

Summer 1980

## SMC Southern Columns Summer 1980

Southern Missionary College

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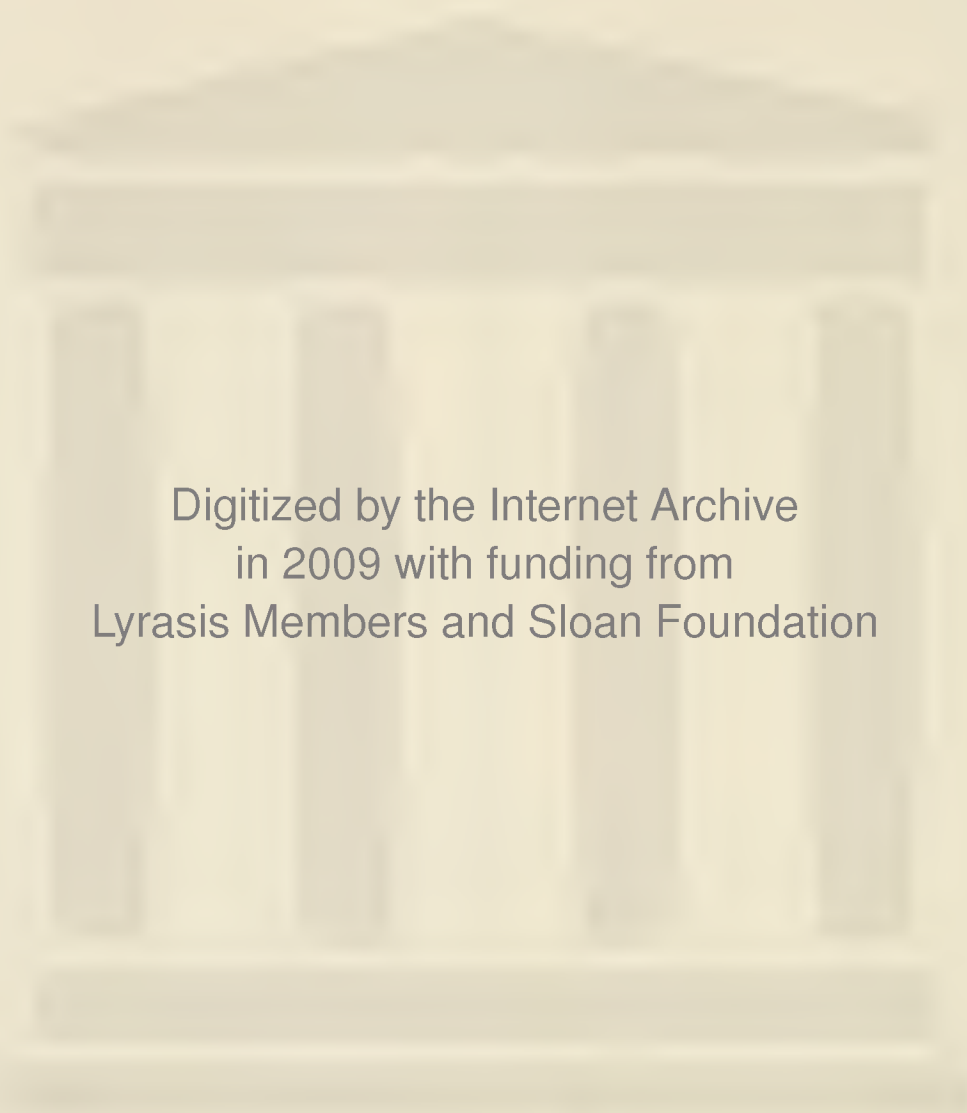
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## SDA Business Executives Challenge SMC Alumni To Give

### Richardson Will Depict James White at Homecoming

Larry Richardson will present "An Evening with James White" as the Saturday night program during Alumni Homecoming Weekend at Southern Missionary College, October 24-26.

Richardson, who is well-known on the West Coast for his many readings and dramatic performances, will depict one of the main pioneers and founders of the Seventh-day Adventist movement.

He received a B.A. degree in history and speech communication from Loma Linda University (1975), where he directed and performed the leading role in the play "Mr. Roberts." His training in history and speech communication led to his success in the writing and direction of "A Wild Boar in the Vineyard" (1976), a drama on Martin Luther in which Richardson played the German reformer. The play won for him the Outstanding Playwright Award from the Inland Theatre League.



He received an M.A. in speech communication at California State University, Fullerton, in 1977, and is in the thesis phase for a doctorate in speech communication at the University of Southern California.

Presently, Richardson is the director of public affairs for Life Care Centers of America, Cleveland, Tennessee.

The script preserves the authentic James White with about eighty percent of it in his own words and

Southern Missionary College stands to receive up to \$582,500 of new money in the next five years as the result of the Business Executives' Challenge to Alumni Fund, according to Dr. Frank Knittel, SMC's president.

The BECA Fund, adopting the provenly successful formula of the Bush Foundation (St. Paul, Minn.) in which Oakwood College participated in 1979-80, is offering SMC \$211,000 if the alumni participation level will increase from its present 6 percent to 21 percent in the next five years. According to present schedules, this incentive could generate between \$300,000 and \$371,500 of new alumni gifts.

President Knittel commented: "The Alumni Challenge Fund is one of the most innovative and exciting programs to ever come about in the financing of Seventh-day Adventist

the remaining twenty percent closely paraphrased from his written to accommodate oral delivery.

In addition, a certain amount of editing has been done on the material to bring it into focus. Most of the selections would not read the same in the original James White. A paragraph was taken here, a sentence there, and woven together like an Oriental rug. Yet the final pattern is pure James White, from the limp he acquired in a saw mill accident to the slight twang of his Maine accent. As playwright and actor, Larry Richardson recovers for us the wit, verve, spirit, and vision of this great Adventist Ancestor.

Reserved tickets are free to SMC Alumni upon request to the Alumni office. Otherwise, reserved seats are \$3, \$2, and \$1.50. Reservations for the general public can be made by calling 615-396-4277.

Christian higher education. Why didn't we do it sooner for our students?

"SMC is going to invest that \$582,000, it would not otherwise have received, where it will do the most good. Among our constant concerns are student aid, opportunities to help our teachers enrich their abilities, the library, the operating budget and some capital expenditures. I am confident that SMC will be the better because of this unique and at the same time meaningful challenge to our alumni.

"Although we appreciate all contributions, the unrestricted gifts are the most valuable and useful. We trust that our alumni will find in the SMC Alumni Loyalty Fund a vehicle of contributing to their *alma mater* that is rewarding."

In the year concluding June 30, 1980, 322 alumni contributed \$25,760—just about 6 percent of the 5,328 alumni. The BECA Fund will award SMC a \$63,000 grant if this figure moves up to \$57,000 and at least 643 alumni participate by June 30, 1981.

Alumni Association President John Durichek reported that the association board recognized in the BECA incentives a capital opportunity for alumni of SMC to demonstrate unequivocally that they believe in their *alma mater*. He said: "When the national average of alumni participation in annual funds stands at 23 percent, how can SMC alumni be content with a 6 percent level? This program will not only provide financial support, but will also generate increased interest in a concern for the college. It will also accelerate our forming a network of volunteers throughout the country that will be effective representatives for SMC."

(Continued on page 3)

## From Your Association President:

This issue of the SOUTHERN COLUMNS features the Alumni Loyalty Fund, a means whereby our college can receive an extra dollar for every three dollars each alumnus gives.

Let's take advantage of this program that the foresighted SDA business leaders, the General Conference, and the Union conferences have put together—\$2 million—to help all SDA colleges in the United States and Canada. Our share will be \$210,000 over a five-year period, providing we qualify with increased amounts and donors.

This Business Executives' Challenge Alumni Fund will do much to help us re-examine our traditional patterns of giving. It will also inspire us to organize better, work harder, and communicate more about our *alma mater*, SMC.

— John Durichek



## SMC: A SCHOOL OF HIS PLANNING

Elva B. Gardner and J. Mabel Wood have written an account of Southern Missionary College from its modest beginnings in Graysville to its move to this campus.

The book, priced at \$10 is hardbound in gold leatherette in an attractive 7" x 10" format and is generously illustrated with photographs and drawings.

This history book has been published by Southern Missionary College and is available exclusively through the Alumni Association Office or the Public Relations Office.

*Please make checks payable to  
Southern Missionary College*

Please send Me:

*History of SMC* postpaid at \$10.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Years of Attendance \_\_\_\_\_



SMC  
southern

COLUMNS

Volume 29  
Summer 1980

Official Magazine of  
SOUTHERN MISSIONARY COLLEGE  
Alumni Association  
Collegedale, Tennessee 37315

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*Editor*

CLAIRE LIEN  
*Executive Secretary*

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(Continued from front cover)

An additional plus that results from this program will be forthcoming when the college is able to advise corporations and foundations of its increased level of alumni support. This circumstance will tend to generate revenue from these sources.

The Bush Foundation, according to its president, Humphrey Doermann, found that incentive grants to 11 Minnesota colleges and 32 black colleges have generated significant gains in participation and increased funds. He noted that an important factor in the success of these programs pertains to the alumni volunteer solicitors. Typically, the total number of active volunteer workers increased between 30 and 50 percent the first year.

The SMC Alumni Association leaders and college officers will be working with alumni throughout the country to set up the network of volunteers, probably in connection with existing chapters.

With this announcement the 1980-81 Alumni Fund objective of \$57,000 from at least 643 donors is underway.

The 1980-81 BECA Challenge Grant is awarded on two counts. First, it will award a dollar for each alumni dollar given beyond the 1979-80 total of \$25,760 up to \$57,000. That's a maximum of \$31,500. If only \$50,000 or less is contributed in the current fiscal year, the fund will pay proportionately less.

Second, BECA will award \$98 for each new donor up to 321, which when added to the dollar-for-dollar amount will constitute the BECA grant. Again, if there are less than 321 donors, the fund will pay proportionately less.

Alumni gifts must be between \$5 and \$2,500. Contributions outside of that range do not qualify for BECA matching purposes. If both husband and wife are alumni, the gift is split evenly for statistical documentation purposes. Corporate or employer gift-match programs do not qualify in the BECA incentive program.

Checks should be made out to Southern Missionary College, Alumni Loyalty Fund.

Please see the center spread of the COLUMNS for a history of giving for SMC and for what the BECA grant will do for the college.

## SMC Registration Hits New High

Southern Missionary College's student registration has hit another high with 2,091 registered as of September 10, according to Miss Mary Elam, director of records.

This total is approximately 60 more than at the same time last year. SMC has had steady average gains of 75 a year over 20 years.

There are 1899 students on the SMC campus; 84 on the Orlando, Florida, campus, where students of nursing are getting clinical experience at the Florida Adventist Hospital; and 96 on five extension campuses across the South. Special students make up the balance.

The disciplines with the highest enrollment are as follows: Nursing, 417; Theology and Religion, 206; Business Administration and Accounting, 202; Elementary Education, 147; and Biology, 110.

There are 741 freshmen, of which 110 are second year freshmen; 453 sophomores; 317 juniors; and 357 seniors. Special students and extension students account for the balance.

All fifty states are represented with Tennessee having 438; Florida, 295; North Carolina, 122; and Georgia, 121.

Forty-two nations are represented outside the United States; Canada is the largest with 31 students.

## Smoot To Be Alumni Weekend Speaker

Dr. Joseph Grady Smoot, president of Andrews University, will speak at both church services during the Alumni Homecoming to be held during the weekend of October 24 and 25.

Dr. Smoot graduated from SMC in 1955 and was president of his class. After graduation he went to the University of Kentucky to complete both his Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in history. While there he taught for a time at Lexington Junior Academy.

Upon completion of his degrees, he taught in the history department at Columbia Union College. When a vacancy occurred, he was called

to be academic dean there and remained for several years.

He became president of Andrews University when Dr. Richard Hammill was transferred to the General Conference as a vice-president. Dr. Smoot is an innovative educator and is interested in bringing new accredited programs into the university.

He is married to the former Irma Jean Kopitzke and they have one son, Christopher, who is attending the secondary school of Andrews University.

## New Southern Union Conference President

Elder A. C. McClure, '54, was recently elected president of the Southern Union Conference. Elder McClure was born in 1931 in St. Petersburg, Florida. His parents, Elder and Mrs. A. V. McClure, served in the ministry for many years.

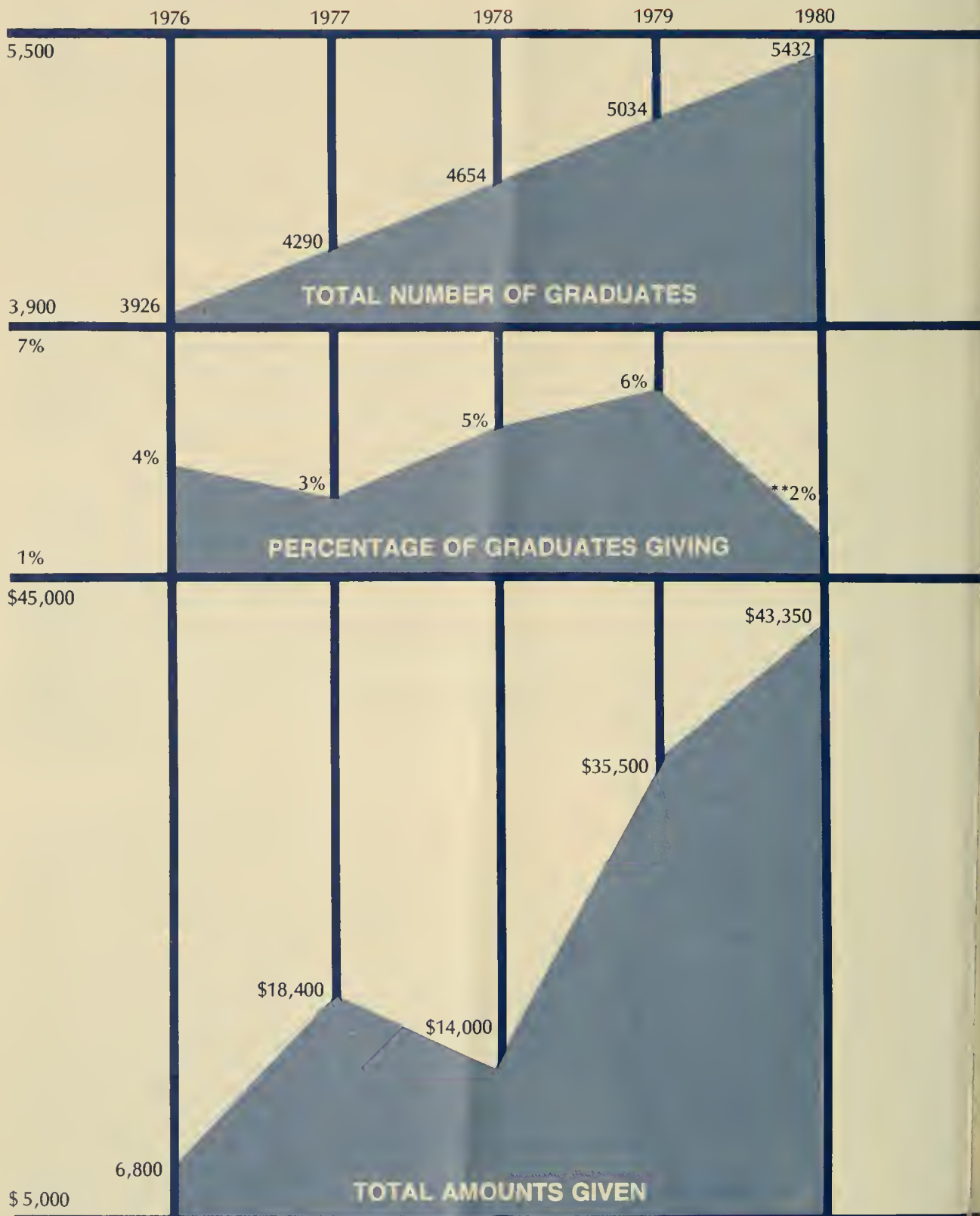
The new president attended Union College before graduating from Southern Missionary College in 1954. In the summer of 1953 he married Frances

Taylor. They have three children: Sally Lundine, of Casper, Wyoming; Al, Jr., of Collegedale, Tennessee; and Scott, who will be entering the 9th grade. They have a granddaughter, Brooke Lundine.

McClure worked in evangelistic and pastoral capacities in the Florida and Missouri Conferences before coming to the Georgia-Cumberland Conference in 1967 as director of the Communication and Stewardship Departments, later exchanging the communication position for the leadership of the Ministerial Association. In 1972 he was elected president of the Wyoming Conference, and also carried the Education, Sabbath School, and Religious Liberty Departments. He became president of the Kansas Conference in 1977, and the following year was elected to the presidency of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference. During his two-year tenure a new conference office was constructed and in 1979 baptisms reached the highest level for any year in the history of the conference. Plans were also set in motion to upgrade the physical plant at Highland Academy.



# SMC Alumni Giving\* and Participation, 1976-80

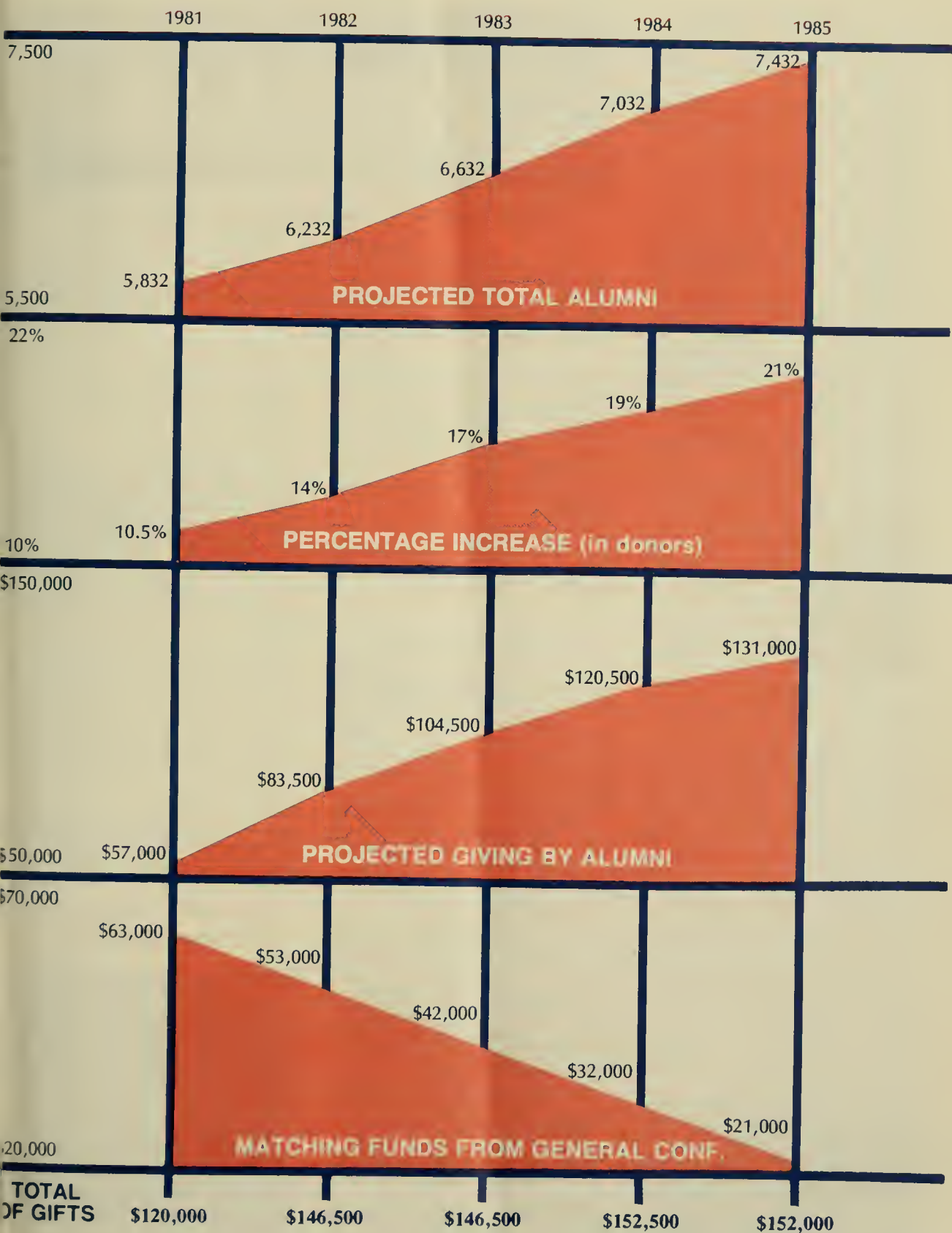


**TOTAL GIVING for 1976-80 is \$118,050**

\*Unrestricted giving does not include capital or special projects giving. Some figures are estimated.

\*\*Alumni were giving to capital "SMC PROJECT 80".

# Projected Alumni Giving\* and Participation, 1981-85



**Total Alumni Giving and Matching Funds \$707,500**



## Personnel Changes

Two top administrative appointments have been made at SMC recently.

Everett Schlisner, dean of men, has been appointed dean of students; and Dr. Jack McClarty has been appointed director of development, according to Dr. Frank Knittel, SMC's president.

Schlisner replaces Dr. Melvin Campbell, who preferred to go back into teaching. He had completed four years as dean of students.

Dr. McClarty relieves William H. Taylor of some of the duties of the development office, mainly corporate and foundation cultivation. Dr. McClarty is currently writing proposals for various foundations

and corporations, working on promotional materials, and starting personal contacts.



Taylor will continue with public relations and alumni work, including the new Alumni Loyalty Fund promotion. He will also continue with SMC's Committee of 100 and Project 80.

Schlisner is a graduate of Union College, and he holds the master's degree from Andrews University in school administration. He has been a dean of men at several academies and has been dean of men at SMC for four years.

Dr. McClarty holds the bachelor's degree from the University of Montana, the master's degree from Andrews University, and the doctorate from the University of Montana. He has taught at Kingsway College, Southwestern Union College, and at SMC.

His most recent position was as a management executive at McKee Baking Company.

All nursing grads from the three-year program at the Florida Hospital are considered regular members of the SMC Alumni Association. Please get the word around and have them send their addresses to the alumni office.



## FLORIDA HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF NURSING — Class of 1931 (Graduation May 1931)

(Front Row) Dorothy Johnson-Splaine, Edythe Cobet-Williams, Grace Lehman-Lindeman, Mary Gardner-Killen, Leona J. Morse-Mitzelfelt, Jennie Sue Weaver-Gibson, Myrtle Slate, June Thelma Beauvais. (Back Row) Walter Williams, Lillian Curry, Mable Parrish-Reynolds, Serpouhi Tavoukdjian-Sharian, Dorothy Seyle-Noble, Katharyn Youngblood-Carter, Ruth Pillsbury-Clement, Emma Hoehn-Gibson, Earl Fisher Kenny.

Myrtle Slate, '31, would appreciate help in locating her classmates so that they can start planning for their 50th class reunion. Her address is 134 Circle View Drive, Hendersonville, NC 28739.

Addresses are needed for the following:

June Thelma Beauvais

Katharyn Youngblood Carter  
Margaret Morgan Coulter  
Jennie Sue Weaver Gibson  
Emma Hoehn Gordon  
Dorothy Johnson Splaine  
Leona J. Morse Mitzelfelt  
Dorothy Seyle Noble  
Edyth Cobet Williams

## Letter to Editor

Dear Friends of SMC:

Reading the last issue of *SOUTHERN COLUMNS* brings a flood of precious memories. The lessons learned and the friendships made so many years ago at Colledgeale are cherished in our hearts. It was there that my husband accepted the truth and was baptized by Professor Lynn H. Wood in the little creek the other side of the railroad in August of 1922. I was present to witness that happy event, but had not the slightest idea that later we would be life partners and serve in five different divisions of our world field together!

We have been officially retired for ten years, but continue to keep more than busy—which is good for old folks, I guess. We live in a little cottage on a hill near the Ozark Adventist Academy and SDA church in Gentry, Arkansas. We like it here in the foothills of the Ozarks, halfway between the oceans.

My husband still edits our literature for the Jews for the GC, including the magazine *Israelite*, and handles many research assignments for the General Conference. He also writes many articles and is working on two or three book manuscripts. I do all his secretarial work, and also still do indexing for the White Publications. Too, we

have frequent speaking appointments in SDA churches within a radius of 100 miles. Leo usually preaches and I often give a mission talk where we are invited. And we are active in the American Association of Retired Persons—AARP—in various capacities of leadership.

We rejoice to read in the *Review* of the wonderful progress of the message in all the world. Surely the end is near. We long for the time to come when the work will be finished and Jesus can return to take us home. In that wonderful day we hope to meet again our many SMC friends in a better world that will never end!

Sincerely,

Martha Montgomery Odom, '24

**Special Notice:** Stewart Crook would like for all the Enconium Singers to meet Friday night after vespers for practice in preparation for Sabbath music.

All former Enconium Singers, Die Meistersinger, College Chorale, and Orchestra members are invited to participate with the massed choirs and orchestra for the Sabbath morning church services.

## SMC Alumni Graduates From Illinois College

Beverly L. Grundset, '74, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth W. Grundset of Largo, Florida, was awarded a D. P. M. (Doctor of Podiatric Medicine) degree in May 16 commencement exercises of the Illinois College of Podiatric Medicine in Chicago.

Dr. Grundset earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Southern Missionary College in Collegedale, Tennessee, prior to enrolling at the four-year medical school. She was a charter member of the Student Chapters of both the American College of Foot Surgeons and the Academy of Ambulatory Foot Surgery.

The graduate plans to establish a private podiatric practice in central Florida.



## SMC Alumni Outreach At UT Knoxville

This house, located directly behind the largest dormitory complex at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, has been purchased for use in a ministry of witness to the nearly 30,000 students. The Adventist Christian Fellowship, an outreach of the First SDA Church in Knoxville and the Georgia-Cumberland Conference, is sponsoring this endeavor. Harold and Beverly Duckett, '68, are among the people who make this positive effort a reality.

## SMC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION COLLEDGALE CHAPTER

The following officers were chosen at the April 26 covered dish meeting of the Collegedale Chapter:

President, Dan Rozell, '61  
 Executive Committee, Dale Collins, '53; Jolena Taylor King, '61; Lorabel Peavey Midkiff, '41.

Alumni living in the area of southeastern Tennessee, north-eastern Georgia, and northwestern Alabama are included as members of the Collegedale Chapter. Members within a 25-mile radius will receive notification of events sponsored by the above officers.

### 1919-1920

Essie Ray Wynn Case, writes: "Guy Wynn and I went to school at SJC in 1919 and 1920. Three of our children attended SMC: Elouise Wynn, Wilton L. Wynn and Kenneth R. Wynn. Now we have attending SMC Randy Wynn, Debbie Wynn, and Sherri Cranford, all my grandchildren. Guy Wynn has been dead 10 years the 6th of December, and in 1974 I married Leo Case. Just thought you would be interested in this bit of information. Professor Lynn H. Wood was the president when we were there."

### 1960

Percy E. Dunagin, Jr. Ph.D., M.D., Chief, Nuclear Medicine Service, 2nd General Hospital in Landstuhl, Germany. He has just completed a two-year residency in nuclear medicine at Walter Reed Army Medical Center at Washington, D.C. He is now with his entire family, in Germany. Betty Dunagin writes that the family is enjoying the study of European history by exploring the many castles to be found there.

J. C. McElroy, Jr., administrator of the Rush Memorial Hospital and first elder of the Meridian, Mississippi, church, has been appointed to serve on the Southern Missionary College Board. Also serving are A. L. Cason of Birmingham and Oscar Johnson of Jackson, Mississippi. All three are members of SMC's Committee of 100.

### 1967

Elder Paull Dixon is president of the Sarawak Mission. A pilot himself, Elder Dixon presided over the closing down of the flight service for the Mission. He writes, "Fuel rationing, high expenses, government regulations, and some of the worst airstrips in the world are some of the reasons that the Sarawak Mission felt it necessary more than one year ago to begin a thorough study of the future of the flying program in the mission's total evangelistic ministry. It now has decided to phase out its flying program.

"I can assure you that it was not an easy decision to close the flying program in Sarawak," explains Paul. "It is easy for a pilot/administrator to look at aviation through his own desire to fly, but decisions must be made by studying the genuine needs of the field."

Several years Elder Dixon led out in a thorough evaluation of the possibility of using helicopters in Sarawak. Eventually the study included not only union and division officers but also the General Conference Aviation Committee and the Flight Training Center at Andrews University. "The final decision not to proceed with the helicopters was based on finances, and I think it was certainly right in view of the present world economic situation," says Elder Dixon.

### 1970

A letter from Mary Louise Holmes Maxson, '70, states that she and her husband, Ben Maxson, '71, have been in Joplin, Missouri, for two years. Their

son, Benjamin, was born 1½ years ago and daughter, Laurie, 5½ years old, was born in Argentina, where the family spent 3½ years in Argentina and Uruguay. Pastor Ben, back in the states, in 1976, went to Andrews University where he received his Master of Divinity degree. Since that time he has pastored a 200-member church in Joplin and lives in a rural area on two acres of land, which is "a blessing from the Lord."

Eugene Brewer is the new principal of Highland Academy in Portland, Tennessee. He is a graduate of Southern Missionary College and the University of South Carolina. He received his Master of Arts Degree in educational administration from Western Carolina University in 1978. He has been assistant principal of Mt. Pisgah Academy.

### 1971

"It's moving time again," writes Jean Lemon. "I've really enjoyed my two years as secretary to Elder Dale Beaulieu, VP for Finance of the SE California Conference, but Africa calls again, and so I'm going 'home!'" Jean will be serving as secretary to Elder Harold Iles, Assist. Treasurer of the Trans-Africa Division, in Salisbury, Zimbabwe. Past mission service for Jean has been in Lubumbashi, Congo Republic Rusangu Secondary School, Zambia, and the Zambia Union office at Lusaka, Zambia. (The Congo Republic is now named Zaire Republic of Africa).

Edwin A. Sammer, M.D., was graduated from LLU School of Medicine in 1974. In January, 1980, he finished his pulmonary medicine fellowship from LLUMC and accepted the position of medical director of respiratory therapy at Huguley Memorial Hospital, Fort Worth, Texas. He is also in private practice of pulmonary medicine at the Medical Arts Building adjacent to the hospital. He and his wife Christine Davis Sammer, '70, announce the arrival of Julie Christine on June 10, 1980. She joins Douglas, 5, and Marcus, 3 years of age.

### 1972

Rachel (Thompson) '72 and Heinz Wiegand '70, announce the arrival of their first child, Misha Rachele, born on July 29, 1980. Heinz taught history and physical education at Highland View Academy, Hagerstown, MD, four years ago (76-77) when he became very ill and had to quit. He is much better now and plans to continue his graduate work this fall. Rachel teaches grades 5 and 6 at Mt. Aetna Elementary School. They write that they would welcome mail from all their friends.

### 1974

Donald Ray Byard, II, 405 "D" Street, Mt. Lake Park, MD 21550, writes, "I am pastoring the Mountaintop church in Oakland, MD, and the Grafton church in Grafton, WV. My wife, Mary (Cook) is full-time mother to two girls; Wendy Jane, two years old and Julie Dawn, 4 months old."





