

the Adventist Woman

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Eight-year horror over

Lindy's "murderer" label lifted

by Gary Krause

After an eight-year ordeal Lindy Chamberlain, an Adventist woman who suffered a tragic miscarriage of justice and the mysterious murder of her baby, stands exonerated.

On September 15, 1988, the Northern Territory Court of Criminal Appeal in Australia, quashed the six-year-old convictions of Lindy Chamberlain and her husband, Michael. The hearing, which officially ended the most sensational criminal case in Australian history, took only two minutes.

The tragic story began on Sunday night, August 17, 1980, when 10-week-old Azaria Chamberlain disappeared from her family's tent at a campsite at Ayers Rock, Northern Territory.

After the baby's disappearance, her mother, Lindy, consistently maintained that a dingo (an Australian wild dog) had taken her. At the inquest held six months later, the coroner concurred with Lindy's contention.

However, a few months later, the Northern Territory Government reopened the case and ordered a second inquest, which led to the most publicized murder trial ever in Australia. On Friday evening, October 29, 1982, the jury delivered their verdict after more than six hours of deliberation.

Lindy Chamberlain was convicted of murdering Azaria herself. Judge Muirhead sentenced her to life imprisonment. The next day her Adventist minister husband, Michael, was given a suspended sentence for being an accessory after the fact.

Lindy spent three and a half years in Berimah Jail, Darwin. Michael resigned his post as a minister of the church.

But supporters began a long campaign to try to prove the Chamberlains' innocence.

A 1983 appeal to the Federal Court of Australia was unsuccessful. When an appeal to the High Court of Australia the following year also failed, the Chamberlains had no other legal recourse.

But a surprise discovery in February 1986, broke the case open again. Police at Ayers Rock found a small, partially buried matinee jacket about half a mile from where Azaria had disappeared five and a half years earlier.

Lindy had consistently claimed that such a jacket existed, and her lawyers at the trial argued that the matinee jacket was the reason no saliva was found on the baby's jumpsuit. However, the prosecution argued that the matinee-jacket story was a fabrication.

The unexpected discovery proved Lindy's contention, and constituted new evidence significant enough for the Northern Territory Police Commissioner to recommend that his government establish a new judicial inquiry into it.

Within days of the discovery of the matinee jacket, Lindy was released from jail. A Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Chamberlain convictions began on May 8, 1986, under Justice Trevor Morling.

Eleven months later in his completed report Justice Morling said that if the evidence he examined had been given at the trial, the judge would have been obliged to direct the jury to acquit the Chamberlains. He also criticized much of the "scientific" evidence that formed the basis of the Chamberlains' convictions.

On June 2, 1987, the Northern Territory Government pardoned the Chamberlains on the basis of the commission's findings. However, it stopped short of quashing their convictions. Lindy remained a convicted murderer, albeit a pardoned one. "I'm not interested in a pardon for something I haven't done," she said at the time. "A pardon means absolutely nothing to me."

The next stage of the Chamberlains' battle was to try to fully clear their names. Fourteen months later, they once again entered the Darwin Supreme Court to hear the judge's verdict. The court surroundings were familiar

See LINDY, p. 4



Representing the North Pacific Union Conference, Paul Nelson, secretary, greeted conferees on opening night.



Irene Longfellow, representing the Montana Conference on the North Pacific Union Women's Commission, welcomed AAW members.



The 1988 Women of the Year Awards were presented during the sixth national AAW conference in Portland, Oregon, on September 4. Shown left to right: Dr. Blythe Owen, Judy Lovett, Barbara Blackston, and Anita Ford.

Awards cite outstanding volunteers, musician

From Virginia, California, Texas, and Michigan, four Adventist women came to Portland, Oregon, to receive the 1988 Women of the Year Awards at a special banquet Sunday night, September 4.

The enthusiastic tributes paid to Barbara J. Blackston, Anita Ford, Judy Lovett, and Blythe Owen documented their outstanding volunteer and career accomplishments.

The finalists were chosen by a panel of six judges, led by special events coordinator Peggy Harris, from 17 nominations. The nominations were sought by placing ads in union papers throughout the North American Division.

New Award

This year AAW established a new category to recognize a woman who had made a particular contribution in the current year. Barbara J. Blackston of Richmond, Virginia, was chosen to receive the first award in this category, acknowledging another high moment in 1988 when she received her Governor's Award for Volunteering Excellence.

Blackston's volunteer record includes being a weekend foster parent, a chemical dependence counselor, a "family friend" to unwed pregnant teenagers, and a "big sister" to urban children. She has also worked with the Virginia Department for Rights of the Disabled and the Department of Rehabilitative Services.

In her local church she serves on numerous committees and boards, leads Sabbath school and youth groups, has been an officer in the Community Services Federation, and sings in the Ephesians Choir.

Blackston brims over with cheerful determination. Not having the money to attend college, she went to work. But in 1969 she also enrolled in night classes. In 1984, fifteen years later she claimed her prize—a Bachelor of Social Work degree from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Home/Community Award

Anita Ford accepted this year's Home/

See AWARDS, p. 3



Coordinating the AAW Conference, "The Adventist Woman and Health: A Search for Balance," were three hard-working women from California, Washington State, and Maryland. Left to right: Bernie Beck, Bertha Dasher, and Nancy Marter. Behind them a tapestry commissioned for AAW shows women active in the church's mission.

Friday: Meeting and greeting

by Beverly K. Habada

More than one hundred individuals, half of them from the Pacific Northwest, converged on the Portland Adventist Medical Center on Friday afternoon, September 2, eager to find old friends and to make new ones. In fact, the evening could easily be characterized as a time of meeting and greeting.

Bertha Dasher of Battle Ground, Washington, opened the friendly season. Along with Nancy Marter of Silver Spring, Maryland, and Bernie Beck from the San Francisco, California, area, Dasher vivaciously helped coordinate the sixth annual conference of the Association of Adventist Women. Despite the fact that no local AAW chapter existed in Portland, and that the three coordinators had to work long-distance, they succeeded in finding excellent accommodations, providing a fine program, and in exuding an open, hospitable atmosphere for the entire weekend.

The Friday night list of official greeters—and those bearing greetings to us from others—was long but impressive.

We heard in person Elder Paul Nelson, newly elected secretary of the North Pacific Union Conference; Irene Longfellow of the Montana Conference; and Laura Winen, a representative of the Women's Committee of the Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon.

AAW President Nancy Marter shared greetings with us from NAD President Charles E. Bradford; from Karen Flowers who chairs the GC Women's Ministries Advisory Committee; and from Dr. William G. Johnsson, editor of the *Adventist Review*.



Linda Gage, Diane and Bob Forsythe shared memories of important women in their lives during the Seder.

This evening we also first met Sally Ettari from New York State. Throughout the weekend Sally sang for us, accompanying herself on the guitar, providing lyric, folk-like religious music. She composes all of her own songs and uses them effectively as a witness and outreach. Beautiful color slides enhanced her Friday night presentation.

A taste of Seder

The opening program bore the tantalizing title, "Seder: A Celebration of Hope." Guests Kathleen Bergquist and Judy Litchfield led us in a responsive reading and meditation, which reminded us of women's contributions to religious life throughout history.

The Seder, of course, is a Jewish ceremonial meal celebrated as part of the Passover festival. It commemorates the emergence of Israel as a nation and a people chosen by God for a new future. We tasted a few of the typical elements of the meal—grape juice, unleavened bread, and a memorable, bitter salt water. The reading suggested new meanings for these old symbols, adapting them to the Christian faith, and pointing to Jesus who gave new hope and dignity to women.

Afterward we got back to meeting and greeting. The conference coordinators divided us into seven "reflection" groups, each group having six to eight members. The purpose of these groups, which met once each day throughout the conference, was to provide a mechanism for us to meet new people. Together we discussed our reactions to the day's events and in a more personal way explored our expectations and needs. More leadership in each group would have made them even more productive, but it is an innovation worth repeating at future conferences.



The Jewish Seder ceremony was adapted to a Christian context using bread, wine, and bitter salt water.



A unique feature of the conference was "Reflection" groups made up of randomly selected participants. Once a day the groups met to react to programs and become better acquainted personally.

MISSION STATEMENT

"So God made man in His own image, in the image of God created He him, male and female created He them." Genesis 1:27

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

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

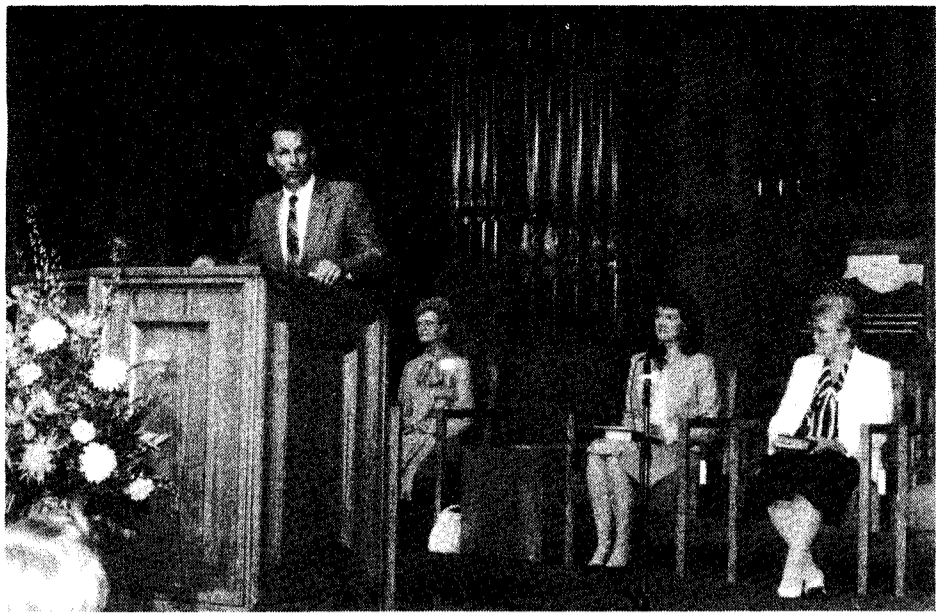
- 1) To encourage communication, support

and wider understanding among Adventist women in diverse situations.

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

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

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



Elder Charles White, pastor of the Sunnyside church, welcomed AAW participants who led the day's programs. Seated left to right: Dr. Beatrice Neall, Sabbath speaker; Pastor Collette Pekar, church service coordinator; Dr. Patricia Habada of Home Study International, who pronounced the benediction.

Sabbath: Abundant variety

by Jo Habada

Worship is a high point of all AAW conferences. An amazing variety of events provided a feast of Sabbath day's blessings as we convened in the hospitable setting of the Sunnyside Adventist church located just a few hundred yards from the Portland Adventist Medical Center. From the moment Sabbath school began at 9:30 until the last of our vespers music faded with the setting sun late that afternoon, we sang, prayed, studied, shared, listened, and meditated in rewarding ways.

Martha hands, Mary hearts

Sabbath school provided a new format for interacting in worship under the title "Beyond Imagination—Choosing the Best Part," which focused on Mary and Martha's story in Luke 10. Leading out were Diane Forsyth, associate pastor of the Loma Linda University church; Linda Gage, a former pastor and hospital chaplain; and Fay Blix, an attorney from Los Angeles and chairperson of the Adventist Women's Institute.

As Blix put it, "Many of us have 'Martha' hands and 'Mary' hearts. Jesus says with this story that it is OK to have 'Mary' longings. It is not selfish to put home duties aside and sit at the feet of Jesus."

Later, in groups of four or five persons that drew local church members and conferees together, we read quotations on meditation from such varied sources as Ellen White, Sojourner Truth, Elizabeth O'Connor, Henri Nouwen, and George Kelly—and commented on ideas most meaningful to us.

When Sally Ettari performed "Fill My Cup Lord" the words echoed our own prayers.

Recovery of faith

Dr. Beatrice Neall, professor of religion at Union College, led us in a memorable study of Ephesians for the church service. She paired it with her own spiritual journey that occurred when a young theology student of hers contracted an incurable disease.

The united prayers of students and faculty resulted in his having a remission from the disease. When it reoccurred a few months

later, it brought a crisis of faith. The book of Ephesians proved to be a resource for them both at this crucial time.

As Dr. Neall put it, "God permits incredible suffering in the world—but Jesus is always near." She suggested that sometimes we cannot hear God's voice because we have neglected the great treasures available to us—prayer and meditation, the treasures of the hymnbook, the beauty and poetry of Ellen White's writings, and the study of the Bible.

"You can't hear His voice?" she asked. "Go back and listen—He has said it all."

"Ordinary people"

After an excursion to downtown Portland's famous International Rose Test Gardens, we returned to the Sunnyside church for the four o'clock meeting.

Rosemary Bradley Watts of the Richland, Washington, SDA church coordinated the program entitled "The Women I Sit Beside." She introduced three friends, saying that they were not famous, and did not have names you had heard before. But each ordinary woman had an extraordinary glimpse of the Christian life to share.

"Through metaphors God is revealed to us," Rosemary said, reminding us of how the Bible has used women's metaphors to describe what God is like, such as "Can a woman forget her suckling child?" or "Before your bones were formed, I knew you."

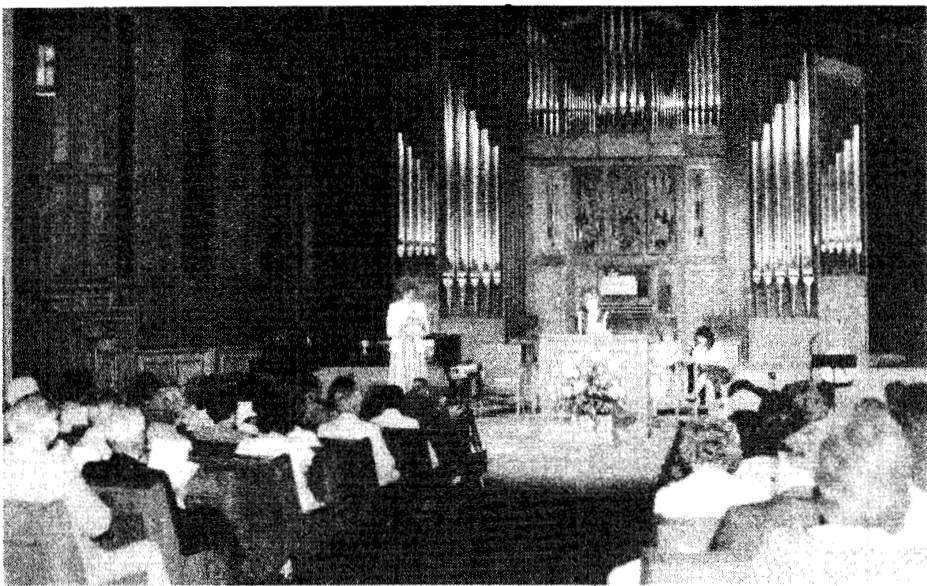
Each of the presenters chose a metaphor to symbolize her own experience as a Christian.

"A branching tree"

Cecilie Ames, an engineer who is devoted to her family but continues her career by doing consulting work from her home, used the image of the tree planted by water, whose leaves do not wither. "A tree grows year by year," she said, "and so does a Christian. Trees also grow in different directions, for branching off is what makes it a tree." Cecilie described how her life has branched into new directions. Her goal, she said, was to "be a growing tree and bring forth fruit in season."



Rosemary Bradley Watts organized the program "The Women I Sit Beside," featuring women's stories. Above she introduces the sextet from her church in Richland, Washington. Throughout the weekend Sally Ettari of New York State sang songs she had composed.



Faye Blix and Dianne Forsythe led Sunnyside Church members and those attending the AAW Conference in a Sabbath school experience of meditation and interaction.

"Buried treasure"

For Ruth Harmes, a dental assistant who is now working with her husband in their own business, the metaphor was searching for buried treasure. She likes looking for buried truths, she said, because a discovered truth is longer remembered—it is "for keeps." One truth she has discovered for herself, she said, is that "I have limits—and that is ok. That is a truth that sets me free."

"Cities of refuge"

Mary Sawyer, an accountant, runner of marathons, and Richland's church treasurer, also lives with the handicap of deafness. She chose as her metaphor the cities of refuge referred to in Judges and Numbers as places for people who needed protection. During a time of great trial in her own life she found her pastor and church family afforded her needed physical and spiritual protection. Concluding her simple but powerful testi-

mony, Mary said, "In the Christian life the Bible is the road marker, and it points to the door into the city, which is Christ."

Sunset concert

Our Sabbath together closed with vespers, coordinated by Linda Loveridge, featuring an array of talented women musicians from the Northwest. Nancy Canwell, newly appointed to join the pastoral staff of the Walla Walla College church, gave the final message of the day focused on God-controlled emotions.

To top off the day, AAW sponsored a reception Saturday night in the nurses' residence. Here we had the chance to meet and talk with the women we had been among all day. For most of us this is one of the best parts of any national conference!

All in all, the day was packed with blessings as women's voices were raised in counsel and praise, and women's gifts were shared to the glory of God.

AWARDS GO TO FOUR ADVENTIST WOMEN

Continued from front page

Community Award. For the past 12 years she has been among the volunteers who answer suicidal callers on a 24-hour-a-day Hotline called CRISIS-HELP in Napa Valley, California. Volunteers give at least 30 hours a month in direct on-line service.

"When the phone rings you never know how long it will be before you can hang up," Ford told those attending the awards banquet. In one case involving a Vietnam Veteran suffering flashbacks to the war's worst battles, Anita Ford stayed on the line for 32 hours.

She is a music teacher as well and has 50 young piano students in the Pacific Union College area.

Church Life Award

By unanimous vote during a business meeting, the Adventist church in Richardson, Texas, nominated **Judy Lovett** to be considered as a candidate for AAW's Woman of the Year. In Portland she received the Church Life Award.

Lovett has served her local church as cradle-roll leader, community-services director, Pathfinder leader, and vacation Bible school director. She also assists the Red Cross and takes in small babies for the Hope Cottage for children in Dallas. Her own family consists of five children, including an adopted set of twins who had suffered abuse as infants.

Victims of fires, evictions, or unemployment have found in Judy Lovett not only one who helps supply food and blankets but also a mother in Israel who exhibits personal concern no matter what time of day or night.

Work/Professional Life

Musician and composer **Dr. Blythe Owen** of Berrien Springs, Michigan, received the Work/Professional Life award. She is an active member of the Society of American Musicians, and professor emeritus and composer-in-residence of Andrews University.

She was elected the Michigan Composer

of the Year in 1980. Owen holds a Ph.D. in Composition from the Eastman School of Music. Her 200 compositions have won numerous national, international, and local awards, and have been performed in universities, churches, over the radio, and at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Despite a busy schedule, Dr. Owen finds time to entertain. Many of her students have spent Sabbath afternoons around her fireplace, relaxing after a delicious meal and enjoying her lively conversation.

Other Nominees

The official Women of the Year booklet provides brief sketches for other 1988 nominees. "We sometimes have a very tough time choosing our finalists," said Peggy Harris. "We encourage those who have nominated these women to reenter their names in the future." They are:

Dorothy Abbott, of Marietta, Georgia; **Vera Mackinnon Groomer**, of Lansing, Michigan; **Deborah B. Johnson**, of Charlotte, North Carolina; **Erma Lee**, of Portland, Oregon; **Norwida Marshall**, of Decatur, Georgia; **Sharon Mathiesen**, of Fairbanks, Alaska; **Barbara McCoy**, of Orlando, Florida; **Leona Mae Parsons**, of Altamonte Springs, Florida; **Annie Mae Poenitz**, of La Vernia, Texas; **Alice Sanderson**, of Florence, Alabama; **Ruth Shollenburg**, of Medford, Oregon; **Margo Swaningson**, of Dundee, Florida; and **Nantje Twynstra**, of Phuket, Thailand.

Panel of Judges

The judges who selected the Women of the Year were Elder Warren S. Banfield, director, Office of Human Relations, General Conference; Esther Battle, Potomac Adventist Book Center, Takoma Park, Maryland; Carol Hammond, teacher, Sligo Adventist School, Takoma Park, Maryland; Noelene Johnson, associate director, NAD Church Ministries Department; Alayne Thorpe, director of college and adult education, Home Study International; and Deborah Anfinsen-Vance, assistant editor, *Adventist Review*.

Sunday: Drama and Diversity

by Kit Watts

SUNDAY: DRAMA AND DIVERSITY

No one who attended the sixth national AAW conference will forget Sunday. It was a day of drama and diversity.

We enjoyed our diversity as we selected which of nine substantive, thought-provoking workshops to attend morning and afternoon.

But drama characterized an early morning open forum and the evening's Women of the Year Awards banquet.

Three guests

Following an inspirational devotional presented by Janet Wells, M.D., AAW President Nancy Marter introduced three guests who presented special reports revealing how various Adventist women's groups are springing up to meet specific needs.

Retreat ministry

Ruth Jacobsen, wife of the Oregon Conference president, has within the past two years spearheaded the organization of a Women's Ministries Department. (See *Adventist Woman*, August-September 1988, p. 4). This is the first funded modern-day department of its kind in the North American Division.

(Almost 100 years ago the dynamic S.M.I. Henry, a converted WCTU evangelist, organized a "woman ministry" with the blessing of Ellen White and GC leaders in Battle Creek. Several conferences established women's departments at the time.)

Jacobsen described the purpose of her ministry and some of the department's activities including luncheons, prayer groups, a

newsletter, and annual retreats. In fact, to effectively service her constituents, Jacobsen had two retreats on succeeding weekends in September.

Each of the Oregon conference's 118 churches is encouraged to elect or appoint a Women's Ministries representative. Throughout the territory there is keen interest in this ministry of encouragement.

NAD Commission on Women.

Betty Rayl shared information about the North American Division's commission for women sponsored by the Office of Human Relations. She is the North Pacific Union representative on the group.

Not to be confused with the GC Commission, which has been studying roles of women in the church and the ordination issue, the NAD group meets three times a year under the chairmanship of Dr. Thesba Johnston of Andrews University. At least one woman from each union is a member of the group. To date, this commission has worked to organize town meetings in each union where it solicits input from Adventist women.

Rayl encouraged North Pacific women attending the conference to share their ideas with her and to facilitate the educational efforts of this group.

Adventist Women's Institute.

To complete the spectrum, Faye Blix described the focus of the newly formed Adventist Women's Institute. For the most part the women involved are not de-

See DRAMA, p.4



Janet Wells, M.D., presented the devotional on Sunday morning.



Ruth Jacobsen has established a Women's Ministries Department in Oregon.



Betty Rayl is the North Pacific Union representative on the NAD Women's Commission.



Una Jean Underwood, M.D., led a workshop on "Women's Health: Areas of Concern." Immediately after the AAW Conference she left for China where she will teach English as a volunteer for one year.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Copy deadline for the next issue of *The Adventist Woman* is November 30.

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

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

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Nearly 150 AAW members and guests crowded into the gala banquet on Sunday, September 4, when the Women of the Year awards were presented. Peggy Harris and Linda Loveridge coordinated the event.

Drama and diversity

From page 3

nominationally employed and therefore feel more free to express their view of church policies that affect women.

Blix stated that the group does not see itself in conflict with AAW since it is a donation-based effort, rather than a membership-based organization like AAW. AWI issues a newsletter and urges its readers to become politically active in improving the role of women in the church.

Dramatic moment

But the drama came afterward during the open forum. Following a few questions for information and a moving testimony by a woman whose pastor-husband had divorced her, leaving her alone to rebuild her life and raise their children, another young woman rose. In an emotional speech she charged the group with possessing a wrong spirit, seeking to elevate women above men, and working "contrary to God's order."

Surprised and stunned, the audience did not immediately react. As the young woman moved to quickly exit the auditorium, Marter masterfully sought reconciliation. First she reminded the distraught woman of the previous speech by the divorced woman who had invited us to repeat with her these words, "I love you just the way you are." Marter added, "We appreciate your courage to state your feelings and we respect them." Soon others surrounded her seeking a friendly understanding, and the conference moved on to the long-awaited nine workshops.

Buffet of workshops

The buffet of workshops catered to many needs and tastes:

- Dr. Wilma Hepker, chairperson of the social-work program for Walla Walla College, attracted one of the largest followings in her all-day discussion of "Self-Esteem, Dependency, and Guilt."

- "Her Story: Women Responding to God's Call," conducted by Dr. Susan Stanley, was a rapid-fire, fact-filled synopsis of important women in church history through the centuries.

- Una Jean Underwood, M.D., focused specifically on the conference's main theme

with her "Women's Health: Areas of Concern."

- "What Shall We Tell Our Daughters?" a free-wheeling and open discussion of parenting our daughters in an era when women's roles are changing, was led by Lani Longshore from the Bay Area AAW Chapter in California.

- Beaula Stevens, a member of the chaplain's staff of Portland Adventist Medical Center, directed a discussion on "Caring for the Care-Giver."

- Marie Banfe, M.S., R.D., who teaches in a local community college, tackled the imbalance that characterizes many women's lives in the 1980s with the topic "The Superwoman Syndrome."

- In her "Treating the Whole Person," Betty Ashlock spoke from her own experiences of combining nursing skills with a specific spiritual outreach.

- "Helping the Abused Child," proved to be a substantive and sensitive discussion led by a panel of women who were experienced in providing counsel and intervention.

- Linda Usher described her volunteer work with Portland's Dougy Center in "Support for the Grieving Child." This unique community service has been developed for children who have lost a parent or sibling in death.

Gala evening

Some of the best drama each year comes at the Women of the Year Awards Banquet. Pictures and printed stories are helpful but, in all honesty, they don't do justice to the authenticity of women's stories. At this banquet you meet the real women. There is no substitute for hearing them speak for themselves—their vision, their hard work, and while they are unfailingly modest about it, their far-reaching achievements.

The buffet banquet had an Oriental flavor and was one of the tastiest and most beautiful yet. Coordinators Peggy Harris and Linda Loveridge deserve more appreciation than they gave us opportunity to express.

LINDY AND MICHAEL—FREE AT LAST

Continued from front page

to them. It was here—six years earlier—that they had been found guilty.

At that time there had been stunned silence when the judgment was made. This time, there was an audible gasp from the public gallery when the Chief Justice of the Northern Territory, Mr. Justice Asche, announced that their convictions had been quashed.

In the Melbourne *Sun*, journalist Bill Hitchens wrote: "As they were crushed by well-wishers from the packed courthouse and the crowd gathered outside, one felt that old twinge of sadness and yet a reflective triumph that two such ordinary people could have dredged the depths of unfathomable determination, fought a seemingly unbeatable system, and won."

"No fair-thinking person can deny that Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain have every right to ask the Northern Territory Government for substantial financial compensation for the emotional suffering they have been put through during the past eight years," *The Australian* newspaper commented the day after the acquittal.

From a legal-judicial perspective, the Chamberlain case is probably the most sig-

Monday: Practical goals

by Lorna Tobler

On the final morning, conferees gathered first in the beautiful sunroom of the Portland Adventist Medical Center for a continental breakfast and last personal conversations before the close of the annual event.

Perhaps because of the conference theme—health and related issues—personal reaching out and reaffirmation seemed to characterize all meetings of the weekend, and the last one, the business meeting, was no exception.

Responses from those who had participated in the reflection groups that had met throughout the weekend opened the proceedings and set a tone of directness and warmth.

The business meeting was chaired by President Nancy Marter who began by reading the minutes of last year's business meeting in Takoma Park, Maryland. She also commented on important events in the intervening year, particularly the meeting of the 80-member Commission on the Role of Women convened by the General Conference in Washington, D.C., last March. Among the facts that were brought up was the number of women theology students at Newbold College in England—26 among a total of 80 last year.

From our house to yours

A rush of motions came at the close of the discussion and approval of the minutes of last year's meeting—all warmly supported, to send greetings and affirmation to women



During the business session AAW members spoke to the nine resolutions they passed (and which will be reported in full in the next *Adventist Woman*.) Speaking to an issue here is Pat Habada of Hyattsville, Maryland.

theology students and pastors, to their spouses, and to presidents of conferences and unions who support them in their calling.

Votes were also taken to send special greetings to AAW chapters in other countries, and to invite women delegates from college faculties to join in future AAW conferences.



Capping off the sixth conference, Joyce Lorntz spoke Monday noon on the topic "Let Me Be a Woman." From Brunswick, Maine, Lorntz is a family counselor.

At work

The remainder of the business meeting was devoted to the new slate of national AAW officers for 1988-1990, discussion and approval of the treasurer's report, and a report from the Resolutions Committee, which was discussed and passed with amendments.

"Let Me Be a Woman"

The final event of the conference was an address by Joyce Lorntz, family counselor



Delight Clapp, who served a heroic six years as AAW's first treasurer, presented her final report.

from Maine. Lorntz, whose husband is the pastor of the Brunswick church, holds master's degrees in public health and counseling from Loma Linda University and is presently a doctoral candidate. Mother of two adolescent children, she charmed her audience with family anecdotes involving her career efforts, including swallowing a tablet intended for her daughter during a moment of intense preoccupation.

Far from holding out the image of superwoman, Lorntz's presentation, entitled "Let Me Be a Woman," led off by emphasizing the need to overcome stress that leads to the nation's number one killer, heart disease. She cited causes of stress as loneliness, isolation, a sense of despair and anxiety, low self-esteem, and a sense of failure in relationships.

How to defeat stress

Lorntz proposed a remarkable five-step remedy to these defeating factors of stress.

1. Fasten on a worthwhile dream. This will free you to do and to be all that you can.

2. Set both short-range and long-range goals toward achievement of your dream.

3. Get started! Beginning is half the effort. Find someone to help you. You may be surprised by the people who support your dream.

4. Don't despair in a crisis. Crises present opportunities as well as dangers, and surviving them will strengthen you and move you in unexpected ways toward your goals.

5. Fill your dream with extraordinary goals. Beautiful buildings can be erected on garbage fills, and gardens planted in discarded rubber tires. The ordinary things of life can be used to build a dream.

"Be strong," concluded Lorntz, "be of good courage and cope in the Lord."

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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