

the Adventist Woman

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August/September 1986

40 religion scholars vote support for women's ordination

Religion professors from three Adventist colleges voted 40 to 0, with one abstention, for a resolution supporting the ordination of Adventist women to pastoral ministry. The full faculties of the religion departments at Loma Linda University, Pacific Union College, and Walla Walla College participated in the meeting held on the PUC campus the weekend of May 2-4.

The full text of the resolution reads:

We believe God calls both men and women to serve in all aspects of the ministry. We believe the time has come for our church to recognize by ordination the calling of both men and women. We believe, while recognizing a measure of disagreement on this subject in the church, that our denomination should now encourage the ordination of women in North America and wherever else this step will enhance the mission of the church. We pledge to encourage women with a divine calling to prepare themselves for ministerial service.

The statement grew out of the 15th annual meeting of the West Coast Religion Teachers' Conference. The entire conference was devoted to discussion of the ordination of women.

Two papers, by John Brunt (WWC) and Fred Veltman (PUC), analyzed recent Adventist arguments against the ordination of women. Steve Daly (LLU) presented an Adventist theology of liberation for women. Two women presenters, Lorna Tobler and Lucille Knapp (WWC) addressed historical and theological aspects of the issue, and assessed Elizabeth Schussler Fiorenza's *In Memory of Her*, respectively.

According to David Larson (LLU), what characterized the meetings was not only the usual round of good papers, responses, and discussion, but also a spontaneous Saturday night brainstorming session attended by all—a first in the history of WCRT meetings. "This was," said Larson, "one of the most spiritually moving experiences of my life, certainly the most rich experience in all the years I have attended the WCRT meetings."

Action planned

Putting aside the planned Sunday morning agenda, the group continued work on the previous night's proposals. Among their decisions:

1. Make the agenda for the 1987 meeting "The Theology of Ordination."
2. Prepare a small booklet outlining theological support for ordination of women.
3. Sponsor seminars on men and women in ministry on each of the three campuses, and bring in effective women ministers as guest speakers.



Five of the nine members of the Office of Human Relations' Women's Commission met women from the Lake Union in a historic Town Meeting on July 28. Dr. Thesba Johnston, chairman of the commission, welcomed more than 100 delegates and friends. Lake Union President Robert Carter, OHR Director Warren Banfield, and Dr. Merlene Ogden of Andrews University also gave official welcomes when the meeting convened at 10 a.m. in the A.U. Campus Center.

Photo: Martin Butler

Historic first

Lake Union hosts Town Meeting

On July 28 more than 100 gathered in Berrien Springs, Michigan, for the first women's Town Meeting ever held in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. They came to hear—and be heard by—the Women's Commission, a group sponsored by the Office of Human Relations, North American Division.

Dr. Thesba Johnston, a counseling psychologist on the Andrews University faculty, chairs the nine-woman commission. In May she proposed that the Lake Union Conference host a Town Meeting and send women delegates from its 466 churches so that the Women's Commission could hear from the grassroots. The LUC committee

voted unanimously to do so. Though some conferences did not get this word out to all church pastors soon enough, 82 delegates and a score of other interested women came eager to listen, pray, and speak.

Three stirring welcomes opened the session.

Michigan has been the site for many Adventist firsts, including the first conference, college, and hospital, said President Robert H. Carter of the Lake Union. "We are pleased to host this first women's Town Meeting."

"Because times are changing we must seek answers as to how women may find their place in church leadership," added Elder

Warren Banfield, director of the Office of Human Relations.

More women than men are enrolled in the College of Arts and Sciences at AU, reported Dean Merlene Ogden. "This has implications for the future leadership of the church."

Continuing the inspirational messages, Dr. Lourdes Silva, commission member from the Pacific Union, spoke of Esther in her devotional. "Like her we may be called to fulfill a special mission."

Bursting to respond, the audience quickly accepted the chance to meet in groups of four, introduce themselves, speak of needs in

See TOWN MEETING, p. 2

At Loma Linda this Fall

Stories give profiles of courage

by Bonnie Dwyer

"'Once upon a time,' is a captivating line," says Mary Elizabeth Moore. It tells us that a story is coming, and that the story is true because it happened at a particular time.

Theologian Moore also says stories play an important role in an individual's interpretation of life, and that part of the richness of Christian education comes from the reservoir of stories which such an education gives to an individual.

Moore will talk more about women and stories and theology at the fourth annual Association of Adventist Women's Conference to be held in Loma Linda Nov. 28-30. She will be the keynote speaker on Friday.

A Methodist minister, Moore is also associate professor of Christian Education/Theology at the School of Theology at

Claremont, California. She has worked with all age groups in her professional experience—from the children in a child guidance center, to the residents of a halfway house, and the patients in a convalescent home. She holds a master's degree in experimental psychology from Southern Methodist University where she also was an instructor before her appointment in Claremont. She has written a textbook on discipleship for junior high students.

"Moore will provide us with a wide focus as we begin our examination of Women of Courage," says AAW Conference Program Chairpeople Marta and Charles Teel. "We will then narrow down to Adventist women and our church. It should be an exciting weekend."

(For more information on the conference, see the enclosed flyer and registration form.)



The keynote speaker for the fourth national AAW Conference will be Mary Elizabeth Moore, theologian and educator.

Choosing our identity

Recently I was asked to give a special worship talk at the hospital where my physician husband is active and well-known. As the person to introduce me was caught in a traffic tie-up, I introduced myself. My father practiced at the same hospital when I came there as a student in nursing some years ago. I jokingly mentioned that "I had first been known as Dr. Eastman's daughter, then as Dr. Marter's wife, but now I was mostly known just as myself, Nancy Marter." That is how I have learned to see myself. Those identifying features are still certainly a part of the person who is me, as are my sons, my spiritual gifts, my natural talents, my various denominational positions, and my life experiences. All contribute to the formation of me

as the person I am. Each provides training and potential growth opportunities. For each woman the combination of identifying features is unique, but each combination is valid and loaded with options, enough for five lifetimes. There is no *ONE RIGHT PATH!* I believe, however, that there can be a wholesome attitude toward all these variations. That is one of openly respectful acceptance. A highly beneficial harmony amongst Adventist women would be realized if we heeded Paul's admonition found in Romans 12:10: "Be kindly affectioned one to another . . . ; in *HONOR* preferring one another."

**Nancy Marter
President Elect**

From the pulpit

The river crossing

by Helen Tyler

The incident took place on a holiday weekend in Thailand nearly 20 years ago. The impact has influenced my ministry through the intervening years. My husband and I were missionaries. Our four children were distributed throughout the elementary school. Lori, the youngest, had just begun first grade.

We took a camping trip with several other missionary families to Kaow Yai National Park in north central Thailand. The park is named for a high waterfall that ends up in a series of little waterfalls. Here the water cascades over smooth, flat rock. Children and adults could slide and splash, and do the things parents and children do together when the inhibitions of adulthood are exchanged for playful times and shared delight.

Our Sabbath afternoon ritual included a hike through the jungle. Bird watchers carried their binoculars. Butterfly enthusiasts expected to capture exotic specimens. With appropriate imagination the children envisioned a tiger just around the bend. (I tended to expect a cobra.)

After about an hour on the trail we came to a stream. The sides of the bank were deep cut and steep but it wasn't wide. A log stretched across to afford a crossing. During monsoon season it may have been a torrent but on this day it was insignificant. From a six year old's viewpoint, however, it may have looked like Grand Canyon.

Various boys and girls ran across. Eventually all reached the other side except Lori. She remained solitary and forlorn, putting first one foot forward and then the other, yet drawing back.

A chorus of voluntary encouragement began. "It's not hard." "Just keep your eyes over here." Someone contradicted, "No, look at the log!" And another bid her, "Don't look at the water." At that Lori stopped putting either foot forward.

More helpers invited her, "Don't be scared." This command stimulated an unidentified child to offer "Sissy," followed by a quick parental "Shush" and a few more "Come on, honey's." By now some of the older children were impatient and called out, "See you next year," as they skipped ahead.

Finally, in desperation Lori said, "I wish you would stop giving me instructions and give me your hand!"

As a chaplain and pastoral counselor I have needed that childish wisdom. All of us need it if we are to be helpful at river crossings.

We are so used to instruction and proclamation that we forget it is usually not what we tell that makes the difference. Rather, it is what we will allow others to tell us. Offering our hand is often to listen and not to talk.

I have frequently been at a bedside with families of those facing death or some other tragedy. They ask direct questions about God. They cry out, "Why me?" It is tempting to answer, but it is rare that they want a discourse on my concepts of God.

They are really asking, "Will you be with me while I struggle with my questions?" People at river crossing are often asking, "Can you handle it while I shake my fist at God and express my feelings of abandonment and despair?"

It is not helpful to glibly call cliches from across the river. Instructing someone to "just have faith" is like telling Lori, "Don't be scared." We have all kinds of ways of saying "sissy" to people who hurt.

To give our hand means to be present in a way many of us need to cultivate. The first step toward such ministry is to take seriously the scriptural passage that invites us to "be still . . ." By refining our gift for listening we—and those we want to help—may indeed then " . . . know that I am God."

Dr. Helen Tyler holds a D. Min. degree in psychology and pastoral counseling from Boston University. She has worked as a chaplain and a therapist. Currently, she is on the staff of the ecumenical Samaritan Counseling Center in Denver, Colorado.

TOWN MEETING From front page

their churches, and bow for a season of prayer.

Five presentations then focused on the brief but far-reaching Town Meeting agenda: What more can I do for my church? How can the church help me do this? What do I need from my church?

President Carter presented the four goals of Harvest 90. He stressed that men alone cannot accomplish them. "We need you, we invite you to help us!" Esther Rosado, from AU's campus ministry office, talked about identifying and using spiritual gifts. Hyveth Williams, an M.Div. student, told how she

had successfully adapted a Revelation Seminar presentation to meet the specific needs of attendees. Shahin Ilter explained the role that hospitality may play both in evangelism and in nurturing new or discouraged members. She referred specifically to "Hospitality Made Easy," a seminar developed by Dr. Patricia Mutch. Kit Watts emphasized that while women glue the family, church, and society together they themselves need care least they burn out. "One purpose of the Association of Adventist Women is to be here for you."

Dr. Roger Dudley told the group about a survey the AU Center for Human Relations

See TOWN MEETING, p. 3



Beverly Rumble (left) interviews Linda Case and Truman Shorts, who lead the H.O.P.E. ministry at the Beltsville Adventist church in the metropolitan D.C. area. A manual outlining this hospitality ministry is available.

H.O.P.E. makes caring church

by Beverly Rumble

"A caring and sharing ministry," is how Linda Case describes the H.O.P.E. hospitality program. Linda, director of the Home Outreach for Pilgrim's Encouragement, detailed the far-ranging activities of her team members so enthusiastically that I began to think seriously of joining the Beltsville, Maryland, church!

For the past two years, Linda, a registered nurse at the alcohol detoxification unit at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, with her associates has established an impressive record of caring through hospitality. Working with her are Peggy Harris, hospitality expansion coordinator, along with Otis Neblett, Truman Shorts, and a crew of volunteers.

H.O.P.E. ministry focuses on new believers, transfer members, local and visiting pastors, people in crisis, pastoral referrals, shut-ins, visitors, and members who need particular nurturing and encouragement. (That sounded like everyone in the church to me!) To accomplish this they work closely with the pastor, church clerk, greeters, and hospitality dinner leaders to make sure "the Caring Church" is not just a slogan at Beltsville.

Divided into a number of subgroups, those in the H.O.P.E. ministry may, for example, give new church members a special invitation to join them at Communion service. Afterward they are invited home for dinner. People who have just transferred in and have no nearby friends or family are invited over for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Hospitality extends to nonmembers who may be attending a Revelation seminar or who want Bible studies. Pastors aren't forgotten, either. Visiting preachers are sure to get a home-cooked meal. H.O.P.E. members may even deliver Sabbath dinner to their own pastors who feel too tired on a particular day to come out to the church's dinner.

This ambitious program works because it is well organized and those who join make a spiritual commitment to its success. A manual covers the philosophy, principles, and practice of H.O.P.E. ministry and may be ordered for \$5.50 from:

H.O.P.E. Ministry Headquarters
Suite 105
785 F Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

Letters

Disappointed

Dear Editor

Today, for the first time, I saw a complimentary issue of *The Adventist Woman*. We have a chapter here at Union College, and I had thought of joining. However, I was very disappointed with my first impression—granted to me by your front page of your publication.

This particular page had a picture of three women who were selected to be elders at the Spanish SDA church in Berrien Springs, Mich. The closing line astonished me. "All three have children and their husbands are also elders." What does that have to do with the fact that these women did/did not qualify to be Adventist church elders?

After spending a major share of my life fighting perceptions of being my husband's appendage, I was disappointed. Why can't we women be just that—women in the Adventist Church? Does it matter whether we're married or not, have kids or not, etc.?

I'm heartily in support of promoting women's status within the Adventist Church. Little things like this will probably be more our undoing than can be countered with the good things in the rest of the paper.

—Dr. Lilya Wagner
Vice President for Advancement
Union College
Lincoln, NE

What about you?

Readers' responses, comments, and opinions are welcome in the pages of *The Adventist Woman*. Please address your letters to the Editor, 4686 Greenfield, Berrien Springs, MI 49103.

Delighted

Dear AAW,

Please find enclosed a check for my membership for another year. I don't want to miss a single copy of all the very interesting and inspirational things Adventist women are accomplishing.

—Myrtle A. Pohle
Camarillo, CA.

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE

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

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

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Mission teacher is successful preacher

by Kit Watts

Public evangelism in Thailand has traditionally been unsuccessful. In fact, Christianity in Thailand has been unsuccessful. Only half of one percent of the Thai population claim to be Christians of any kind. Four of the five-tenths of that percent are Catholic; Protestants split the other one-tenth, with Adventists hardly registering on the scale. After 60 years' work Adventists have about 5,000 members on the books, perhaps half of whom are active.

To everyone's delighted amazement Pat Gustin, schoolteacher and long-time missionary to Thailand, held a six-night evangelistic meeting in April to which people actually came. Ninety on the first night. An average of 40 to 50 on the following evenings. At the end, 20 received free Bibles for their perfect attendance.

SM's key to interest

What made the difference this time? A personal involvement with their Thai English-language students by five student missionary teachers. And an insightful evangelist—one conversant in Thai, acquainted with the culture and its strain of Buddhism.

"Our five student missionaries were outstanding this year," Pat says. They provided

Friday night and Sabbath activities. They got involved with their students. Toward the end of the year when they suggested that an "Introduction of Christianity" be presented in English and translated into Thai, the students were definitely ready and eager for it.

Titling her series "East Meets West," Pat began by pointing out common ground that Buddhists and Christians share, and moved on from there.

"One Thai belief is that all religions are good and it doesn't matter which one you follow. So I brought up the topic, 'Are good rules enough?' What is the case for Christianity? For an all-powerful God? For Jesus who claims to be the Way and the Life?"

Approaching Buddhism

Pat went on to say, "Most of them can't begin to think about Christianity because they are vague about what Buddhism teaches. You begin by explaining to them their own beliefs and then by comparing this little by little, with Christianity. If you get them to come that far, you finally present Adventism and its interpretation of Christianity. It is a long, long process."

After the evangelistic series, Pat began Bible studies each week with several interested young university women. "They

would read the King James Version in English. Then we'd discuss the concepts in Thai," Pat said. She expects to resume the studies in September when she returns from a summer trip to the United States.

A relevant gospel

"We don't have a new gospel to preach," she added, "but we need to preach it in a new way, a way that is comprehensible and relevant."

The five SM's who sparked the series are Jill Anderson (UC), Karen Carter (SMC), Bob Bates (PUC), Aldred Montoya (community college, San Francisco), and Ed Eoff (PUC). The SM language school director is Doug Owens (UC) who had been an SM himself the previous year.

Pat currently teaches grades 1-4 for a dozen mission children in Bangkok. Previously she had been girls' dean, a teacher, and then director/administrator of the Chiang Mai School, which offered education to junior and senior-high age young people and to adults from the mountain or tribal areas of Thailand. In addition to her training as an educator, Pat has studied theology at Andrews University. She has two adopted Thai daughters.



Pat Gustin

BRI selecting authors to study women's role

According to the July 3 issue of the GC's weekly *Communique* newsheet for its staff, George Reid says that "the procedure is in hand and on schedule" for further study regarding the ordination of women. A preliminary list of topics and inquiries for recommendations of authors has been sent to each of the 50 members of BRICOM (Biblical Research Institute Committee). Reid said that because the committee is largely composed of theologians "and women in great numbers have not chosen that profession," there are only three women members. They are Elly Economou (AU), Madelynn Haldeman (LLU), and Beatrice Neall (UC). This set of papers is expected to "include more points of view" than the Mohaven Collection of 1972.

200 attend ASDAN

More than 200 nurses convened at Weimar Institute for the 19th annual convention of the Association of Seventh-day Adventist Nurses (ASDAN), which met in late June. This was the highest attendance record at an ASDAN conference. In addition, the conferees gave their largest "mission" offering—a contribution of \$3,043 toward single staff housing for those at Weimar who work in the life-style ministry. "Life-style" was the theme of the five-day assembly. Nurses could receive 10 hours of continuing education credit for attending the lectures by Sang K. Lee, M.D., of the NEWSTART program.



Ann Gibson, associate professor of business at Walla Walla College in Washington State, was one of the two faculty members to receive an award for excellence by the Burlington Northern Foundation. She was among 12 nominated by students and faculty. Teachers were judged on their involvement with students, excellence in their field and other significant achievements. She holds a CPA, has been a GC auditor and a missionary.



Among the more than 50 persons who attended the Association of Seventh-day Adventist Librarians (ASDAL) convention at AUC in June were six women who are directors of college libraries. Left to right: Lee Parson (newly appointed), AUC; Norma Greaves, Caribbean Union College; Bessie Siemens, Montemorelos University; Chloe Foutz (newly appointed), UC; Margaret von Hake, CUC; Dr. Jannith Lewis, Oakwood College. Not pictured—Peggy Bennett (newly appointed), SC.

TOWN MEETING

From page 2

has conducted among religion teachers of the 11 senior colleges in North America, and the SDA Theological Seminary, on the role of women in the church. The 94 who responded overwhelmingly favor women's contributions in all levels of church life.

The culmination of the five-hour Town Meeting was a 30-minute period when, in

groups of four, the delegates worked to list and summarize their ideas. Each of 16 groups sent a spokesperson to the microphone to report.

Even though many groups noted that most women are already stretched in their volunteer work for the church, many wanted to do more. A main theme was forming groups—for spouses of nonbelievers, young mothers, new members, and those recovering from grief. Others were eager to engage in evangelism through hospitality, Revelation seminars, and Bible studies.

Poignant answers came to the question, "What can the church do for you?" "Listen to us," pleaded one group. "Ask us what we think, what we need." "Help us find our spiritual gifts; inspire us."

Barbara Bayard, delegate from Indianapolis, summed up the spirit of the meeting as she came to the microphone. "They gave us a week to get ready for this meeting—and see how much we have done. What if they had given us a month?"

The Women's Commission hopes other NAD unions will make it possible to hold Town Meetings in various regions of the U.S. in the future.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Deadlines for the next issues of *The Adventist Woman* are September 18 and December 11.

Mail your copy at least 5 days in advance of the deadline to have it in Berrien Springs on time. The editor schedules the Friday and Sunday after the deadline to put the material together. Send regular mail to: 4686 Greenfield, Berrien Springs, MI 49103.

Use an air express service if you mail later in the week of the deadline. Address this type of delivery to Kit Watts, c/o James White Library, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104.

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Photo: Gary P. Friesen

B. Lyn Behrens, M.D., has been appointed dean of the medical school at Loma Linda University. She is the first woman appointed to this position at LLU or any co-educational medical school in the U.S. She is a pediatrician with training in immunology.

• **Debbie Nez**, a member of the class of 1986, is the first native American from the Navajo tribe to graduate from Southwestern Adventist College. She will be teaching at La Vida Mission School in Farmington, New Mexico, this fall.

• A Seventh-day Adventist woman has been honored as the ninth in the Black Heritage USA Series of postage stamps. **Sojourner Truth** was an exhorter on slavery and occasionally on temperance and women's rights. Although she could not read or write, she captivated audiences with ready wit and quaint speech. Relatives of Uriah Smith describe her baptism in the Kalamazoo River in Battle Creek, Michigan. She later became a friend of John Harvey Kellogg, John Byington, and other prominent Adventists, and is buried near the grave of Ellen G. White.

• **Jacqueline Schafer**, a Walla Walla College senior from Boring, Oregon, has placed first in the six-state Northwest Division piano competition sponsored by the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) and Wurlitzer Corporation. The competition attracted musicians from Washington, Oregon, Montana, Idaho, Alaska, and Utah.

Ms. Schafer became eligible for the competition by winning the MTNA Washington state piano competition at the University of Washington. The requirements of this competition included playing a 45-minute pro-



Anna-Liisa Halonen has been elected manager of the Finland Publishing House in Kirjatoimi. She is the first woman to hold the position. The press employs about 50 workers. Last year it sold about 3 million dollars worth of material.

gram, including a complete piano concerto plus music from all periods of piano literature.

Because she was scheduled to perform on Sabbath for the MTNA competition, Ms. Schafer asked coordinators to reschedule her appearance. They did so reluctantly, warning that this would hold her back for the rest of her career. However, after hearing her award-winning performance an official enthusiastically exclaimed that "the Lord will help you with the scheduling problems."

• **Heidi Land**, formerly of Redlands, California, has been selected from a large group of applicants for the position of city manager of Roseburg, Oregon. She brings to her position a broad background of experience, including work in her own company "Studio One Interiors." This business started as an interior design firm, and later expanded to a total plan company that undertook renovation and new construction projects from conception to completion.

She has had a seven-year involvement in the Redlands downtown revitalization as a commercial property owner, business owner, and redevelopment committee member.

Of her new position, Ms. Land says, "There is no doubt in my mind that the Lord has led me to this. People know that I am a Seventh-day Adventist, and I take great comfort [that God will work through me to] enable me to be successful and an effective witness."

PMC appoints women's council

The Pioneer Memorial church at Andrews University has just announced the appointment of a 17-member Council of Women to serve as an *ad hoc* advisory group to the pastoral staff. They will meet for the first time in late August.

Dwight Nelson, senior pastor, envisions the group as one that will determine needs of women, avenues for ministry, and areas in which they may become more involved in the church's spiritual life.

The issue of ordination of women elders, however, will be studied by a separately appointed group chaired by Dr. Roy Naden, and is due to complete its work in April 1987.

Nelson said, "I look forward to the life of our church being enriched by the creative

work of this council."

The announcement comes in the wake of a Spring vote in PMC on whether or not to ordain women as elders in this campus church. Though 56 percent favored it, the church board had stipulated a 60 percent vote to show consensus. Students' votes were not counted since they are not PMC members.

Those named to the council are: Joan Banks, Wilma Darby, Peggy Dudley, Mercedes Dyer, Francie Faehner, Maxine Gilliland, Stella Greig, Charlotte Groff, Bonnie Jean Hannah, Greta Hines, Madeline Johnston, Gail McKenzie, Linda Rice, Katherine Smith, and Melissa Wallace. Two others are yet to be confirmed.

Bay Area: Organization, guest, outreach

The Bay Area Chapter had its beginning in January 1986, in an "upper room" of the home of Bernie and Doug Beck in Los Altos, California. The 30 women attending decided to hold an organizing meeting in February.

At the February meeting each woman took time to tell about her personal interests and experiences. Although many had known each other for years, we found we had far more in common than we knew.

We formed our chapter on a horizontal structure that would give focus to centers of interest, with a coordinator for each section. The following coordinators were elected:

General Coordinator/Director, **Karyl Dupree**; Secretary-Treasurer and Publicity Coordinator, **Bernie Beck**. The coordinators of sections are: Health, **Kay Nelson**; Singles, **Lila Heath**; Child Education, **Martha Hoffman**; Financial Planning, **Jackie Jarratt**; Library, **Aileen Smithwick**; Women's Research, **Lorna Tobler**; Music Study, **Jeannette Zesch**; and Arts, **Evelyn Cunningham**. Each of the coordinators will bring together information and present a program approximately once a year. Aileen Smithwick has been especially active in reviewing a book at each meeting.

A highlight of our year was a weekend with **Jan Daffern**, associate pastor of Sligo church in Takoma Park, Maryland. Jan is an alumnus of Mountain View Academy in the Bay Area, and a former member of the Mountain View Central church. Many old friends and guests attended her presentation Friday evening, May 23, on "The Theology of Disappointment." Even as our church emerged from a disappointment so we as individuals must grapple with our disappointments. A positive outcome may be our increased sensitivity to suffering people and a world that



Karyl Dupree, Bay Area Coordinator

has lost its optimism.

On Sabbath morning, Jan's topic at Palo Alto church was "From Rags to Righteousness." She inspired all of us with her ministry.

As this article goes to press, the Bay Area Chapter is planning a membership drive and meeting during the Central California camp meeting at Soquel in August. The featured speaker is **Karen Kotoske**, a Palo Alto Adventist, who founded and directs the Amistad Foundation that funds projects for the Huichol Indians of Mexico. Amistad (which means "friendship") works in cooperation with other organizations, including the Central California Conference, to fly in medical and other forms of aid.

—Lorna Tobler

Central Florida: Campmeeting report

On June 1 in the midst of the Florida camp meeting, AAW National Director of Special Events, **Peggy Harris**, addressed the chapter. Her topic was "AAW—Who? What? Why?"

Irene McCary and **Dorothy Fox** were special guests at the meeting. Mrs. McCary, a laywoman from California, was keynote speaker for camp meeting during the 11 o'clock hour on the first Sabbath. Mrs. Fox is Shepherdess Leader for the Florida Conference.

Using an illustration from the wilderness sanctuary of the different threads of blue, red, and purple twined together to make the beautiful inner curtain of the temple, Mrs. Harris described how individual women with different backgrounds may work together to make life more meaningful for all women in the church.

Sharing the meeting time, **Linda Carol Case** described the H.O.P.E. ministry hospitality seminar she was presenting during camp meeting, a program that Peggy Harris had helped found at the Beltsville church in Maryland. (See article on page 2.)

Mrs. Harris complimented the Florida Conference for caring equally for both men and women. "I wish every conference recognized the contributions of the spouses of pastors and conference workers like the Florida Conference is doing!"

Conference President Malcolm Gordon invited Mrs. Harris to give a brief presentation on AAW during the Tuesday afternoon "Joy Hour" in the main auditorium.

—Sherri Craig

Metro Washington: Stress management

Dr. Marion Jones, a practicing psychiatrist and medical director of the Reading Rehabilitation Hospital in Pennsylvania, spoke to about 50 members of the chapter on May 5. All human beings are subject to stress, she said. The only way to avoid all stress is to be dead.

Common sources of stress for women are (1) the behavior of their children, especially in public places such as church, (2) being seen as second rate in the church or society, (3) interpersonal relationships, and (4) censure.

She gave a capsule description of the physiological mechanisms our brains employ in handling sensory input. Information is routed to the "emotional brain," centered in the hypothalamus, and the "thinking brain," or frontal brain, which is the center of judgment, decisions, and thinking. Because information is fed to the hypothalamus, all input automatically has emotional feeling almost instantly. But the thinking brain needs time to search through its stored memory and other data for an appropriate response. Thus we may react with feelings instead of thinking—

and become the victims of stress rather than managers of stress.

A practical way to manage stress is to employ the time-honored method of counting to 10. Dr. Jones pointed out that this not only gives us time, but gives God time to bring a response to our minds. Other practical ways to manage stress, she said, are to use creativity, precast decisions, service to others, relaxation, humor, and meditation.

—Jo Habada

EDITORIAL STAFF

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Editor Kit Watts
Assistant Editors Beverly Rumble
Penny Shell
Circulation Vera Capman
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