member is Lillian (Bottoms) Bee of Salem, W.Va. In her letter, she told of her baptism, and the organizational meeting of 1926.

The celebration included music by Pastor Rowe, Aspen Montgomery, Zach Butler, Laura (Bevis) Owen, Irene Tucker, and the Newsom family singers.

It was a blessed day for all who attended. ✠

October correction

Due to a production error at the printer, this text was missing from the top of page 11:

among one's friends, even among one's enemies.

• *Jesus said that a Christian of commitment and integrity must "follow me."*

That is, follow Jesus. That about says it! To follow Jesus means to absorb his teachings, obey his instruc-

SR Reaction

Opinions do not necessarily reflect the views of the SR or all SDBs. Letters may be edited according to space and editorial style.

To Editor Butler:

Although he was never the president of Stanford University, MIT, Yale, or the famous Wharton College of Business in Philadelphia, K. Duane Hurley was "Mr. Salem College."

From 1956-1960, we knew him simply as "The Prez." Because of what he exemplified, President Hurley had to be the best small college leader in the U.S.

In 1956, a young man who came from a small, rural coal mining town in West Virginia matriculated at Salem College. The first time the "frosh" met Dr. Hurley was in an assembly session at Salem, and he spoke Latin. Latin in West Virginia? However, his heart warmed us all, including the veterans, and veterans could have been difficult for the Prez.

K. Duane Hurley was always seen in and throughout the buildings. There was always a smile, "How are you!" and a twinkle in his eyes.

The Prez had a vision for "The College," as it was usually called then.

Work began on the new library in '56. He was so very proud of the library, and rightfully so. It was a huge effort on his part and that of the staff and trustees.

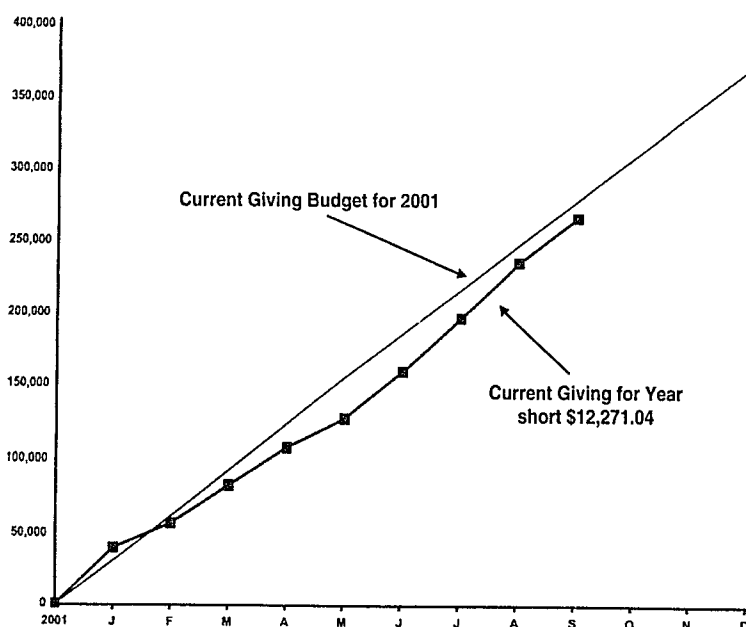
Lest we soon forget, the new Valley of Learning was his vision also. Dr. Hurley put up with all of us, including one of the first fraternities, *The Yanks*.

Although the Prez has gone on to a higher education, he will always be remembered by each one of us whom he encountered. All of us knew about his strong faith in God, to the community, and to his staff and students. His values and morals have been passed down through all of us.

He was indeed an institution himself. K. Duane Hurley always will be, in our generation, Mr. Salem College.

Lyle Shreves—1960
Sylvia (Bond) Shreves—1961
Terra Alta, WV

Current Giving 2001



best way to do this, particularly when that neighbor is being rude or unpleasant—basically not lovable?

Think of your children or a close friend when they lapse into thoughtlessness, or are obstinate or downright disrespectful. Although people are hard to like at times, the bond of love can still exist.

If Christians can love their enemies (as directed in Luke 6:27-28), it must be possible to incorporate our neighbors into this spirit of love even when they're not behaving in the most agreeable fashion. If someone is being difficult, it doesn't necessitate that you keep yourself in an abusive situation. (Remember: love thyself as well.)

The challenge is to maintain an

attitude of kindness, politeness, and humility. "Do all things without murmurings [grumbings] and disputings; That ye may be blameless and harmless [innocent] children of

If we can remember to follow God's example—"The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in mercy [Lovingkindness]" (Psalm 103:8)—how much

If Christians can love their enemies, it must be possible to incorporate our neighbors into this spirit of love even when they're not behaving in the most agreeable fashion.

God, without rebuke [fault], in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation [generation], among whom ye shine as lights in the world; Holding fast to the word of life" (Phil. 2:14-16).

better off we would be. With love as our foundation, we can learn to repent, forgive, and "let live" without fostering bitterness and resentment. Love is not always easy, but it's the best way. **SR**

Conference remembrances, cont. from page 14

used for the general meeting and some sort of temporary structure for eating purposes.

I spoke to the young people's program on the words of Paul, 'What wilt thou have me to do?' On the

A.L. Davis' voice. He said it cracked too much.

L.A. Platts brought up publicly his little grievance about M.B. Kelly holding evangelistic meetings in Milton when Platts thought it was

this time. I stayed after conference a time with them and came home. A few days later. We went by train, or course, and passed through twenty-four tunnels. One of our preachers got his pocket picked on the train. I think it was G.W. Lewis. We made up a purse for him....

Lester Randolph was in his prime. He and Samuel Davis made some very strong temperance speeches. The original student evangelistic quartet sang. W.D. Burdick, T.J. Van Horn, Geo. B. Shaw, and Lester Randolph. This group along with D.B. Coon had attended Chicago University Divinity School together.

I strolled over the hills and nearly got lost. Also I went through a glass plant and saw lamp chimneys blown. L.A. Platts was the corresponding secretary, A.E. Witter was pastor of Salem at that time. I believe I did not attend conference again until 1919 at Battle Creek.

What memories do *you* have of General Conferences held three decades ago? **SR**

Charley Sayre complained some privately about A.L. Davis' voice. He said it cracked too much.

same program with me were C. Arnold Davis, A.L. Davis, S.O. Bond, and Clayton Burdick. Arnold Davis had charge of young people's work about that time.

I was also asked to help with some quartet work. Charley Sayre, A.L. Davis and I think Eli Loofboro were the others. I was asked to sing baritone. It did not come easy as I had been singing the low parts with a quartet in South Dakota. Charley complained some privately about

not needed. Platts thought he was serving the need satisfactorily, himself. L.C. Randolph censored Platts privately for his attitude.

I helped with the congregational singing by playing a baritone. The pianist put me off once by changing the key without telling me. Jessie G. Burdick had charge of the conference talent. I remember nothing about the music that was furnished by local talent.

J. Dwight Clarke met his wife at

K E V I N ' S

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Air travel since 9/11

Since September 11, my travels for the Conference could be summed up in two words: "changes" and "extras."

Long before the terrorist attacks, I had booked a rare back-to-back weekend trip for late September. With both weekend meetings out East, I decided to stay in the area to visit my folks and take a few days off to enjoy the gorgeous foliage (and bountiful rain) of northern Vermont. That meant changing planes and changing airlines. I just didn't expect to have to change airports.

With Washington D.C.'s National Airport closed indefinitely, my flights were rerouted through Baltimore. Then, even one of *those* flights was canceled, resulting in extra phone calls, extra stress, and extra plans to get to and from the flights.

There was some extra security at the airports. A few extra questions about my baggage, an extra check of identification at the x-ray machines in the gate area, extra armed security, bomb-sniffing dogs, and even some National Guard members.

And with many travelers being rerouted, that meant extra long lines! I noticed those lines when I first arrived in Baltimore, so I had to allow for extra time on my return. (During my meetings, some people said to expect a *three-hour* wait.)

The day after the Baptist Joint Committee meetings in Washington, I left my hotel at 4:30 a.m. (which meant I had to get up extra early). Fortunately, a cabbie appeared immediately and we sped toward Union Station to catch a train.

Yes, there were extra long lines at the airport ticket counter. Then, there were extra long lines to go through

the security checks. But everything moved along pretty smoothly, giving me plenty of time to catch my flight.

I noticed another big change when I ordered a quick breakfast. Have you ever tried to spread cold cream cheese onto a lukewarm bagel with a flimsy plastic spoon? They didn't even allow plastic knives in the airport.

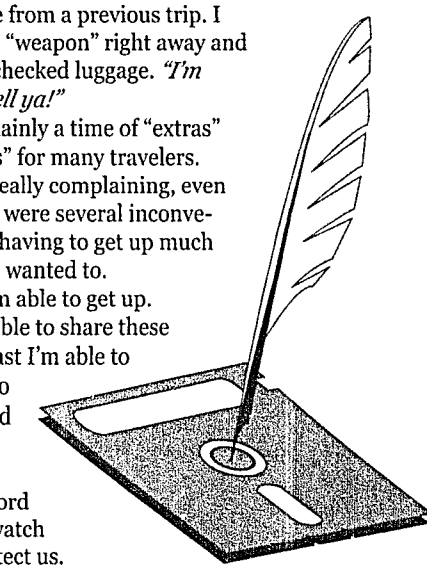
Which reminds me of one close call. With my recurring back problems, I've taken to wearing a "fanny pack" on my trips—stuffed with an old towel—just to support my lower lumbar as I sit in a variety of chairs and cars.

At the hotel, I realized that the pack made it through the carry-on x-ray cameras at two airports before I discovered a miniature Swiss army knife tucked inside from a previous trip. I extracted the "weapon" right away and put it in my checked luggage. *"I'm innocent, I tell ya!"*

It was certainly a time of "extras" and "changes" for many travelers. But I'm not really complaining, even though there were several inconveniences, like having to get up much earlier than I wanted to.

At least I'm able to get up. At least I'm able to share these stories. At least I'm able to come home to my family and my place of work.

May the Lord continue to watch over and protect us.



Buy a Bolo— Help the SR

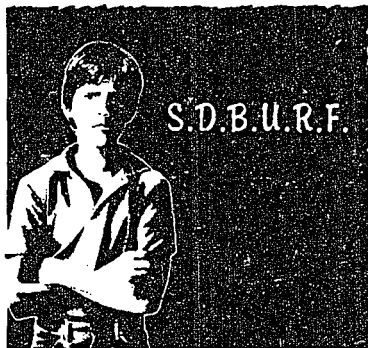


Elmo Fitz Randolph's handcrafted bolo ties are on sale again! Pastor Randy has reduced the price to \$25 (they're worth \$50) and will donate ALL the proceeds to the *Sabbath Recorder*. Call or write—
Elmo Fitz Randolph
 773 Sky Trail
 Boulder CO 80302
 (303) 443-3849; fitz773@aol.com

Crier on-line

Check out www.sdbmedia.org for copies of the *Conference Crier* and lots of color photos!

**"Class, how do you
spell relief?"**



"Correct! Your gift to the SDB United Relief Fund provides help for medical and emergency needs both here and abroad."

Please give generously to
the SDB United Relief Fund through
your local church on Thanksgiving Sabbath,
or mail your gift directly to:

*SDB United Relief Fund
P.O. Box 1678
Janesville, WI 53547-1678*

* * *

**Please remember
the United Relief Fund
on November 24**



Are you wondering what to do next summer?
Are you wanting to serve God?

In the **Summer Christian Service Corps** you can serve God and get acquainted with some of our fantastic youth. See what it's like to commit yourself to a challenging experience.

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Churches—Feb. 1

*Corps member training: June 21-28
Director training: June 19-24
Project dates: June 28-July 29*