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Little Creek Newsletter April 1983

Little Creek Academy

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Dear Ex-Creekers:

Everyone (it seems) is on the spring camp-out. The campus is so quiet--only voice I hear are those of the "flower planters"--Mrs. Morgan is busy this first lovely day in a long time. We had April in January, but to get even January returned in April to haunt us and ruined our azalea fairyland! The strawberries are safe we hope under 100 bales of straw.

But the camp out days have been perfect. We had a wonderful time cleaning the lodge. Ma Jones went with us and we all indulged in her delicious cherry and raspberry cobbler. So the floors are all waxed, everything shining. Dan Peek was with us. I forgot the sandwich spread. I started to JoAnne's to phone Sarah Ann to bring it. Dan whipped out his radio and called for someone who could help. A man named George answered and called Sarah for us. So now I've forgiven Dan for neglecting his English to pass his ham radio tests. Ha!

You must come see the new lawn chairs--seven of them! They have rounded backs and are very comfortable. A great big thank-you to you and your alumni president! Perhaps some of you would like to know more about him. Ken Shaw spent four years here, was graduated from Southern College in 1980. He is married to the former Ann Kennedy, also a four year Little Creeker. Ken is teaching math, physics and computer science at Madison Academy and also computer science to Madison Hospital personnel. On top of this he is pursuing a graduate degree in mathematics. Ken set-up the computer science lab at Madison as a network system, ie, all the student computers are connected to the master unit at the teacher's desk. Mr. Patterson was present when Ken demonstrated this system to the academy principals and educational superintendents of the Southern Union. We are proud that an LCA alumnus is the leader in computer education for the Southern Union.

Last week-end the weather was rain--rain, but Sabbath here began with an agape supper sponsored Friday evening by the girls' and boys' clubs, followed by communion. This was a new experience and the faculty and students enjoyed the fellowship, music and meditation. Sabbath morning the band went to Knoxville church (in pouring rain) to provide four special numbers. Wendell Heidinger went along also to help us. The afternoon was brightened by Bible games and study groups in the cafeteria and a vesper service by our visiting alumni--Karen Hiner, Donald Chase and Wendell.

I've asked Sarah Ann to write about the Bell Choir Trip and Don Weidemann about the Ornithology trip.

BELL CHOIR TRIP

QUESTION: What had 2 sunny days and 3 rainy days? ANSWER: This year's Bell Choir Trip during Spring Vacation.

Nineteen happy and enthusiastic persons boarded our bus early Thursday morning. The bays were loaded with luggage and equipment, but the back seat was loaded with the most high priority item--FOOD! It wasn't long until cries of hunger filled the air! As usual, Rogene was chief "cook". Thanks to our driver, Bill Foster and navigator, Mr. Belles, we arrived at Columbia, SC by noon. We spent the afternoon at the zoo. Luckily, we were able to get all our "monkeys" back on the bus to return to the church for supper and the evening concert. We enjoyed ringing with another bell choir there.

Arriving in Savannah by 11:00 Friday a.m., we enjoyed a great tour of historic old sections, plus a tour of Byrd Cookie Co., our tour director being Mr. B. T. Byrd.

Sabbath, we drove south to attend services in Brunswick. The ringers presented Sabbath School as well as the entire church service. In the afternoon we enjoyed a driving tour of Jekyll Island before returning to Savannah for a vesper concert.

Sunday morning, clear skies for a tour of Fort Pulaski and an hour's swim at Tybee Beach. That evening our concert was given at First Baptist Church (where Mark McKinney '80 and Barbara Chase '79 will be married) in Oglethorpe, GA, followed by a spaghetti supper at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Lee Chase. A rousing volleyball game after supper helped to wear off all the calories of the homemade doughnuts they served.

Monday, we were up in time to arrive at Southern College for dinner, then our 3:30 concert in their lovely Fine Arts Auditorium. The final lap of the journey included delicious sack lunches prepared by the college topped off with a stop at Dairy Queen.

We paused before unloading to thank God for a safe and trouble free trip, and for the privilege of sharing our love for Jesus through the music of the bells.

ORNITHOLOGY TRIP

On the evening of April 12 the Ornithology class, led by Mr. and Mrs. Weidemann and accompanied by Donna Shurley and Verna Dimick sallied forth from Little Creek Academy with the mission of search and observe as many avian species as possible. Their destination was Central and Southern Florida. The venturesome crew searched high and low, slogged through swamps, traversed forests and scanned the horizons for a glimpse of a new bird to learn to identify. The "tour" led the class to Payne's Prairie Preserve near Gainesville, then on to Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge, Greynolds Park and Everglades National Park in Southern Florida, then back north to Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge on Cape Canaveral, then back home. Even though, in spite of great diligence, we failed to spot a Least Bittern or Painted Bunting, we did manage to see 122 species of birds. Some of the rarer birds seen were the Limpkin, Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Roseate Spoonbill, Scarlet Ibis, Gray Kingbird, Everglade Kite and Swallow-tailed Kite. The trip was arduous, logging 2477 miles in 6 days with rising times between 3:00 and 6:00 a.m. and retiring times rarely before 10:00 p.m., but as we drove back, we all were ready to turn around for another week of the "economy tour".

We finally went to SC for our annual meeting with our alumni; only Little Creek was there this time. Twenty-nine came so we had a good time. It happened to be Prof's birthday, so they brought in a huge cake that said "Happy Birthday, Prof". He was really surprised and as he put it--"I'm doing pretty well for not having anymore birthdays!" Many of you know by now that Pattersons have accepted a call to be President of Ethiopian Adventist College 150 miles south of Addis Ababa. The college is primarily a high school with a 2 year ministerial training course at the college level. All the classes are taught in English. They will be attending the mission institute at Andrews this July and leaving for Ethiopia in August. Mailing address will be c/o Ethiopian Adventist College, P. O. Box 45, Shasameni, Ethiopia. This is sad for all of us and the SC alumni paid tribute to them with a card signed by all and presented Sheila some lovely flowers. Mrs. Peek took them all apple pie and ice cream, plus granola and sweet rolls. We had a good time together.

Five alumni are going with the SC orchestra to Russia in May--Sidney and Linda (Van Arsdell) Whiting, Kevin and Terryn (Kurzynske) Shaw and Karen Peck.

Evan Chesney gave a senior voice recital at SC on March 27, but we were too emotionally worn out from Mr. Ed's funeral to go. Some did go and enjoyed it.

We were able to attend Sidney Whiting's senior piano recital on April 2. After graduation and Russia trip they will leave for Loma Linda where Sidney will study medicine.

NEWS FROM ALUMNI

Roberto and Bevi (Hansen '62) Henriquez write: "A few years ago we spent two years in Collegedale where I finished theology. From there we came back to Florida. While we were running a Day Camp at Miami Temple Church there was an opening for the Homestead district. We have been here in Homestead for 1½ years trying to do the best we can while I serve as pastor of three congregations --Homestead, Islamorada, and Key Largo.

The girls are doing great! Ligia is a Junior at Forest Lake and Lonna is in the 9th grade at Fort Myers Junior Academy.

Bevi is working at the Baptist Hospital of Miami as a Physical Therapist Aid and enjoying it! When she gets home she puts on her "pastoral wife's clothes" and helps in that role. We have a Bible study group of young people who meet on Friday night in our home, and she is always ready to feed those single young people who have no family to go to on Sabbaths. She does an excellent job and I would not be able to serve without her."

[Each year about this time Merwin Stewart shares his talent with me by writing the names of our graduates on the diplomas. I don't even ask--just send them to him and get them back in a hurry. This year he included a letter. rg]

"Just two days ago I had mentioned to Airie how the diplomas would be arriving soon. And sure enough, they did. I always look forward to writing the names on them.

"I'm working at the Union College press. In the fall, I'll be teaching two graphic arts courses at the college during the evenings. It's just as educational for me as for the students, but so far they still think I know what I'm talking about. (I teach one class now.)

Airie is in school at the University of Nebraska taking her first year of prenursing. Beginning January 1984, she will attend the William Jennings Bryan School of Nursing. It's known for its extensive clinical experience prior to graduation and Airie is looking forward to it eagerly.

I have set up a nice studio in our apartment. The name I've given it is Eye Wonder, and E.W. has been quite busy with delightful projects in the last few months. It's so nice to have the place set up so close. Now if I receive any midnight inspiration, it's possible for me to go to work without even going outside (an important plus in wintertime Nebraska)."

Was good to hear from Francis Brown '49. She was married to David Stephen Walls, August 17, 1981 and is nurse at McKee's bakery. We are happy for her, and hope to see her at alumni week-end.

Nancy (Fulfer) Merz writes: "The year of 1982 was a busy year for us. After completing winter quarter here at Andrews, we moved to Haiti for the spring and summer quarters to visit with Nancy's parents. They are in charge of feeding over 65,000 people every day! The coordinating agency for this feeding program is SAWS (Seventh-Day Adventist World Service) of which dad Fulfer is director. During the five months down there, George also taught two trimesters (quarters) of English at the Institute Adventiste.

Nancy has risen to the challenge of tending to the new baby while looking after little Elsie who is just over 2½ years old. Nancy smiles quietly at those who ask her if she "works"?

Doctor Robert (Bob) Fulfer is doing his second year of residency in anesthesia.)"

We have had some visitors lately: Ron Woolsey '67, Marshall and Melody (Woolsey '70) Schmehl, Margie (Byers) Boling and Le and Freda (McCall '48) Zollinger, Greg and Linda (Tuttle '64) Foreman. Along with this we have alumni up from SC quite frequently and are always happy to see them all.

Rogene said she enjoyed a visit with Jolene (Leland '68) Perry in Savannah, GA when the Bell Choir was there to play during Spring Vacation.

May 1 Leland took part in a "This Is Your Life" for Dr. Winton Beaven who is retiring as Dean of the College at Kettering. We stayed overnight with Virginia (Davidson) Sellars and family. Was nice to see their son, Coley (an Ex-Creeker). Kathie Vera Cruz is in school there also. Was fun to visit with Barbara (Wheeler) Tyson who is teaching there. Was such a "fun" trip.

NEWCOMERS

Robert Christopher, October 16, 1982, to Mr. and Mrs. George (Nancy Fulfer '64) Merz, Beechwood Court, F49, Berrien Springs, MI 49103.

I walked out to my office to finish this letter and was overwhelmed by the beauty of the night. The new chairs tempted me and I sat down to view the silent campus and the lovely full moon just above the pine trees. I thought of Psalms 72:7 "In his days shall the righteous flourish: and abundance of peace so long as the moon endureth." This poem shares some of my thoughts.

WIND IN THE PINE

Oh, I can hear you, God, above the cry
 Of the tossing trees--
 Rolling your windy tides across the sky,
 And spashing your silver seas
 Over the pine
 To the water-line
 Of the moon.

Oh, I can hear you, God,
 Above the wail of the lonely loon--
 When the pine-tops pitch and nod--
 Chanting your melodies
 Of ghostly waterfalls and avalanches,
 Washing your wind among the branches
 To make them pure and white.

Wash over me, God, with your piney breeze,
 And your moon's wet-silver pool;
 Wash over me, God, with your wind and
 night,
 And leave me clean and cool.

Lew Sarett

So I'll say good night and God's richest blessings upon you.

*Much love to you all,
 Alice and Leland Stearn*