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Little Creek Newsletter June 1989

Little Creek Academy

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LITTLE CREEK SCHOOL
1810 Little Creek Lane
Knoxville, TN 37922
June 1989

Dear Creekers,

My last attempt to write this letter begins "Greetings from fairyland. the campus is now pink and white with dogwood and azaleas. The seniors have their grip firmly on the door knob....."

Since the seniors are gone, we'll have to start over. Six seniors have remained to help us this summer: Bill Cote, Dawn Criddle, Dan and Florinda Harvey, Scott Maxson and Darlene Stairs. With these "anchors" our summer ship faces a sea of transition with less stress.

Eighteen more young people have joined the alumni ranks: April Boehm Devora Buck, Bill Cote, Dawn Criddle, Jonathan DeWitt, Greg Downs, Esther Eirich, Kandy Habenicht, Steve Harper, Dan Harvey, Florinda Harvey, Scott Maxson, Philip Mitchell, Patti Munger, Jeff Pride, Carol Shaw, Darlene Stairs, Joe Webb.

Graduation weekend was one big weekend! Many relatives and friends of the graduates were on hand for the seniors big day. Joseph Cote, Bill Cote's father, spoke for the Consecration service on Friday evening. Dr. John Shaw, Carol's father, and Carl, Ken, Kevin, and Keith, her brothers, presented the Sabbath School lesson. This year ended the of the Shaw family--for 16 years we had at least one Shaw on campus. Dr. Shaw was proud to say one day that he would love to hear his children play the bells together. Sarah Ann arranged a song for the 5 of them to play as a surprise for their parents at the vesper program on Sabbath evening. Paul Eirich, Esther's father, spoke for the Baccalaureate service on Sabbath. Kandy Habenicht was the last of her clan--we had some of them on campus for 10 years. Her father, Bill, spoke for the vespers service on Sabbath Evening. Fathers of several of the other seniors offered the prayers for the various services during the weekend. We are always happy when the families participate.

The summer has brought plenty of rain. For the first time in four years the TVA lake levels are normal. But every plus has a minus--the grass grows and picnics are dampened.

Space for campus news may be limited because of the address list, so we'll give you the alumni news first.

Martha (McKee) Davis

Most of you know that we came home permanent return last June. Lee was given a call to Andrews University and joined the program here on the 15th of July. He is managing the dairy and teaching in the Ag. Department. It has been a busy 4 months getting settled and beginning the work program.

Martha has been taking a computer course and has enjoyed it a lot, but there is a lot to learn and it has kept her busy. Also the middle of October she began 1/2 time work in the agriculture office, as secretary.

Our children are glad to have us in the US, as it is easier to pick up the telephone and visit now and then. This was nearly impossible when we were in Kenya.

Frances (Stewart '51) Wood.

One day I'm going to surprise you and come up there. The love of my life, my granddaughter Heather, is 19 months old and thinks I am the only one.

Ruth (Trivett '49) Hoyt

I wanted to come to the reunion but just couldn't make it. I enjoy the "Little Creek News" very much. I can hardly believe it has been 39 years since I graduated!

Carlyle Manous '57

Carlyle continues to teach in the Walla Walla College Music Department. He has been involved in a series of recitals on campus. He has also been visiting the Academies in the NPUC recruiting students for the College and auditioning for the Spring Band Clinic.

Kathy became Director of Valley Home Care, (a health agency) in July. The first challenge was preparing for a Joint Commission Accreditation of Health Care Organization's visit in October, which an happy to report went well. I would not want too many challenges like that in the same year. This could advance the aging process rapidly in one's life.

Jack Darnall '44

This fall the president of the National Wild Foods Association asked if we would enter our chickweed bread recipe form the Wild Plants to Eat Workbook at their Fall Festival in West Virginia. We consented without giving it further thought. Jack wrote a nice tribute to Euell Gibbons, as did other wild food enthusiasts. Sometime later they were amazed to open a letter of congratulations--the recipe was rated Number 1!

One of the highlights of the year was our trip to the Northwest. On the way we went through Mt. Rainier National Park. By the time we got to Paradise Jack was looking for the Mountaineering School. He felt that he just had to make another climb! He even talked Miriam into taking the one day Ice and Climbing School with him.

Bill and Rose (Holverstott '60) Coolidge '60

In October Bill and I along with four bus loads of Florida Seventh-day Adventist teachers, went to New England. Of special interest were the historic sites associated with the beginning of the SDA church.

The highlight of our summer was celebrating my parents' 50th wedding anniversary in the Hawaiian Islands together with Avalon, and my brother, Micky and his family Jan and Elaine. We all enjoy the beauties of nature, so we felt like excited children discovering the many plants, flowers, volcanoes, beaches, and varied wildlife.

Ken and Janet (Nelson '70) Penner '70

The first item of news you may have already noticed. We have moved! For some time Ken had been contemplating a new tack in this engineering career, and he finally decided the time was right. Although he enjoyed his work at the Boeing Co., he wanted to try contract engineering or "job shopping" as it is called in the trade. These engineers are hired on a long term temporary basis (6 mos.-3 years) with high pay but no benefits or job security. Although this may require periodic moves, we plan to take time off between jobs to enjoy special times with the family. So in February we moved here to the St. Louis area where Ken is working for McDonnell Douglas. This job should last 2-3 years; long enough hopefully to visit many old friends in the Southeast we have not seen in many years!

David Dunn '71

Only this past week we accepted a mission call from the General Conference to serve Cairo, Egypt. The work of the church in the Moslem world is extremely slow and virtually nonexistent. Even though we follow in the footsteps of many others in a great line of missionaries we feel very much that we're pioneering. Pre-embarkation starts May 14 with Missionary Institute at Andrews University between June 14 and July 18, followed by some intensive Arabic language study for a couple of months, and then bon voyage to pyramid land. If you just happen by on a camel sometime or somehow, make sure you all come by and see us now, Ya heah!

Cindy Watson '84

At Christmas time Mrs. Ruth Watson and daughter Cindy spent their "vacation" helping to build a chapel for Bethel Academy, a self-supporting school in the Dominican Republic. They were part of a group from Laurelbrook and Wildwood. This is a fascinating story of an optometrist and his wife who joined another couple to start this project. Mrs. Watson writes about their trip.

"The fledgling school is struggling to hatch from 30 acres, sunshine and rain, the vision of four pioneers, and God's leading. In simple wooden buildings we set up housekeeping. We learned to value simple things like cooled boiled water to drink, a plate heaped high with rice and beans, and the security of our mosquito nets to protect us from lizards, rats, tarantulas, ants and bats. Our construction crew set to work with the nationals and the walls and roof took shape rapidly. Suddenly the chapel was completed. Descending through the night sky, we saw the good old USA! But a thousand miles down yonder two memorials had been created. One is stone and stucco, for God. The other is less visible but more permanent: a bonding of spirit knit together by brotherly love in their hearts and in ours."

Denzil McNeilus '79

Denzil McNeilus joined four others for a trip to the Bonanza Institute in Venezuela, the Canaan Institute in Columbia and the Providencia Institute in Chile. They all find it amazing that this work is being carried on in such primitive conditions, such as gardening by hand, very low wages and living in simple, crowded rooms. Yet, many are converted and the need for expansion of chapels and school facilities is growing each day.

Denzil concludes his report:

"These people are truly committed to their ministries. I was impressed and excited to be a part of their ministries in South America while I was there.

As we were waiting for the airplane to take us home, we saw a beautiful sunset. It reminded us that it won't be long before our Lord will come again. A quote from Gospel Workers, page 352, best describes our feelings: "The work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work, and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers." The people of South America take this quotation to heart and many souls have found the love of Jesus because of it."

[The story of these trips can be read in the "Self Supporting Worker". If you do not know about this monthly publication, you should order it from P. O. Box 700, Dodge Center, MN 55937--only \$10.00 per year. The accounts of the work being done by so many lay workers is amazing and encouraging.]

GRADUATIONS

SOUTHERN COLLEGE, May 7, 1989

Sonya Gulley '85	B.S. Nursing
Clark Larrabee '84	B.S. Behavioral Science (Family Studies)
Jodi Larrabee '85	B.B.A. Management, A.S. Accounting
Shelly Neall '84	B.S. Nursing
Lisa Vogt '85	B.S. Consumer and Family Sciences
Cindy Watson '84	B.A. International Studies
Cindy Bofink '87	A.S. Office Administration (Executive)
Darla Boyd '87	A.S. Nursing
Joey Capps '87	A.S. Allied Health (Pre-Physical Therapy)
Sandra (Lizardo) Hamilton '86	A.S. Office Administration (Executive)
Donna Hill	A.S. Allied Health (Pre-Physical Therapy)

ASHLAND COLLEGE, Mt. Vernon, OH, May 13, 1989

Gayle (Thornton '65) Holback B.S. Accounting

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY, June 4, 1989

Karen Habenicht '82 M.S. Physical Therapy

WALLA WALLA, June 4, 1989

Nadine Ashton '84	B.S. Biology
Ben Scott '85	B.S. Engineering

WEDDINGS

Kimberley France '84 and Joseph Sexton, April 12, 1989, 4805 Songbird Trails, Apison, TN 37302.

Shelly Neall '84 and Kevin Powell, May 8, 1989, 632 North Thompson Road, Apopka, FL 32712.

NEWCOMERS

Lindsay Elizabeth Suzanne, January 13, 1989, to Dr. and Mrs. (Page Weemes '80) Tommy Morton, 61 Woodsedge Drive, Asheville, NC 28803.

Loren Marcus, February 13, 1989, to Pastor and Mrs. David Dunn, Andrews University, c/o Mission Institute, Berrien Springs, MI 49103.

Jonathan Lee, March 13, 1989, adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Delwin (Dia McKee '79) Huggins, P. O. Box 1776, Collegedale, TN 37315.

Michael Andrew, March 28, 1989, to Mr. and Mrs. James (Becky Rempher) McCurdy, Route 2, Box 483-A, McDonald, TN 37353.

Carrisa Brooke, April 4, 1989, to Pastor and Mrs. Steve (Melinda Boyd '80) Haley, P. O. Box 1584, Waycross, GA 31502.

The address list enclosed was no small project. There are mistakes we are sure though did try and proofread it carefully. Please send us corrections as soon as possible. And if you happen to know the whereabouts of any of those who do not have addresses, let us know about that too. Next letter we will send a supplement with corrections. Along with that we will send a list of those who are non-graduates and others who have requested the letter.

Several of our alumni have asked if we had a fax machine. The answer used to be no. However thanks to one of our alumni we have one. The number is 615-690-9942. This is actually our roll-over line here at the school and is not a dedicated line. If for any reason you might wish to send something via fax you would need to call during the office hours so that we can connect it. We have found it very helpful already and are very thankful to have it.



Jessica Copeland (left) and Margie Richards wash a Hospice patient's car.

Ocala Students Learn Practical Lessons

Florida—The Ocala, Fla., church school principal, Kent Greve, seeks to make Bible lessons come to life for students by providing opportunities for them to follow Christ's example to serve others. Greve divided his 14 students in grades 7-9 into two outreach groups. Through these outreaches both goals

are being achieved: learning through service to others, and projecting a positive image.

Jan Greve, employed by Ocala Hospice, a non-profit agency which serves the terminally ill and their families, knows of ongoing volunteer needs. The students' projects have included helping this agency. They have also participated in story hours at Tenderhearts Child Care, and group activities at the Oakhurst Manor for geriatric residents. All of the firms have invited the groups back for repeat visits.

Hans Borger



Ellen Prest leads out at a recent Newstart cooking school held by the Matthews, North Carolina, church at the community center. Seventeen nonAdventists all agreed, "the bread was great!"

So much not said in this letter, but we are leaving for vacation. Hope to see many of you at homecoming. We do appreciate your visits and letters.

*Don't forget Little Creek's premise - Matt. 6:33
"But seek ye first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."*

*Happy summer time,
Alice and Leland Straw*

PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

In January, 1989, the United States celebrated the 200th anniversary of the presidency. In June, 1989, Little Creek begins its fiftieth year of operation. When major anniversaries come around, it seems natural that we stop to review where we have been and look forward to where we want to be in the future.

As we look back over the past fifty years, we see many things that make us happy. We have many students who have attended Little Creek, and who have gone on to carry responsibilities in many types of work. We have lost contact with some, but many keep in touch, and we appreciate hearing about the work you are doing.

We have also seen many changes in the physical plant of the institution. Almost all of the old buildings are gone. If you have not visited the campus recently, you would not recognize it. Updated facilities are a necessity, as there are more and more regulations to be met, both in the nursing home and in the school.

As we look to the future, we often wonder if Little Creek will still be around in another fifty years. Of course, we hope that this world's history will be closed before then, but in the event that time lingers on, we must make plans to continue our operations.

We face some real challenges as we look to the future. The operation of nursing homes is being regulated more and more. We are finding it very difficult to find nurses who will work on a sacrificial basis. The students must be certified as nursing assistants before they can work with the patients. There are abuses in the nursing home industry, and the government's solution to these problems is more paper work. This requires more staff in non-nursing areas. The regulations are very detailed, and there are stiff fines for non-compliance. For example, a student who cares for a patient cannot dust or clean in a room. Housekeeping and nursing people must be separate. This creates more inefficiency.

Finding staff for the school is also becoming difficult. The stability of operation that Little Creek has enjoyed has been due largely to the fact that many of the original workers dedicated their lives to the institution. Today, people are always on the move. We find that fewer and fewer people are willing to make a commitment for any great length of time.

This year, for example, we have been looking for someone with a Masters Degree and experience in school administration to assume the responsibilities of the school operation. A typical prospect from the Conference system with a working wife has a family annual income of more than \$40,000. It is difficult to sell them on how wonderful working at Little Creek is when their annual income for both spouses working will be around \$10,000 plus a house and utilities, and with a loss in retirement benefits provided through sustentation. And to top it off, at Little Creek we work in the summer and during Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Spring vacations. Conference teachers are generally used to two months off in the summer with all student vacations.

So, as we look to the future, our greatest need is for dedicated workers who are qualified and willing to give of themselves to keep our type of institution functioning. It is a lot of hard work and takes lots of long hours. And the rewards are not always apparent in this world. To me, it is nothing short of miraculous that Little Creek has survived to its fiftieth year. We are looking to the future with confidence. We will be sharing our plans and needs with you each month, with the hope that as we work together, we can be assured of future success.

Kenneth Straw