Summer 2002

Columns Summer 2002

Southern Adventist University

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Niches

It was simply by chance that Jim Marlowe appeared in the doorway of my office that morning. His wife Linda, who works for the School of Nursing, was out of town, so Jim was dropping off a few publicity photos of a School of Nursing event that had just taken place. I never would have imagined where that meeting would lead.

We'd never met, but I had often seen his work. He's a photographer— one of the best in the area. I enjoy photography too. We talked for a couple minutes and then he sat down. The quick introduction turned into a one-hour visit. We talked about photography, religion, humanity and life. He shared with me the story of how God led in his life, how he became an Adventist, how he attended Southern, and how he became a professional photographer.

I called him on the phone a couple days later and said, "Jim, you have to let me tell your story." Though reluctant, he agreed.

For the past couple months as I've written, edited, revised and rewritten, I've been opened to a whole new world. Jim is an artist, in the purest sense of the word. He creates portraits and his portraits tell stories. But with being an artist comes a certain element of risk—long hours, loneliness, pain and vulnerability.

Jim's trade is photography. Mine is writing. And as I listened to him talk about pain and vulnerability, I couldn't comprehend the "suffering" of which he spoke. That was before I began writing his story.

Never have I become so involved in an assignment. And never has a story meant so much to me. Maybe it's because I'm so intrigued by his talent. Or maybe it's because he poured out his soul as he told me his story, and then trusted me to put it down on paper to share with everyone who picks up this magazine.

Jim's story fascinates me. It's a story of struggle and despair that leads to hope and happiness; and constantly woven throughout is the reoccurring theme of God's everlasting mercy and love. His story is so unique, yet it's the story of each one of us—struggle and despair turning into hope and happiness.

I believe that each experience in life teaches us a lesson. Jim will tell you the same. The lesson I learned from Jim is that each of us has a choice: we can use our talents for God or for ourselves. If we use our talents for ourselves, we will never reach full potential, but if we use them for God, the possibilities are endless.

"God created each one of us uniquely," Jim says, "but until we develop our talents for His service, there will be a niche out there waiting to be filled."

That's Jim's story. He found his niche and he's using it to glorify God. What's your niche?
8 Portrait of a Photographer by Garrett Nudd
Jim Marlowe's patience and faith have allowed him to overcome a lifetime of challenges and become one of Chattanooga's leading photographers.

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Southern's affiliation with American Humanics, Inc., provides students with valuable experience as they train to become future nonprofit leaders.

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On the eve of its largest project, the Committee of 100 anticipates expanding its membership and realizing another dream for the university.

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During the past four decades K.R. Davis has filled a variety of roles at Southern. In his current role he is building more than relationships.

28 Gospel in Work Boots by Bethany Martin
More than 550 students and employees participated in Southern's annual Community Service Day, making the event an overwhelming success.
Kudos

Congratulations on a superb job on the Spring '02 Columns!
I love the cover photo and related article on "The Chattanooga Turn Around," and I'm sure it will be a valuable tool for community connections. It was inspiring to learn how the Personal Evangelism class is so practical for students in "Sharing Jesus." I also appreciate the articles you include by and about our alumni, like the one this time by Gail Francis on self-defense.

Southern has so much going for it, and you've done a great job again in getting the word out. Thanks to you and your staff:

Patrick Hieb, staff

Proud to be an Alum

From the e-mailbox of Carol Lowe, director of alumni relations

On this morning another one of my daughter's best and biggest nights, I, her humble parent, wished her all who attended her Senior Recital last evening and those who helped her. Mr. Evans (director of food service), your food choices pleased everyone who tasted the pineapple, Mr. Burnis (Village Market manager), your carrot cake was oh so scrumptious. The florist shop, Mary Lou's Flowers—what artistry! Thank you.

Those who are part of Southern's family continue to make me proud to be an alumna. Thank you. Thank you.

Cheryl Camara Murphy, '73

Congrats School of Music

My family and I really enjoyed the concert last Friday night [April 26] given at the Collegedale Seventh-day Adventist Church. Southern Adventist University's Symphony Orchestra, the combined choirs, Mrs. Minner, Mr. Rasmussen, the other directors plus the soloists gave a well-rehearsed, splendid and superlative performance. I have always loved Mozart's Requiem, but this performance provided me with a real blessing.

Thank you, School of Music, for enriching the lives of all the students, teachers, staff members, and Collegedale residents with such wonderful music.

William Van Grift, faculty

Columns Questions

• Can you let me know who donated the piano that our former piano professor Ashton is shown with on page 20? I read it twice and still can't find it. Was that an oversight, was it omitted for space, or does the donor wish to remain anonymous? If the latter, maybe you could disclose that to save the curious like me from wondering. I ask this not because I wish to criticize the writing (which is far from my intent), I ask because I took piano and am fascinated by player pianos.

• As I read "Sense is Your Best Defense" on page 23, I wondered what was wrong with "Be wary of mechanisms that allow you to unlock all four doors while approaching your vehicle!" That didn't make sense to me. I've been told we should have keys ready so we can get into the car without delay and having a device that allows the door to be opened without delay sounds like a great idea! OK, I think I just figured it out—opening the driver's door is great but all doors is not. Is that the nuance we're supposed to have gathered? I think the article got edited for space just a bit too much. Again, I'm not trying to be critical, just want to know and provide some free reader feedback.

• In the "Selling Southern" article, why wasn't Bert Ringer included in the photo? I don't see him in the caption or text either—is he no longer in the picture, so to speak?

• Did Khidhir Hamza express any concern for his safety in the U.S.?

JT Shim, '86

Editor's Note:

• The donor of the player piano wishes to remain anonymous.

• Yes, it is safer to unlock only the driver's door.

• Bert Ringer is a recruiter for Southern's Admissions Office. The photo in the "Selling Southern" article was of the Vice President of Marketing and Enrollment Services and the directors of each department for which he is responsible.

• During Mr. Hamza's visit, he expressed very little concern for his safety; however, there were some questions asked by the local media on which he would not comment.

Please send InBox letters to: Columns Editor, Box 370, Collegedale, TN, 37315-0370 or e-mail garrett@southern.edu
Lessons I Have Learned From Students

by Ed Lamb

Some time has passed, but the memory lingers. It was one of those days when my class lecture wasn't making sense to the students. The look of boredom and disinterest told me that I was "bombing out." Mercifully, for all concerned, the class finally came to an end. I left the classroom discouraged and headed for the solace of my office, my body language obviously communicating my state of mind. A student from the class approached me, placed her hand on my arm, and asked how I was doing. I answered in a manner that masked my true feelings and thanked her for asking. To this day I can recall the impact of that very brief encounter. Her kindness was like a tonic for my soul. It reminded me anew that God understood my needs, sending encouragement through the kind words of a caring student.

Such reminders of basic principles often come my way through my interaction with students. In fact, one of the best ways to learn such lessons is to be around university students on a regular basis. They have a powerful and effective way of teaching—through questions asked and questions not asked (like, "Why did you make such an obviously incorrect statement?")—verbal and non-verbal feedback, written material, informal visits while sharing leisure time and discussions in the privacy of one's office. It has been suggested that teachers routinely learn more vital lessons from students than students learn from teachers, and in my personal experience, that has been the case.

Some lessons that remain with me are those I have received from observing students as they demonstrate behaviors rooted in Christian love. This is manifested in attitudes of honesty, fair play, patience, a willingness to forgive and to overlook one's shortcomings, demonstrations of affirmation and appreciation, commitment to service, and, most significantly, a genuine concern for the welfare of others.

I have observed this concern for others many times while working with study groups during our annual tours to New York City. Several years ago, a group of students was visiting the Harlem home of Mother Hale, a legendary caregiver who provided foster care for infants born to drug-addicted parents. During Mother Hale's presentation, one of the students spontaneously removed his large cowboy-style hat and passed it among those present. Shortly, the hat was filled to overflowing with dollar bills. The spirit of generosity and caring that was demonstrated touched me, for I knew that many in the group had little cash with them, but they were willing to share what they had for the sake of Mother Hale's kids. This concern for others has also been cited by observers as they see Southern students eagerly participating in the Salvation Army Thanksgiving-day feeding of the homeless in New York. Some might be put off by the unkempt appearance of a homeless person, but students routinely engage them in friendly conversation and affirm them as individuals in need of respect and care.

Other lessons have been more difficult to learn, for they sometimes reflect on my personal shortcomings—those times when I was not as fair as I should have been, or responded too rigidly to a challenge to my grading system, or when I simply was not prepared for a classroom presentation.

Such a situation recently presented itself when I attempted to discuss a lifestyle issue with a young lady in my class. I did not give sufficient thought to what I wanted to say, and the words simply did not come out as I intended, contributing to personal discomfort to the student and myself. I was determined to rectify the situation and talked with her again several days later. By her words and demeanor she indicated that she understood my concern for her behavior and graciously finessed my bungled attempts to deal with a difficult issue, reminding me again of my need to think carefully before speaking to anyone about touchy personal issues. It was also a demonstration of the willingness of students to overlook one's mistakes.

Recently, I have had to contend with a personal health issue that has resulted in varying speech problems. I've been overwhelmed with the support and encouragement shown me by those in my classes. Quite frankly, without their support, I do not think I would have been able to deal with the situation. It is an example of the loving concern my students have for one another.

Teaching Teachers
Arnold Cochran  
Making Something of Himself

The day Arnold Cochran left his Georgia home and five acres of unpicked cotton to attend Southern Missionary College was the happiest day of his life—so far.

Raised during the Depression by exacting parents, Arnold lived 70 miles from the nearest Adventist church. He and his sister, Ethel, studied Sabbath School lessons with their mother, so when Elder W.J. Keith visited their home, it was clear that at age 15, Arnold knew his Bible well. When Keith invited him to Atlanta to be baptized, it was Arnold’s fifth time in an SDA church.

Attending Southern challenged the “shy, backward” Georgia boy. Younger than most freshmen, he wore an outdated suit too short in the arms and legs for his tall, slim frame.

“Back then, I spoke in an even slower Georgia drawl than I do now,” so President Wright’s one-hour College Problems course presented a problem in itself. Freshmen were required to stand and tell their name, hometown, major, and where they attended high school. “When it came my time, I stood up with knees knocking. I had never spoken to a group of more than 200 people in my life.” He started to tell the class, “Mah name is Arnold Cochran. Ahm from Apalachee, Georgia...” and knee-slapping laughter broke out in Lynn Wood Hall chapel. “They never did let me finish that speech,” he says. From that moment, his nickname became “Apalachee.” Though only a few knew Arnold Cochran, within a couple days everyone on campus knew “Appie.”

During summers, Arnold usually worked at the furniture factory. The one summer he didn’t, Mary Chesney arrived on campus. That school year she worked in the cafeteria, intentionally securing a position on the boys’ line serving three times a day. Arnold noticed her beautiful black hair and twinkling brown eyes, but had a hard time getting the nerve to ask her for a date. When he finally did, she accepted. Soon they were arranging to meet each other’s parents on vacation breaks. One “happiest day” led to another for Arnold, and in June 1951, Mary became his bride. They both planned to continue college, but finances were challenging and Mary went to work full time so Arnold could continue his education.

Arnold’s parents didn’t always say it, but years later it was clear they were proud of him. He recalls the last thing his mother said to him before dying, “I sure am glad you left this hick town and made something of yourself.”

That he did.

The Cochrans live in Cleveland, Tennessee, and own a brokerage company specializing in food sales. They lead the SMCites (1945-55 alumni) and have three children and five grandchildren.

Christy Ketcherside  
Beetles and the Outdoors

On any given day, there’s only one red VW Beetle in the girl’s dorm parking lot. Just on the inside of the windshield is a small bud vase built into the dash. Inside it is a small silk daisy. This car is about as feminine as a car can be.

Not until I look in the back seat do I notice some unusual things. The seats are full of ropes, harnesses, quickdraws, and other rock-climbing equipment. Before I can count how many carabiners are locked onto a big backpack, Christy and her friends walk up, hop in, and drive off for another weekend outing to Foster Falls, Sunset Rock or Grindstone Mountain. Lead climbing to a new pitch is all in a day’s fun for Christy and her friends, and they go camping, backpacking, or caving as often as they can.

Christy just completed her freshman year.

Marty Hamilton
Denim or a Pinstripe Suit

Question: Take a bachelor’s degree in religion and a minor in history. Add career experience in teaching, real estate, and chemical production, and what do you get?

Answer: Marty Hamilton, director of property and industry at Southern.
Thousands of miles from home, she was a little apprehensive about college when first arriving.

"I remember my first day," says Christy. "I was overwhelmed with the whole college thing and scared half to death. I was so surprised when Dr. Nyirady (chair of the biology department) helped me move my stuff into my room."

Later, when a math professor brought donuts to class, she realized that Southern's faculty are really "there to help the students in every way."

That's not to say her studies are easy. "Classes are classes," she says, "and I can't really say that I love them." Christy began the year as a pre-med biology major, but after taking general biology, she says she never wants to see another preserved specimen again. Next fall, she will change her major to mass communications with an emphasis in advertising and a minor in graphic design.

"I'm not really sure how this will fit into my dream of being a missionary," says Christy. "I would love to live in the middle of the jungle in a little hut and have a dugout canoe...uh oh, I'm getting off the subject here."

When asked what she likes to talk about, Christy says "Ideas. I am a big dreamer, and I'm always planning something new. I like talking about what I'm going to do in the future, places I'm gonna go, things I'm gonna see and do. I could talk about that stuff for hours."

Christy works weekly at KR's Place making sandwiches and slushies for extra money. On the weekends when she's not climbing she hangs out with friends at Barnes & Noble or the Walnut Street Bridge. Each Sunday morning her friends gather for breakfast at the Campus Kitchen.

It's been a good year at Southern for Christy. "I'm coming back next year," she says. "I have great friends here that I don't want to leave, and I don't know of any other place I'd want to go anyway."

Marty came to campus in the fall of 1998 to fill a new position in the area of financial administration. His varied background suits him well for his multi-faceted job.

His responsibilities include supervision of four university businesses—College Press, Village Market, Southern Carton Industries, and Quick Print. He is also responsible for managing the university's real estate holdings; student rental properties; faculty/staff rental properties; commercial and industrial leasing; the community wellness program; new construction management; project financing; and land-use planning.

"I have a lot to do, but it's fun. I look forward to coming in to work each morning," Marty says. "Leaving behind business in the private sector and coming to work at Southern has really given me a sense of mission and purpose."

Certainly Marty's job is far from mundane. Even getting dressed in the morning adds variety to his already busy life. "Some mornings I put on jeans and a hard hat, other days I dress in a suit and tie."

Since he came to Southern, Marty's biggest project was the development and construction of Southern Village, which was completed in 2001. The construction of four apartment complexes completed the first phase of Southern Village and opened up housing for an additional 144 students. Prior to Southern Village, the lack of space was so great that groups of upper-classmen students were living in community houses.

Marty's role with Southern Village was project manager. He hired the architect, secured the financing, and developed the architectural standards. "Our goal was to play off the existing architecture on campus with the red brick and the white columns," Marty says. "Fortunately we were able to create a structure that is as visually appealing as it is functional."

Marty enjoys spending spare time with his family. His wife, Carolyn, is a philanthropy consultant. They have two daughters. Amanda, age 13, has her own Arabian horse and enjoys competitive equestrian events. Olivia, age 11, loves bugs and insects and is likely to study entomology in future schooling.
Portrait of a Photographer

by Garrett Nudd
The old winding road is filled with potholes. It’s not quite gravel, but definitely not paved—carved through the woods like a stream through a mountain. The rustic brown house sits nestled in the woods; a stone path leads from the driveway to the porch.

As I approach the house I pass a hammock stretched lazily between two trees. On the front porch a swing sways in the afternoon breeze. Like everything else, its position is strategic—directly facing a Japanese maple, which on this spring day, is flaunting its brilliant colors: crimson, burgundy, purple and red.

Hanging above the doorbell is a plaque carved from old wood. Engraved are the words "The city is made by man, but this country life is of God."

In the distance birds chirp and forest creatures chatter. The beauty of Mother Nature gives birth to a picture perfect setting, inspiring artistry and creativity within all who encounter its splendor.

The Studio

Jim Marlowe is a photographer—one of the most talented and best-trained photographers in the Chattanooga area. He shoots weddings, portraits, scenics and stills. His wife Linda, is the progressions coordinator for the School of Nursing at Southern Adventist University.

I am greeted at the door and graciously welcomed inside. Deliberately I scan the room, taking careful notice of my surroundings. The
The walls are covered with portraits—of children, women, families and lovers. Each one is different, yet each is mysteriously similar. Looking at each print I study them carefully—composition, pose, lighting and expression—everything I learned in my photography classes. What is his secret? How does he do it? The subjects of his photographs come alive with beauty.

Each print is a reflection of the artist—talent, passion, perfection, love.

Jim offers me a seat and we begin to talk. We talk about the weather—it’s a beautiful day. We talk about his home—he and Linda have lived here more than 20 years. We talk about nature—birds, deer, raccoons, bears—he shares his wooded yard with them all. “I really enjoy wildlife,” he says. “I love people, but I need to have my sublime tranquility.” He smiles as he gazes out the front window.

Silence hangs briefly and time stands still.

Sublime tranquility—the words echo in my mind.

“Linda and I are really blessed,” he says interrupting the silence and my thoughts. “The only thing I might wish for is a place in the mountains with a fresh mountain stream. I love the mountains.” His eyes close and his head tilts back. “There’s something about the flow of a mountain stream that enables your mind to take a journey.”

I take out my pen and paper and the journey begins.

The Portrait

Jim Marlowe was born the youngest of seven children. His mother and father, very much in love, were tragically separated by death several months prior to Jim’s birth. His father was a coal miner and with that profession came a certain risk for injury. One day Jim’s father was hurt on the job. As his father lay in the back of the ambulance, his mother held her husband’s calloused but loving hands. With every breath the struggle for life became more intense. Finally, he looked into his wife’s eyes, squeezed her hands, and said, “I trust that you will give your best and do your best to raise our last son.”

Jim’s emotions overwhelm him as he shares the last words of a father he never met.

Jim grew up in Harriman, Tennessee. Except for the absence of a father, his childhood was typical. As the youngest child, Jim was close to his mother. “When I wanted to build a tree house, mother would get the hammer and saw and lead the way,” recalls Jim. “Together we’d build wagons, chicken houses—all kinds of things.” She sufficiently filled the role of both mother and father.

Jim attended South Harriman High School, until transferring to Sunbright High School during his junior year. It was there that he discovered his passion for photography. Half way through his senior year, Jim’s English teacher asked each student to write a research paper on something they knew nothing about, but thought they might enjoy. Jim chose photography.

“From that point on I was hooked,” he says.

After graduating Jim enlisted in the army with hopes of becoming an army photographer. With only a few available spaces, Jim knew his chances would be slim. Unfortunately for Jim, the spaces that he thought were available had already been filled. Discouraged that his initial plans didn’t work out, he fulfilled his responsibilities with a missile unit, which afforded him days off in the middle of the week when he could practice his photography skills.

While Jim was serving in Korea, God was laying the groundwork that would soon change his life. Since high school, Jim had been seeing a young woman named Linda. During Jim’s absence, a retired Bible worker moved next door to Linda and invited her to study the Bible. It wasn’t long before Linda began to develop an interest in knowing more and studying deeper.

There was one problem, however. Before she had even met Jim, Linda’s neighbor was trying to convince her not to marry him. Time and time again she argued with Linda, saying, “you need to go to Southern Missionary College and find a good Adventist young man.”

Much against the desires of Linda’s neighbor, she and Jim were married upon his return from military service. Following their wedding Linda joined Jim in Atlanta, where he had relocated just about the time he enlisted in the military.

Not one to give up, Linda’s former neighbor called the pastor of one of the Seventh-day Adventist churches in Atlanta and told him about Jim and Linda. The minister and a guest evangelist visited them in their home and invited them to attend the Sabbath services, as well as an evening evangelistic series that was being conducted at the church.

Jim recalls going home each evening and questioning, studying, and searching for answers. “Linda was already interested,” Jim says. “She had already been studying for nearly a year while I was away, but she was careful not to force anything on me.”

As the series continued Jim’s questions became deeper and deeper. Much of what the evangelist preached was a stark contrast to his current lifestyle. Each night he lay awake for hours struggling with what he had been studying.

...
It was 2:30 in the morning on a cool spring night when Jim got out of bed and went outside for a walk. Up and down the road he walked, wrestling with what to do with his life. A couple hours passed before Linda found him crying in the street.

God had been working on Jim's heart—through Linda, through a retired bible worker, and through the local pastor and evangelist. "That night in the darkness of the morning, with tears running down our faces, Linda and I made the decision to give our lives to the Lord and accept the Seventh-day Adventist faith."

Jim is once again overcome with emotion as he speaks of his faith and of the merciful God who loves him so dearly. "Even before I knew Him, God knew me," Jim says.

Not long after his conversion, Jim visited his mother to share with her his newfound faith. His mother, a Baptist, respected Jim's decision and she smiled as he shared his new passion. After listening for several hours, she walked over to the bookcase and removed a book from one of the shelves.

"This book," Jim's mother began, "was purchased by your father from a man who rode into town on his horse selling books door to door. In all his years Jim had never seen the book. "Your father was reading this book when he died," Jim's mother continued, "and time after time he commented on how it was changing his life."

Jim carefully took the book from his mother's hands. As he looked at the title the words jumped off the cover: The Great Controversy—the story of the cosmic battle between good and evil, Christ and Satan, written by Ellen G. White. On the inside the book was marked and well read, and it was then when Jim realized that if his father had lived long enough, he would have (quite possibly) become an Adventist too. The most amazing fact, however, is that the same book was the defining influence in Jim's life as he embraced the Adventist faith. Today the book has a permanent place on the bookshelf in Jim and Linda's living room.

Becoming an Adventist was one thing, but living the lifestyle was something else. It meant Jim would have to give up a job that he enjoyed, because it required him to work on Saturdays. Jim went to J.C. Penney and inquired about employment in their camera department. He shared with the supervisor that he wouldn't be able to work on Friday evenings and Saturdays, and the supervisor said that wouldn't be a problem; he'd just have to check with the rest of the staff.

Excited about his new job and his new faith, Jim resigned from his current position. The following day he was baptized. That afternoon he received a call from the supervisor at J.C. Penney. "Jim," the supervisor said, "I hope you didn't resign from your job... I told the rest of the staff about your commitment not to work on Friday evenings and Saturdays and they weren't willing to cooperate."

Desperate but determined, Jim spent the next month job hunting. As each day passed he became more and more discouraged. Married only six months. No job. No money. Jim wondered if joining the church had been a mistake.

It was late one Friday afternoon, just a couple hours before sundown, when Jim finally reached his breaking point. He simply couldn't take it any more. He pulled his car off the road, stopped the engine and cried out to heaven, "God, you got me into this mess, now you get me out!" Exhausted, he collapsed on the steering wheel in front of him.

Several moments passed before Jim raised his head. But when he did his eyes were directed to a building that he had passed countless times before. On the door was a sign that said, "We can find you a job."

Jim pulled his car into the nearly empty
parking lot. It was five minutes before closing time. The secretary handed Jim an application and he hurriedly filled it out. She took the application and glanced at it quickly. On his way out the door Jim was just about to say “Call me if you find me anything,” when the secretary asked him to wait. She picked up the phone and dialed a number. After a couple moments of conversation with the person on the other line she asked Jim if he could go for an interview that evening.

Jim headed directly to the interview and was hired on the spot.

“At that point in time, as far as I was concerned, that was the first prayer that God had answered for me,” Jim says.

Jim spent the next three-and-a-half years working for UPS, and not once did they question his Sabbath conviction. He started out as a delivery man and was eventually promoted to supervisor.

Still, in the back of his mind was a burning passion for photography. “I'd pick up small photography jobs here and there, but to give up my job and make the initial investment required to start a full-time business was simply too risky,” Jim says. “But there wasn't a day that went by that I didn't think about becoming a professional photographer.”

Friends and others counseled Jim that becoming a photographer would pose challenges to his faith. With the majority of weddings taking place on Saturday, the likelihood of his business taking off would be slim.

As time passed their local church pastor encouraged Jim and Linda to look into Southern Missionary College. After months of prayer, they found themselves in Collegedale. But selecting a career path wouldn't be easy for Jim. He narrowed his choices down to four: medicine, ministry, dietetics and teaching.

His first love was biology and the sciences, so medicine was a natural interest. But at a time when many medical schools were filling openings with females and minorities with grade point averages of 3.75 or better, Jim thought it would be wise to look for another option.

After spending time with Charles Robertson, then biology teacher at Collegedale Academy, Jim decided to pursue teaching.

In 1976 Jim graduated from Southern and applied for teaching positions with several schools. The first call he received was to New York City, but after living in Atlanta for three years, hectic city life did not appeal to him. Jim interviewed with several Adventist church schools as well as many of the school systems in the Chattanooga area.

After an offer from East Lake Junior High School, an inner city school in downtown Chattanooga, Jim reluctantly agreed to accept the position. Later that day he received offers from the Bradley County and Catoosa County school systems. And before he officially began teaching, he had received more than 15 calls from places as far away as Texas, Florida, Kansas City and New York.

But Jim stayed true to his commitment. For 25 years he taught physical education and biology/science at East Lake. And from those years came some of the most treasured memories of his life.

Jim was able to use his photography skills to benefit his students. He photographed school events for the price of supplies. He did photographs of students, seniors, and sporting events, and he often sold them for less than his cost to develop and process the film.

Each semester he would spend a couple weeks teaching his students about basic photography. “We would discuss film speeds, composition, light, how to clean a camera lens, proper camera care, and everything else,” Jim says. The students would bring their cameras and try to implement what they were learning.
realized that he owed it to his mother to pursue a career in photography. "I wanted to create images that would be an extension of my mother's eyes and her personality," Jim says. With a renewed sense of purpose, Jim dedicated himself to becoming a better photographer.

But it wasn't as easy as he thought. "I'd look at magazines and see images that I wanted to create. I'd try, but I just couldn't do it. Sometimes I'd go through a roll of 24 or 36 exposures and I'd get them back and not be happy with any of them."

Not long after his mother's death, Jim went to Nashville for a photography workshop. The class transformed his outlook on life and a career in photography. Fresh in his mind were the words of his instructor. "If the will, the desire, and the passion is there, you will be successful. If you don't have the passion, the pain and labor will be too intense."

Jim had the passion and it has been with him ever since. Since that Nashville workshop, Jim has studied under more than 100 of the leading portrait, commercial and wedding photographers in the world. Many of his instructors photograph for fashion magazines such as Vogue and Cosmopolitan and others are in demand for celebrity weddings, such as the 1996 wedding of John F. Kennedy, Jr. and Carolyn Bessette Kennedy.

But Jim readily acknowledges that each photographer that he has worked with has influenced him in one way or another. "It would be impossible to pinpoint the one photographer who has had the most influence on me," Jim says. "I've been influenced by all of them. And as I've studied with so many photographers, I have learned that each person has their own unique point of view. I can look through my camera and see one thing and you can look through it and see something completely different."

That's the beauty of photography, each portrait tells a story. And according to the subject and the photographer, each story is different.

The Finished Work

Eventually the conversation leads us from the living room to the studio. This is where the magic happens. As I look around the studio I see props, cameras, lights, and backdrops, but nothing out of the ordinary.

What is his secret? How does he do it?

As he shows me portrait after portrait and shares the story behind each one, I begin to realize what makes him such a good photographer.

Jim has the ability to look into a person's soul, find their true beauty, and then capture the story of their life through the lens of his camera. "Each person is beautiful and everyone has a story," Jim says. And that is the essence of his ministry.

Although many clients come to him for photographs of weddings and other occasions or milestones, others come to him with much more challenging assignments. "Sometimes people call me at the worst point in their life," Jim says. "They're going through a personal crisis, a death in the family, or divorce and they want reassurance that they are worthwhile and beautiful. As the photographer, sometimes you really have to look beneath the surface and find the beauty within. It's my privilege to capture that beauty on film."

Jim recalls a woman who was on her deathbed. The woman asked him to photograph her so her children would have something by which to remember her. "That was one of the hardest, but most beautiful portrait sessions I've ever been involved in," Jim says. A couple days later the woman passed away.

It's Jim's passion for people that drives him. "I feel that when you have a talent, you're obligated to try to develop it for the good of society and mankind."

Jim hopes that he may someday use his talents to photograph women who have been victims of abuse. "You talk about someone who has a painfully low sense of self-worth," Jim says. "Their souls are lower than the soles of their shoes, and if I can use my camera to help them realize they're still beautiful, just imagine what that would do for them."

That is what makes Jim's ministry so special. It is about serving God and serving others.

"God let me into photography when He knew the timing was right," Jim says, "not when I was young and the adrenaline was flowing."

But even before God said, "yes," Jim was busy developing his talent.

"Many people put their talents on hold, but when they do, time and circumstances sometimes take them away," Jim says. "That's why I always encourage people to develop their talents and take the risk. Because long after the stress, the pains of study, the hurt, and fatigue have passed, the reasons you've developed that talent will benefit people you'll never meet. In my case, as a photographer, the purpose and the reason I create images will always exist, even after I'm gone."

The story of Jim Marlowe is the story of an artist. His camera as a paintbrush and film as his canvas, the images he creates tell the most magnificent stories. And if it's true that a single portrait can tell the story of a person's life, then Jim is quite a storyteller.

That's his portrait—the portrait of a photographer. ♦
As director of public relations for Southern Adventist University I see a lot of photos—photos of students, faculty, the campus, class projects, and that’s only the beginning. I’ve seen some great ones, but the mediocre photos definitely outnumber the amazing ones.

Time and time again I get asked the question, “What makes the difference?” It might be composition, focus, subject content, depth-of-field, or maybe it’s just an unexplainable feeling that the photo evokes. I’m going to share my experience as a photographer and magazine publisher to help explain what it takes to make a good photograph and how the new era of digital photography is changing the photography industry.

Taking good photos was once only a slightly confusing and lengthy subject. As technology affects our lives in so many ways, it seems to put photography in an almost out-of-control spin. Traditional print, digital cameras, scanners, Picture CD, digital video, the options are endless.

For people “in the business,” the digital revolution has been a huge blessing. And the more people that get involved the easier my job becomes. However, from the consumer’s perspective, it couldn’t be more confusing. Throughout this article I’m going to explain a few simple photography tips that will work for both traditional and digital photography. One doesn’t have to be a professional to create good photographs. And beyond that, I will share some thoughts about digital photography, and hopefully I’ll be able to demystify some of the digital world for you.

Tip 1: Get close, then get even closer

This issue, coupled with focusing problems, is the number one reason certain photos lack visual appeal. I call this the vacation shot. Many times people want to get a scenic location or landmark and a person (or group of people) in the photo at the same time. This rarely works for personal photos, as you are usually left explaining who the ant-sized person is and it never works for publication or professional work. If you must have a photo of the location take a nice landscape shot and then take another one with your person. This time get close! It really makes a photo much more interesting and useable.
Tip 2: Focus on your subject

This can be accomplished in a variety of ways depending on your camera, but always make sure that your subject is in focus. This sounds like a trite, easy thing to do, but it's not. Taking photos is a three-step process: compose, focus, shoot. Get close, compose your photo like you want it, make sure that you consciously focus on your subject and then squeeze the shutter release. Most point-and-shoot cameras do not have the ability to manually focus before you take the photo. In this case, make sure your subject is close to the center of the frame and hold the camera very still as you squeeze the release button. The better-quality cameras will allow you to focus by pressing the release button halfway down. Finish taking the photo by pressing the button all the way down.

Tip 3: Make each shot count

Many times I have heard people say “take as many shots as you can so you'll get at least one good shot.” This often results in there not being a single good shot in the bunch. If you’re using bad techniques you shouldn’t count on getting lucky once out of 24 shots. More than likely you’ll end up with 24 bad shots. Don’t get me wrong, you can’t be too scared to press that button, but you should make every shot count. Try to make each frame a worthwhile photo. If you make 24 good attempts you’ll probably end up with more than just one good photo. And choosing the best out of several good ones is a great problem to have!

Tip 4: Shoot candids whenever possible

Try as you might, sometimes you have no choice but to pose people. I have shot many weddings over the years and posing people just comes with the territory. But I also try to take some photos during the reception that are un-posed. These usually turn out to be the best. Your subjects are more natural and the photo looks like a moment captured in time instead of a historical docu-
When you're photographing, it helps to have an assistant or someone else that the subject can talk to and interact with. You can also try your hand at some candid conversation while taking the photos in an effort to relax your subject and catch them a little off guard. After all, few people actually enjoy having their photo taken.

Tip 5: Choose an attractive background

It's easy to spend a lot of your time and attention on the subject of your photo without noticing what's in the background. Sometimes we just need a background that will blur easily and not be a distraction. There are other times when something in the background may interfere with our subject, like a pole coming out of someone's head or something that appears to go straight through the subject's body. Unfortunately these interferences are rarely seen through the camera lens, but are always seen in the final image. When taking photos of people it's best to get close, focus, and, if your camera has the ability, use a wide aperture setting (small number) which will result in a blurred background. But as long as the photo is in focus the background can be blurred once it's digitized.

DON'T forget to check the background for things that appear to intersect your subject

DO choose a background that won't distract from the subject
Digital Photography

What is the difference between digital and traditional photos anyway? Are digital photos any better or is it just hype? The answer lies in another question: How do you intend to use the photo? For magazine printing purposes the photo will eventually end up being digital. However, only top-of-the-line digital equipment is capable of shooting high enough quality for publication. Therefore we take all of our photos with traditional slide or medium format film. This produces the highest quality image that can then be scanned into a digital file for printing.

Most consumer-based digital cameras take good enough photos to print on desktop inkjet printers, but you shouldn’t do much more than that with them. They also make it easy to e-mail photos to friends and family. It starts getting a little trickier when you need to edit those digital files. Most digital cameras come with editing software and they all operate differently.

It seems that most people want a digital camera so they can e-mail photos to friends and family. If this is your only purpose then I suggest considering buying a digital scanner instead. Quality scanners can be purchased for only $100 and you really don’t really need anything more elaborate. This way you can scan just the photos you want to e-mail and you’ll still have your traditional photos to hang on your refrigerator or put in your scrapbooks and photo albums.

Another challenge is encountered when it comes to storing digital photos. This process can be troublesome unless you use some elaborate filing system or save your photos on a Picture CD. Picture CD format can be viewed through a DVD player so that you won’t have to fire up the computer every time you want to see pictures. The downside is that getting your photos copied to a Picture CD format is expensive. It usually runs $15 per CD.

Photography can be a fun, relaxing activity, especially when you get the results you want. Take a little time to practice the tips mentioned and see if your photos improve. When you get some appealing images, let us see your work. During the next couple issues of Columns we’re dedicating several pages to displaying photos taken by alumni and Columns readers. Send your photos to Columns, Southern Adventist University, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315.
American Humans

Giving the Gift of Service
M
alnourished babies are something that you see in
pictures,” says Robyn Kerr, senior public relations
major, “but when you’re holding them in your arms
and you feel how light they are, you suddenly realize the mea-
sure of their need.” After visiting remote villages in the
Republic of Guinea on Africa’s west coast, working to help solve
world hunger became a reality to Robyn.

According to the United Nations, Guinea is one of the
least developed countries in the world. Life expectancy is 47
years, and the vast majority of its 7.5 million citizens live in
extreme poverty. The Adventist Development and
Relief Agency (ADRA) works to change this. Their
efforts involve a child-survival project that focuses
on educating mothers about nutrition, child care and
immunizations. This program is helping over 70,000
mothers and children improve and extend their lives.

Last summer, Robyn left her home in the United
States to serve as an ADRA intern for project direc-
tor Irene Ndombo in Guinea’s capital city, Conakry.
ADRA Guinea needed $200,000 and approval by
the Minister of Health of Guinea for the program to
continue. Submitting a proposal to ADRA Switz-
erland and the Swiss government for the necessary
funds was Robyn’s primary summer objective.

“When I arrived in Conakry, I felt a little over-
whelmed,” Robyn says. “My experience in grant
writing was limited to classroom practice. I’d never
actually done it before.” Using the training she had
received as a result of her American Humane
swork at Southern, Robyn began to assemble
the proper forms of a grant.

Office work was not Robyn’s only responsibility. Trips to
project-participant villages and seeing the villagers’ needs gave
her motivation to work hard in her grant writing. Robyn and her
supervisor, Irene, became close friends as they spent time to-
tgether. Irene was once a starving child in the neighboring
country of Cameroon. Without nutrition classes similar to the ones
she now directs, Irene might not be alive. Her mother learned
proper nutrition from a Swiss aid worker when Irene was a baby.

Fortunately for Irene and the thousands of mothers and babies
to whom she dedicates herself, the American Humane train-
ing that Robyn received was the recipe for success. A few months
after drafting and submitting the final version of her grant, Robyn
received news that funds had been secured and the program
was proceeding as planned. The Minister of Health in Conakry
had gladly given ADRA permission to continue operations in
his country. As a result, mothers in Guinea have been enabled
to improve their lives and the lives of their children.

With the motto “To help people help themselves,” Ameri-
can Humane is the perfect organization for students like Robyn
who want to work in nonprofit service careers. Founded in 1948,
this institution is dedicated to training students to successfully
operate nonprofit organizations, and provides a certificate cur-
riculum to ensure student competence. Its mission is to prepare
and certify future nonprofit leaders. American Humane is the
benchmark for aspiring students in this area. Southern is one of
83 institutions participating nationwide, and the only Seventh-
Day Adventist participant to date. While numbers grow, Robyn
is one of American Humane’s first SDA members.

Since the majority of nonprofit positions are with companies
that work directly to improve the lives of others, students at
Southern find it a natural extension of their missionary spirit.

Beyond the logistics of running an efficient organization, this
program provides training and emphasis on service in general.
Impact studies comparing typical college graduates with Ameri-
can Humane college graduates reveal much better preparation
in those with American Humane distinction.

This achievement isn’t left to chance. Competencies in
many different areas of nonprofit work are established through
coursework, on-the-job experience, and various student activi-
ties. These competencies range from verbal communication
skills, conflict resolution and ethical behavior to leadership
characteristics and interview know-how. Many large nonprofit
organizations such as the American Red Cross, United Way of
America, and Big Brothers and Big Sisters of America are affili-
ated with American Humane.

No specific major is required to enter the American Humane
program, but nonprofit administration and development majors
will find many overlapping requirements. When students sign up
for the American Humane certificate program, they must fulfill
four basic requirements: accumulate 180 hours of nonprofit
training, attend the American Humane national conference
at least once, serve at least 300 hours at a nonprofit organization
as an intern and participate in American Humane activities.
on Southern’s campus.

According to Lynn Caldwell, American Humanics director at Southern, these kinds of opportunities are just what her students need. “The nonprofit sector isn’t run only by volunteers and well-meaning people anymore—there are a lot of jobs involved, and a lot of money. It’s a highly professional field,” Lynn says. “Even in the Seventh-day Adventist Church we lack trained professionals to run nonprofit organizations.”

Campus activities that Lynn and her students have sponsored or helped with include clothing collection campaigns such as “Drop your drawers.” Last semester, students gathered over 200 new pairs of underwear to donate to the Samaritan Center, a local community service agency. The annual SonRise Resurrection Pageant also enables students to participate in detailed planning and organization of more than 600 volunteers. But perhaps the largest and most significant activity American Humanics students at Southern participated in this year was Community Service Day (pages 28-29).

Community Service Day is an annual event involving hundreds of volunteers who donate one day to help improve the local community. Teaming up with the Center for Nonprofits in Chattanooga, students spread out to more than 40 area agencies. Through manual labor, child mentoring, elderly care, and other activities, students and staff at Southern give back some of the benefits they have received. This year’s theme was “The Gospel in Work Boots,” and was sponsored by ADRA.

“This year’s theme reflected the idea of Christians following Christ’s model of service,” says Robyn, director of Community Service Day. “We wanted to put on our work boots and be living examples of Christians meeting the needs of others.”

Since so many work locations were available for students, site coordinators were designated for each group. Coordinators worked directly with the sponsors to make sure that everyone arrived together and work progressed smoothly. Many American Humanics students served in these positions. Kathy Souchet, junior nonprofit major, was a site coordinator, but her experience exceeds local activities.

Kathy applied to and was accepted to the national planning team for the annual conference of American Humanics in San Antonio, Texas. Of applicants nationwide, only five were chosen for this coveted position and practical experience of business planning in the nonprofit sector. Working alongside other students and professional sponsors, Kathy learned the nitty-gritty details of nonprofit management first hand while networking with future affiliates and institutions.

“In addition to having the certification in my resume, I now have experience in American Humanics itself,” Kathy says. With her help, the 2002 American Humanics conference was a huge success. Each conference brings together educators, students and professionals in various fields for information sharing, seminars, networking, and employment opportunities. This three-day event includes workshops, a simulated strategic planning exercise and presentations by CEOs of major nonprofit organizations and foundations such as American Red Cross.

Stacey Cran dall was among the Southern students who attended the conference. She is a senior mass communications major who plans to work for a nonprofit organization after graduation. Since joining American Humanics last year, she has gained valuable training and experience in her professional field.

“My American Humanics experience makes me competitive,” Stacey says. “Because of my involvement, I've had training, volunteer hours, an internship at a nonprofit organization, and some connections in the community with nonprofit professionals. And because American Humanics is a nationwide program, I'm not limited to the Chattanooga area.”

With so many exciting experiences, campus activities, and educational opportunities, it’s not surprising the American Humanics program continues to grow. “I wish this program was better recognized in Adventist schools,” Stacey says. “This should be made available to anyone who wants it.”

Robyn, Kathy, and Stacey are just three of Southern’s American Humanics students. Each has her own story, and each will use her education differently, but they all share one goal: a career of service. Working for a cause greater than their own ambitions, they are determined to share the blessings and abilities that God has given them to better the lives of others. ✪
The Chemistry of a Department on the Rise

by Ryan Wallace

Chemistry may be one of Southern's smaller departments, but big things are happening. In the last few years, the number of chemistry majors has tripled, and continued growth is on the horizon. Nearly half of Southern's students in this traditionally male-oriented field are females.

According to Rhonda Scott-Ennis, chair of the chemistry department, this tremendous increase is the result of continued efforts to improve the quality of the chemistry program and increased visibility in recent years.

"It's due to a combination of factors," Rhonda says. "We have an energetic, well-qualified faculty that genuinely cares about the students. We take advantage of our smaller size, and interact with students on a personal level. Quite simply, we have a good program, and we're working hard to continue to improve it."

The close, friendly relationship between students and faculty comes directly from the excellent student-teacher ratio. Viewed as an advantage within the department, small size allows greater interaction and involvement without disturbing scholastic advancement. A brief visit to the chemistry department on an average school day illustrates this.

In Rhonda's office on the second floor of Hickman Science Center, there are no complicated chemistry formulas or diagrams written on the whiteboard. Aside from a few dates and reminders, there is a drawing of a flower, a smiling sun and Philippians 4:13: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." As I talked with Rhonda, a student came to her door. "Do you have any food?" she asked, "I'm hungry."

The student was Lu Litvinkova, senior chemistry major. Lu is from Estonia and loves the chemistry department. "It is a fun place to be," Lu says. "People take personal interest in your life. They know who you are, and they let you know that you are not just another student—you are an individual. In my time here I have befriended every faculty member, and I feel like they care about me as one of their own family members."

Part of the efforts to improve the department include the addition of another doctorate professor. Loren Barnhurst has an organic chemistry Ph.D. from the University of Denver, and he will begin teaching at Southern in the fall. With his experience, Barnhurst's primary responsibility will be teaching organic chemistry.

Loren will join Rhonda Scott-Ennis, Bruce Schilling, and Brent Hamstra to become the fourth full-time professor in the department. Rhonda has a Ph.D. in biochemistry, and has completed her fifth year at Southern. Bruce Schilling has a physical chemistry Ph.D. with extensive work in analytical chemistry, and he has been working in the chemistry department for six years. Brent Hamstra has a Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry and is finished his third year at Southern. Combining efforts, they offer both a chemistry and biochemistry program, as well as certification for teaching chemistry at the secondary level.

The department now strives to fulfill the qualifications necessary for certification by the American Chemical Society (ACS) for the bachelor's degree in chemistry. With the addition of an inorganic chemistry course next spring, the degree will provide excellent graduate school preparation and will include all the course work required for ACS certification. The department's biochemistry program currently meets the guidelines for the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

This is good news for students who plan to continue in graduate programs. "Many of our students use their bachelor's degrees in chemistry to prepare them for the rigorous requirements of graduate school," Rhonda says. The future for many students includes medical school, dental school, forensic studies or pre-pharmacy.

One student who plans to continue with graduate studies is David Cole, sophomore chemistry major from Ohio. "I chose chemistry because it fascinated me in high school. I rose to the top of my class because of this interest, and I plan on someday becoming a pharmacist if God leads in that direction."

Of the academic strength of the department, David says, "The teachers are not here to baby-sit you and give you an A; you have to earn it. Even more important than grades, however, is actually understanding the material. One of the greatest feelings I have is walking out of Dr. Hamstra's class knowing I have a good grasp on what he's talking about."

David and Lu are just two of the students experiencing the excellent academics of the chemistry department. When asked what they would say to prospective students, they responded positively. "My teachers give me incredible attention and I know that they all want me to succeed," David says. "You'll have incredible opportunities here."

As Lu graduates, she'll miss her time here. "I have a lot of memorable experiences in the chemistry department, and I am really sad I am graduating." She recommends Southern to others: "You will get a good background for your future studies, and enjoy yourself at the same time."
Does anyone pay the Bills for the Committee of 100? No one ever has. But if you ask the three who have voluntarily served as the Committee's presidents since its beginning in 1963—Bill Iles, Bill Hulsey, and currently Bill McGhinnis—they would say it has been well worth the investment in time and resources.

Bill Iles' of Orlando, Florida, had never set foot on the Southern Missionary College campus when president Conrad Rees invited him to Collegedale for a brainstorming session in 1962. "We made a list of 20 successful businessmen who were friendly toward the college," Chick Fleming recalls. "We wanted fresh ideas from creative individuals. And we wanted to see if there was enough interest to help meet the need for physical facilities, with enrollment growing as it was."

Seventeen people came from around the Southern Union, and met in the science building—Hackman Hall. "We thought of many ideas that day," Bill Hulsey says, "but Iles knew of a civic organization in Orlando that had established a 100-member committee to raise money." Forming a group of laypeople interested in Southern stood out as the best idea.

That day, all 17 representatives pledged to be on the Committee of 100 for Southern Missionary College, Inc., with dues of $500 per year. Next they determined that if they were going to have an organization, they would need some structure, so Iles was appointed as the president with Hulsey as the treasurer. Sam Martz from Nashville was the vice president, and O.D. McKee was the secretary.

"I dreamed it up," Iles admits, "and so often when you're the one to dream it up, you have to do it." And so it was for the next 25 years. Each time there was a directors' meeting and appointing new officers was discussed, Iles would turn over the meeting to Jack McKee, leave the room, and "go down to the CK to eat breakfast. When I came back I found I had been elected again."

Seventeen to 100 in about a year

The first task was to gather a complement of people who could bring in a cash flow to accomplish some of the objectives of Southern. "An institution needs revenue—auxiliaries," Hulsey explains. "The college had its hands full building its academic programs. The concept of an educational institution without subsidiary income is only half a workable plan. The businesspeople got the vision and understood this need to finance the education."

But where would they find 100 people?
The Committee officers and college administrators partnered with Southern Union leaders to visit constituent cities and towns—usually places where a member of the original 17 lived—Miami, Bristol, Orlando, etc. "We identified Adventist professional people we thought would have ideas and finances," Hulsey remembers. "We had a meal at these different places and presented our proposal." The plan was to help Southern accomplish what it couldn't accomplish on its own. "Our sole purpose," says Bill McGhinnis', current president, "has always been to benefit Southern; and every dollar contributed through the Committee of 100 goes to support the school." Within a year, they had 100 members.
Now that they've come, what will we build?

"Our second task," Fleming says, "was to have a project." The old tabernacle (Tab) was being used as a gymnasium, church, skating rink—everything. GLs had flooded campus, and enrollment was rapidly increasing. The Tab was also becoming inadequate to accommodate the Georgia-Cumberland summer camp meeting. "We needed an auditorium as well as an educational facility," Hulsey says, "and the administration indicated their priority was a gym."

The original idea was for members to commit $500 a year for three years. "The $150,000 went toward building the original gym," Iles recalls, "but this was the mid-60s; $150,000 wouldn't do that today, of course."

SMC was booming. The board voted to limit the enrollment, but the students kept coming. "But we couldn't keep drawing students here if we couldn't give them work and provide housing," Fleming says. So, the next project was the broom factory—an industry that appealed to the Committee of 100 business-types because they could see the potential benefits; profit for the institution as well as student employment—which, in turn, would increase enrollment. The broom factory had been turning a profit, "but broom corn was becoming more expensive and the factory was declining somewhat," Hulsey says. So, they found an inexpensive resource for broom corn, and the Committee of 100 took on the project of building a new broom factory on the site of the old Collegedale Wood Products building.

In 1963, Hamilton County installed what is now University Drive, "leaving our main businesses off the beaten track," Hulsey explains. Traffic was diverted away from the College Store, post office, and gas station. The Committee of 100 then stepped up to its third project—the construction of what is now Fleming Plaza—providing an expanded opportunity for commerce in a more visible and easily accessible location.

The plan was for the Committee to own the complex and rent it to the college for $100,000 per year, and the college would sublet the shops as a source of revenue. That plan remains in place today, according to current treasurer Robert Merchant, and the Committee has kept the rate at $100,000 for over 30 years.

So, the Committee of 100 has two main sources of income each year: $100,000 rental income from the Plaza, and dues from its members—usually totaling $70-80,000.

Recruiting new members

Through the years the active membership has fluctuated between a little over 100 and well over 200 members. In the early years, Leroy Leiske and Southern Union public relations director Oscar Heinrich recruited new members. "Membership grows when we have a project that people like," McGhinnis says. Right now the membership stands at 182, and K.R. Davis remains one of the most passionate recruiters in the Committee's history.

Many ask why the dues have remained $500 a year, when that amount is obviously worth less today than in 1962. "The dues," Hulsey explains with a twinkle in his eye, "bring people in and give them a voice to vote on the project. Oftentimes, along with the vote comes a pocketbook. If you give people a voice, you have a lot better chance at their pocketbook." The Committee seeks to include as many members as possible, and its directors have concluded that increasing the dues might exclude some who have been loyal members for years as well as potential younger members. "We just don't want to close anyone out," McGhinnis adds.

Today—over 30 projects and over $10 million later—the Committee of 100 maintains a commitment to helping Southern accomplish its purposes and realize its dreams. Most of the projects have been 5- or 6-digit endeavors, and most have been brick-and-mortar projects. All have been the result of the collective efforts of alumni and friends of Southern who have done more together than any individual could have done alone.

The Committee of 100 actively welcomes new members—hoping, of course, to keep paying the bills.

Committee of 100 Begins Wellness Center Venture

At the April 2002 meeting, the Committee of 100 board of directors voted to accept their largest financial venture ever: $2 million toward the construction of a proposed Wellness Center. "We think it's very appropriate that the Committee of 100 take on a role in supporting the Wellness Center," current president Bill McGhinnis reports. "The Center will wrap around and attach to Iles P.E. Center—where we got started in 1965."

The new Wellness Center will be a place for students, staff, and community members to begin or enhance a wellness lifestyle. "The current gym has served us well for 40 years," says university President Gordon Bietz, "and this new project will not only serve the wellness-degree students, but will also advance the student and employee wellness programs."

David Burghart, vice president for advancement, is optimistic this project will increase interest in joining the Committee of 100. "Health, wellness, and a balanced lifestyle are widely sought after these days, and wellness is at the core of Southern's mission."
Building relationships with all the right tools

K. R. Davis

When I was asked to interview K. R. Davis, my mind began spinning. Everyone at Southern has heard of him—the K. R. Davis Promenade, K. R.'s Place—the man is virtually a legend! As I researched my topic, I became overwhelmed. This is the man who received countless awards and dedications in his more than 35 years at Southern. But after talking with him, I realized the story of his life always returns to the one thing that's most important to him: building relationships.

Kenneth Raymond Davis has dedicated his entire adult life to church service. For four years he worked as a pastor, teacher, and dean in the Wisconsin Conference before the Southern Union snagged him in 1948. He continued similar work at Forest Lake and Mt. Pisgah academies. In 1959, K. R. answered a call to Southern Missionary College, and two name changes later, he remains a fixture at Southern Adventist University.

While at Southern, K. R. has served as dean of men, dean of students, religion professor, and director of counseling and testing. He currently serves as the president's assistant, a title, K. R. says, that doesn't really explain what he does. So "what exactly does he do?" one might ask. Answer: anything that needs to be done. K. R. has involved his hands in many things around campus. His recent projects include building items for the service department, props for Destiny Drama Company's home show and the School of Music's Gilbert and Sullivan production, easels and tables for the School of Visual Art and Design, and a backdrop for the ASEANS club night.

K. R.'s work at Southern began as dean of men. During those seven years, he formed lifelong bonds with the men he still calls his "boys." One of his boys, Merlin Wittenberg, has always seen K. R. as "above all, a true friend of young people with an undying love for Jesus Christ."

As the only men's dean, K. R. was busy with every aspect of life in the dorm. He even lived in a first-floor dorm room. A softspoken but wise man, K. R. earned respect for being fair. "I got the impression that the men did what was right because they admired him and didn't want to fail him," says Peggy Elkins, K. R.'s daughter.

Though his official job title has changed several times, K. R. has always been involved as a Student Association sponsor and recruiter.

"K. R. is a wonderful asset to have on any team," said Brandon Nudd, 2001-02 Student Association president. "He has designed and built everything from computer desks in the dorms to miniature golf courses for SA parties. The SA wouldn't be able to do half of what it does without his guidance, support, and his trusty tool belt."

Every year, K. R. goes down to Florida before camp meeting begins to help pitch tents and do maintenance work. He shared a story of "some dear lady" he met one summer. She was having a hard time sleeping on her uncomfortable camping mattress, so K. R. got right on the job and found her a piece of plywood to stick underneath the mattress. She was extremely grateful. A year later during Mother Daughter Weekend at Southern the same lady approached him with her daughter who was attending Southern, and she thanked him again for his help. "She had a warm feeling about Southern because of my maintenance work in Florida—it's a wonderful PR activity," K. R. said.

Last year K. R. lost Jeanne, his wife of 57 years. Even still, his commitment to Southern remains strong. He takes his business cards with him so when he meets people—like the man in Lowe's who wanted to go back to school to obtain a theology degree—he can plug Southern.

Recently, K. R. has been recruiting for another project he feels strongly about: the Committee of 100. A member himself, K. R. has been responsible for getting many individuals to join and to give beyond the yearly dues.

After spending the morning with K. R., I felt there wasn't anyone he didn't know, or anything he wouldn't do for the school he loves. Peggy describes him as a "workaholic—he needs to be needed."

As I was preparing to leave K. R.'s workshop, he asked me to write my name down on a piece of paper. "I want to make sure I remember your name," he told me. And thus another relationship was built.
Graduates and faculty honored

Southern's Spring Commencement ceremonies concluded on Sunday, May 12, with the presentation of diplomas to 267 undergraduate seniors and six master's graduates.

The graduating class was made up of individuals from all around the world, including 29 international students representing 17 different countries. The majority of the students, however, were from within the Southern Union.

Fifty percent of the class graduated with honors by maintaining a grade point average of 3.5. Thirteen members of the class graduated with Southern Scholars distinction, which requires completion of a special honors curriculum as well as an additional senior research project.

The weekend speakers included Kathleen Kuntarof, associate director for prevention, Health Ministries Department, General Conference; Philip Samaan, professor of religion, Southern Adventist University; and June Scobee Rogers, founding chair, Challenger Center for Space Science Education.

The Class of 2002 put a new twist on an old class-gift tradition. Over 100 graduating participants placed $5.02 in the hands of President Gordon Bietz when awarded their diplomas. The class president Dan Kuntz said, "We've seen classes put a penny into the hands of the president, but we wanted to give something back to the university that would count toward alumni giving [in the U.S. News & World Report ratings]. Since we were graduating in May of 2002, we came up with the $5.02."

Bietz collected varying denominations amounting to $5.02—rolls of pennies and dimes, two pennies taped onto $5 bills, and several Sacagawea coins. "One student gave me a two-foot-long enlarged check, and I even received a note that said 'L.O.U. $5.02. Call me!'" Bietz said. "It was very generous of this class at a time when they are leaving this school to think about their place as alumni."

The class officers are deciding how to commemorate the gift. They are considering purchasing benches or a large brick paver to be included in the walkway project planned for the front of Lynn Wood Hall.

The university also paid tribute to several members of the university faculty and staff.

**Distinguished Service Medallion**

George Babcock, senior vice president for academic administration, has devoted the last 11 years of his career to Southern. He is widely recognized and frequently sought after in the educational community of Tennessee. His familiarity with Adventist education around the globe has inspired and enabled him to raise the esteem of Southern in the eyes of a worldwide constituency. He has invested his professional and diplomatic expertise in 43 years of service to the cause and church he loves, diligently striving for excellence in the qualifications of his colleagues, in the construction of new academic programs, and in the academic and spiritual lives of students.

**President's Award for Academic Research Excellence**

Alberto dos Santos, professor and dean of the School of Education and Psychology, was chosen by the academic research committee to receive this year's Award for Outstanding Research. Dos Santos has specialized in the teaching of research and statistics and is actively doing research in the areas of education and psychology. Two major projects were completed this year. One dealt with attitude structure shifts caused by conversion in prison inmates. The second was a comparative study of teacher training programs between the United States and Central America. The study of prisoners' attitudes was presented to the faculty of Southern as well as at the Southeastern Psychological Association convention in Atlanta, March 2002. This award carries with it an honorarium of $500.

**President's Award for Excellence in Scholarship**

Ben McArthur, chair and professor of history, received this year's Award for Excellence in Scholarship. As one of the most active promoters for Writing Across the Curriculum and the Southern Scholars program, he has used his love of learning as an agency for stimulating the minds of Southern's most gifted students. For several years he has organized and supervised the Great Books seminar, which is an integral part of the honors sequence. Beyond his academic responsibilities to this campus, he has been an active contributor to studies in his discipline, writing some two dozen articles and papers, authoring one book and collaborating on several others, organizing, refereeing, and editing both within and beyond the circle of Adventist professional thought. This award carries with it an honorarium of $500.
The Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) team from Southern matched their educational outreach projects against the programs of 41 other SIFE teams at the 2002 Regional Competition and Career Opportunity Fair held April 5, in Atlanta, Georgia. The Southern Adventist University SIFE team was awarded the Regional Champion trophy, as well as the Rookie of the Year award.

The Southern SIFE team has been in existence for less than a year and has accomplished outstanding projects and community services.

Students in Free Enterprise encourages students to take what they are learning in the classroom and apply it to real-life situations, and to use their knowledge to better their communities through educational outreach projects. The projects presented by the Southern SIFE team included a trip to New York City to provide financial assistance to victims of September 11 and a trip to Honduras in cooperation with the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) to work with economic development and micro lending banks. Southern SIFE is also working to teach free enterprise to children in the community through games and activities.

Don Ashlock serves as advisor for the team. Ashlock was named a Sam M. Walton Free Enterprise Fellow in recognition of his leadership and support of the SIFE program at Southern. The team is directed by Sarah Matthews, senior English major, and president of Southern SIFE. “I am proud of how quickly the Southern SIFE team has pulled together to accomplish unusually effective projects and to apply the principles of free enterprise in the community,” Matthews said. “This group of students will have a high competitive edge in the job market because of their experience in active business projects. They are already exhibiting a certain level of maturity in their professional image,” Matthews added.

The School of Nursing receives international honor society charter induction

One hundred thirteen nurses and nursing students were inducted into the Sigma Theta Tau International honor society of professional nurses on March 28. The event marked the chartering ceremony for the Rho Iota Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International. The installing officer was Peter Baehrhaus, associate director of research for the School of Nursing at Vanderbilt University and member of Sigma Theta Tau International Board of Directors.

Katie Lamb, associate vice president of academic administration for Southern, recognized this accomplishment on behalf of the university. Phil Hunt, dean of the School of Nursing, gave the congratulatory remarks.

“The advantages of Southern being a part of Sigma Theta Tau International is that it promotes the profession of nursing to students and the community,” said David Gerstle, professor of nursing. “We will now be able to offer educational workshops, grants and awards to current members. We can also further the profession of nursing through research.”

It was Gerstle’s vision to have a Sigma Theta Tau chapter on Southern’s campus, and he vigorously enlisted members and completed the requirements for charter, accomplishing this goal in only three years.

The ceremony was attended by many people within the community, including David Hoskins, president of the Chattanooga Lion’s Club; Charlene Robertson, chief nursing officer, Memorial Hospital; Nancy Haugen, chair, Department of Nursing, Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences; and Judge Summit, of Chattanooga. Mary B. Jackson, professor emeritus University of Tennessee, Chattanooga, and acting advisor of Gerstle, was also present for the ceremony. Among those inducted into Sigma Theta Tau International was Don Duft, graduate of the School of Nursing and 2001 Tennessee Chiropractor of the Year.

Southern Adventist University has had a tradition of nursing since 1956. The School of Nursing offers the associate, baccalaureate, and master’s in nursing degrees. Southern has enjoyed a 100 percent NCLEX-RN pass rate (the licensing exam for registered nurses) for the last three graduating classes.

First Quarter Major Gifts 2002

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Swafford named advisor of the year

Students and faculty at Southern Adventist University selected Carl Swafford, professor of education and psychology as Faculty Advisor of the Year. Swafford received the award at Awards Convocation in April.

“Dr. Swafford is always willing to spend time helping me work out my schedule,” said one student. “He is an active advisor, not someone who just signs his name and wants to get on to the next advisee.”

Swafford was surprised and humbled by the award. “You never go out and try to be the advisor of the year,” Swafford said. “I am pleased that my students feel positively about my planning. My goal is to get them to think and take control of their own academic programs; I just try to be there to listen.”

Swafford has been a professor in the School of Education and Psychology for 10 years and has been instrumental in the development of the Outdoor Education program that is unique to Southern.

“Dr. Swafford is recognized by his students and colleagues as an ‘interested’ professor and a friend,” said Alberto dos Santos, dean of the School of Education and Psychology.

“His willingness to guide and help his students, and to take time to provide the support they need makes Dr. Swafford an example to all. He is a great asset to our School of Education and Psychology programs and we are grateful that he is not only one of us but one for all of us.”

Swafford commented that some of the times he enjoys the most are when students just come by his office and visit without an appointment. “Students need to know that someone cares, and listening seems to help them the best,” Swafford said.

University hosts Rotary event and launches newsletter for Chattanooga leaders

Southern Adventist University treated 160 members of Chattanooga’s Rotary Club to dinner and a concert on campus on March 14. “The faculty and students were honored to host the Rotarians,” said Gordon Bietz, university president and Rotarian since 1997 (Bietz was also a Rotarian from 1982-94).

Russell Friberg, ’72, local businessman and Rotarian, emceed the program. The event consisted of dinner in the Dining Hall and a concert by Southern’s Symphony Orchestra.

Conducted by Laurie Minner, the concert featured a variety of musical pieces, highlighting as soloists, Lori Liu and Julie Pernier. The percussion ensemble, under the direction of Ken Parsons, also performed a dynamic piece titled “Me Tarzan.”

For many Rotarians, it was their first visit to Southern’s campus. Many complimented the university and said they hope to be invited back. One even said it was the nicest Rotary Club event they had ever attended.

Shortly after the Rotary dinner, the university continued its reach into the community by unveiling a quarterly newsletter. The newsletter is targeted toward leaders in the greater Chattanooga community—businessmen and women, government officials and educators.

The newsletter provides information about current university events, news stories, and a variety of articles which inform area leaders about Southern’s impact on the nearby Chattanooga community.
Hundreds of students and staff from Southern Adventist University laced up their work boots to serve their neighbors in the Chattanooga community on April 18. This year, the eighth annual day dedicated to community service publicized the theme “The Gospel in Work Boots.” Community Service Day is a humanitarian effort that propels students into activity in the local community to serve those in need.

“This year’s theme,” said Robyn Kerr, director of Community Service Day, “reflected the idea of Christians following Christ’s model of service. We wanted to put on our work boots and be a living and practical representation of what it means to be a Christian and how to meet the needs of others.”

Community Service Day is one day set aside each academic year on which no classes are held at Southern so that students and faculty are able to spend the day donating their time and energy in service to others in the local community.

The university partners with the Center for Nonprofits in Chattanooga to disperse the students and staff among more than 40 service agencies and organizations in the Chattanooga area. These agencies share needs such as painting, childcare, recreational park clean up, clerical, carpentry and tutoring. After volunteers choose where they will serve, they are sent to...
Work Boots

The term "mission trip" usually brings to mind pictures of brick churches, steamy jungles, and impoverished natives, but for 41 students from Southern Adventist University, the term means something much different. During their spring break, these students not only volunteered to help New York City and its residents recuperate from the September 11 attacks, but each one was responsible for paying their own way.

At a time when people are more likely to be receptive to the Gospel, these student volunteers were able to witness for Christ as they went about their duties of mail sorting, stocking supplies, weeding, cleaning, painting, laundry service and more. They also worked at the disaster site, feeding and encouraging relief workers.

Another activity was Radical Street Ministry, where students witnessed to people on the city streets. Kyle Allen, freshman theology major, was a part of this team. "I'll never forget the reaction that people had toward us," Kyle said. "They were really astonished that we were there on our spring break."

Ken Rogers, university chaplain, agreed. "Most of the reaction we got was really positive. I think there's been a certain openness to Christianity that wasn't there before the terrorist attacks. There are four million people in Manhattan alone, and over one million people go to work there. We can't do everything, but we're doing something."
Southern Goes Out Unto All the World

by Ryan Wallace

The student missions program at Southern Adventist University recently presented over 90 young adults for dedication as student missionaries for the 2002-2003 school year. Traveling to all corners of the globe, these student volunteers have chosen to take one year out of their academics to pursue a different kind of education as they help promote the message of God’s love around the world. With destinations from Nepal to Egypt and everywhere in between, Southern students will work to fill positions as teachers, nurses, evangelists, Bible workers, church planters and literature evangelists.

The student missionaries were honored and consecrated at the Student Missions Dedication on April 19 in the Collegedale Seventh-day Adventist Church. Flags from each country in which students will serve were placed on the church platform. An inspiring challenge by Andy Nash, '94, author and former student missionary from Southern to Thailand, was in turn accepted by Brandon Nudd, Student Association president and future student missionary. Each student was then called by name by Ken Rogers, university chaplain, and given a gift by Sherrie Norton, student missions coordinator. Returned student missionaries from previous years also participated in a candle lighting ceremony, passing the flame on to this year’s students. As the students fanned out to surround the congregation with candlelight, Ken Rogers sang a dedication song.

While serving as missionaries, students appreciate receiving letters. If you are interested in communicating with a student, please contact the Chaplain's Office at 1.800.SOUTHERN or by email at shorton@southern.edu.

In addition to those already serving, the following list identifies where each student will minister:

Upper Columbia conf. (pending)
Greg Creek
Lauren Elendendorf

Venezuela
Andy Chinnock
Jeff Sutton

Yap
Jeremy Mahoney
Alisha Martin
Nicole Moore
Brandie Whiteman
Rob Wooten

Zambia
Mindis Bell
Jon-Michael Brown
Lori Edgman
Straton Tingle

Collegedale, Tennessee
Chad Stuart

Africa
Jonathan Schlitz
Washington State
Brandon Kolbe
California
Nikki Williams
Cambodia
Marjorie Jones
China
Ben Martin
Costa Rica
Nathania Figueroa
Brandon Nudd
Adam Ruf
Czech Republic
Scott Damaroz
Ecuador
Michael Bell
Egypt
Kevin Christman
Cecilia Luck

England
Nathan Zinner
Fiji
Laura David
France
Loreen Small
Georgia Cumb. Acad.
Royce Brown
Guam
Bethany Martin
Guyana
Denise Edwards
Ken Guflan
Jessie Knight
Jama Pombo
Carlos Quintero
Marlath Rodriguez
Tricia Rouse
David Sistva
Hawaii
Danielle Mahlenbek
Highland Academy
Jiffer Proctor
Holbrook Indian School
Melinda Jamieson
Honduras
Jason Guflan
Indiana Academy
Cheris Scakti
Korea
Angela Cerovski
Rachel Lombard
Geoff McRae
Majuro
Alicia Beth Ellis
Neal Smith
Michigan
Matt Mattela
Milo Academy
Jennifer Page
Ella Mac Cuify
Nepal
Breanna Roth
Wendy Guflan
Nicaragua
Kisha Gilmore
Norway
Laura Lucas
Travis Ringstaff
Papua New Guinea
Sara Cowles
Peru
Andrew Korzyniowski
Philippines
Paulette Clark
Christina George
Daniel Martinez
Pohnpei
Michelle Burden
Brad Clifford
Lindsey Ford
Justin Freed
Melissa Harley
Jared Wright
Andrew Massengill
AJ Stagg
Kristin Stagg
Keelan Tuel
April West
Russia
Larry Baxter
Melina Bors
Ryan Trott
Saipan
Amanda Hosek
Seattle
Misha Birnme
Taiwan
Christina Mills
Jillian Sharp
Thailand
Chris Sorensen
Shannon Sorensen
Like each page in a scrapbook represents a story from someone's life, pieces from Southern's past reveal a rich and intriguing history of life on the campus.

One finding was this daily time card from the early days of Southern Junior College in 1919, three years after the school moved from Graysville, Tennessee. The time card belonged to W. H. Campbell, who worked four hours of night watch on December 19.

Campbell was probably compensated for his work at the rate of 9 or 10 cents per hour. If he needed a warm coat that winter, he would have had to work more than 100 hours to earn enough to afford a decent coat, which sold in 1919 for between $10 and $12.

Today the average student working on campus earns between $5.75 and $6 per hour. Fortunately a good winter coat doesn't cost $600!
Bob, Kingston, Tennessee, '51, is retired in Park, Florida. The Birds say that they love helping in their local church.

Otis Graves, '47, has retired in the Orlando area. Otis remains active in the music ministry of his local church.

Betty (Boynton) McMullan, '51, moved to Florida in 1998. Her son, Charles, is a physicist at Lawrence Livermore Labs, and Betty's daughter, Sally, is a teacher at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Her daughter, Susan, is studying political science in Alexandria, Virginia, and her third daughter, Cindy, works for a city councilman in Hawaii. Susan and Cindy, twins, are both graduates of Southern.

William E. Zill, '51, and his wife, Mary Alice (Benedict), live in Apopka, Florida. Their daughter Karen Wickliff Landa is a nurse practitioner in Kingston, New York, with plans to move to Portland, Maine. The Zills' daughter, Kathy Huggs, is an X-ray, MRI, and CAT scan technician at Drew Medical in Orlando, Florida.

Ellen Corbett Zervos Brown, '52, and her husband, Bob, live in Forest City, Florida. They have been very active in missionary work. During the last several years, the Browns have been to Costa Rica, Honduras, Mexico, India, Haiti, and other foreign countries. Their projects include church construction, school construction, medical assistance and health education. Ellen and Bob say they are grateful for such life-changing travel opportunities.

Carol (Hollingsworth) Filomena, attended '52-'55, is happy to announce that her daughter, Debra (Eldridge) Amick, married Ronald Amick. They live in Dehlonega, Georgia, where Ron is a mental health counselor. Debra is home schooling their six-year-old daughter and assists in a music program for local homeschoolers.

Harold Johnson, '53 and '58, has retired from his work as a chaplain and lives in Avon Park, Florida. He has completed over 20,000 hours as a hospital volunteer, in addition to his many hours volunteering with the VSAF/AUX.

Rachel, '54, and Dale Pegel still live in their country home near Marshall, Minnesota. Dale is retired from working as a mechanic for the State Highway system. Rachel and Dale have seven children, most of whom live in Minnesota. They also have 14 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. The Pegels have a small church group in which they continue to take an active part.

Barbara (Eldridge) Klischies, '55, and her husband have a home in Orlando, Florida. The Klischies' have been married for 45 years. Barbara and Herbert have four children and 12 grandchildren. All of their children have attended Southern. Barbara works part-time as a nurse at Florida Hospital.

Robert Ingrum, '58, and his wife, Glennort, attended, have retired to Avon Park, Florida. They are involved in many church activities, and Robert works 20 hours a week as a chaplain for Walker Hospital, Florida Heartland. They have a daughter, Cindy, who is a practice administrator. Their son, Joel, is a university professor.

Richard Young, '59, lives in Longwood, Florida. He has four children and 12 grandchildren. One grandchild is in his second year at Southern Adventist University. Richard has run his own cleaning and hauling business for 29 years. His wife of 44 years, Phyllis, is an office secretary.

Dana (Boyd) Tarnor, '64, has been married to her husband, Herbert, attended, for 37 years. The Tarnors have six grandchildren. Their son, Nathaniel, attends Kent College of Law in Chicago, Illinois.

Judy (Edwards), '64, and her husband, Dave Osborne, '64, live in Sacramento, California. Dave is the ministerial secretary for the North American Division of the General Conference, and he also serves as the senior pastor of the Camarich Seventh-day Adventist Church in Sacramento. The church's pastoral staff of seven serves a membership of 2,000. Dave has been senior pastor there for almost 10 years. Judy is teaching at Pacific Union College in the art department and is in charge of the interior design program. She has been teaching at PUC for nine years. Their son, David, age 26, manages a restaurant in St. Helena, California.

Wayne McNatt, '65, is a chaplain in Avon Park, Florida. On July 1, he will have been a chaplain at Florida Hospital Heartland for 20 years.

Anne (Jensen) Clark, '66, has retired after a 27-year teaching career at three boarding academies. Married three years to Cecil Clark, a forensic psychologist, she lives on a mountain side near Camp David, Maryland.

Penny J. Nielsen, '71, recently presented a paper titled "Literature: A Gift for Enhanced Understanding of the Development of Middle School Students" at the Southeast Regional International Reading Association in Hilton Head, South Carolina.

Ronald, '72, and Glenda (Jansen) Brown, '67, both work at Florida Hospital, where Ronald is director of physician recruitment and Glenda is secretary to the administrative director of pastoral care department.

Rachel (Thompson) Wiegand, '72, is teaching grades 3-6 at Big Cove Christian Academy near Huntsville, Alabama. She is working on her master's degree at Southern Adventist University. Rachel and her husband, Heinz Wiegand Jr., '70, recently celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary. They have two children. Heinz Wiegand Jr. is a pastor at Bass Memorial Academy. Their daughter, Misha, attended, is a senior at University of Tennessee at Chattanooga majoring in chemistry. She married Jason Garey, attended, in June 2003. Rachel and Misha would love to hear from friends at <rachelwiegand@jmu.com>.

Karen (Edgar) Fishell, '73, lives in Grand Junction, Colorado. After 24 years in surgical nursing, she is moving into an expanded role of the RN First Assistant in the Heart Program. Her husband, Dave, is a freelance writer, lecturer and tour guide. They have two daughters: Ashleigh is in college, and Alison is a junior in academy.

Winnie (Johnson) Sinclair, '73, has moved to a nice "cottage in the woods" in Portland, Tennessee. She finds plenty to keep herself busy. Besides trying to settle into a new home, she also runs Winnie's Cottage Design, her own business, out of the home. She and her husband, Joe, have three foster children and two adult children. Elizabeth is married and living in Maryland, and Joe III is doing an internship at a church in California. He plans to graduate from Southern next spring.

Brenda (Smith) Garza, '74, lives in Avon Park with her children. She works at Florida Hospital Heartland Division as a dietitian/nurse educator for the diabetes center. She enjoys singing, cooking and being involved with church activities.

Thomas Reynolds, attended '77-'80, lives in Calhoun, Georgia, where he serves as a Seabee in the U.S. Navy Reserve.
80s Wendy (Cochran) Cook, attended, is now a full-time mother and wife in Oldfort, Tennessee. Her husband is a manager in the receiving department of a local bakery owned by Keebler/Kellogg.

F. George Webster, '82, lives in Lodi, California with his wife Lynne and their two daughters, Amy, 11, and Alisha, 8. After receiving his associate degree from Southern, he obtained his bachelor's and state teaching credentials in 1998 from CSU Stanislaus in Turlock, California. He is now in his third year as a language arts teacher at Fremont Middle School and would like to hear from friends at <galaw79@hotmail.com>.

Kenneth Bradley, '83, serves as administrator of the newest Florida Hospital campus: Winter Park Memorial Hospital.

Doug, '83, and Maryse (Provenceur) Whitsett, '83, are living in Ocala, Florida, where they both work at SICU as registered nurses. They have two children: Stephanie, 13, and Brian, 10; both of whom they say are future Southern students. They enjoy hiking, camping and snow skiing when possible, and they would love to hear from old friends.

Wilfredo Nieves, '84, has been married to Aida for 16 years and they have three children. Wilfredo has his Ph.D. and is working for the educational system in Central Florida. He supervises master's students studying social work at the University of Central Florida. Wilfredo also does some private practice in psychotherapy with the geriatric population.

Karen (Peck) Peckham, attended '84, '86, has two children: Kathy, 5, and Joel, 3. Karen recently became a Tupperware consultant and is staying busy as a mother.

Don Cooper, '87 and '94, and his wife Diane recently moved to Sebring, Florida, where he is the head nurse of the endoscopy lab at Florida Hospital.

Shenandoah Valley Academy. She is married to Joseph Antone, and they have two children: Dylan, age 5, and Jacob, age 3.

Rachel (Adema) Hannes, '92, has moved from Florida back to Canada. She married her high school sweetheart, Steve. After finishing her master's degree, Rachel worked in pharmaceutical research until she recently started teaching. Rachel and Steve live in Ancaster, Ontario.

Kenneth, '92, and Beth (Edgmon) Eische, '93, have two boys, Jason and Brandon, 5 and 7. Ken is a nursing home administrator for HCR Manor Care in Winter Park, Florida. Beth is a recruitment coordinator in human resources at Florida Hospital in Orlando.

April (Floyd) Pakula, '94, is taking a break from the nursing profession to be a stay-at-home mom for her one-and-a-half-year-old daughter, Isabellas. Her husband, Tomek, is the manager of a hotel on the Outer Banks of North Carolina.

Connie (Carrick) Estivo, '94, was married to her husband, Michael, on May 31, 2001, in Maui, Hawaii. Pastor Doug Bang baptized Michael in the morning and officiated the wedding service at sunset. The couple resides in Wichita, Kansas.

Yvrose Archer, '94, is working at Florida Hospital in the outpatient surgical unit. All three of her daughters attended Southern as well. Salone is the chaplain at CUC; Julie is an RN at Florida Hospital, and Fabola is working at the General Conference.

Mark Adema, attended, and his wife, Amber (Williams) Adema, '90, live in Nashville, Tennessee. Mark is a pilot and flies Boeing 737 aircraft for Continental Airlines. Amber is studying to become a certified registered nurse anesthetist and plans to graduate this fall.

Melanie Miller, '99, teaches at Mt. Pleasant SDA Elementary School in Michigan. She recently became engaged to Douglas Allen Taylor, and they plan to be married on June 30. Douglas is finishing a graphic design degree at Andrews University and working as a taskforce dean at Great Lakes Adventist Academy. Douglas and Melanie will be living in Berrien Springs next year where Melanie will work on her graduate degree in education and teaching.

In Remembrance

Myrtle Slate, '31, passed away on September 22, 2001. She died peacefully, sitting in her chair, at the age of 92. She was buried in Shepherds Cemetery next to her four sisters, brother and sister-in-law.

Jane (Ingram) McAllister, '32, passed away at the age of 90 on December 9, 2001. She was survived by sons Bob and Merwyn McAllister; six grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren, and sister Dolly McFarland. Born in 1911, Jane attended Southern Junior College and was secretary to the president, H. J. Klooster. Jane married Kirk McAllister in 1933, a year after she graduated from college. Kirk and Jane remained married until he passed away in 1999 at the age of 91. Services for Jane were held in Colton, California, at Montecito Memorial Park.

Mary Charles (Fogg) Good, '41, passed away this spring at Norton Audubon Hospital. She was a native of Nashville, Tennessee, and a retired secretary to the president of Porcelain Metals Company. She was a member of the South Knoxville SDA Church.

Glen Linebarger, attended, passed away on April 7, 2002. Glen enjoyed golf and traveling and he practiced dentistry in Jacksonville, Florida, for 41 years. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Bankie, one son, six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Rhonda Facundus, '86, lost her cancer fight on February 2, 2002. She was very active in music. Rhonda received her master's degree from Loma Linda University. As a gerontological nurse practitioner, she founded Senior Centered Care of Winter Park, Florida, a firm that consulted on providing better care to elderly patients without increasing costs. When diagnosed with cancer Rhonda began a website, www.rhondafacundus.org, to chronicle her experience. The website is still available for visitation. Survivors include father, Jack; mother, Else; sisters, Leanne and Darlynn; and brother, Jay. Rhonda's Christian faith was strong to the end.

00s Hans Olson, '00, is residing in Lincoln, Nebraska, and is working on his master's degree in journalism at the University of Nebraska.
Don’t you love cliché phrases? How about this one: “The ball is in your court.” It’s a phrase used to tell a person that it’s their turn to take action and that they should not rely on others to make a decision for them. But the phrase is more than a cliché to me. You see, I’m a tennis player.

“Tennis nut” would probably be a better description. I’ve played since I was nine years old. I’m 22 now, which means I’ve been playing more than half my life. My right hand has had perpetual calluses since I was a teenager, and I could often be seen playing with my dad or my Uncle Brad long into the cold winter nights.

I attended Henry County High School in Paris, Tennessee, a school that has always had a strong tennis program. I played tennis all four years that I attended Henry. I was not blessed with an overabundance of natural talent, but I was a fit, healthy kid who played all the time, so I was usually one of the top-ranked players for the school. I maintained a very positive win-loss record.

But, every year, when the season started winding down, the team began thinking about the district tournament. This usually resulted in the same thing: me sitting out. It was not because I wasn’t good enough to play. It was because the tournament started on Saturday.

I always knew that this dilemma would happen, even before I ever signed up to play. I had been a Seventh-day Adventist all of my life and I had always known that I wouldn’t be playing tennis on Saturdays. I just wish my attitude had been more positive at the time. I felt like I was letting the other guys down. I felt like I was missing out on something. I felt like my religion was getting in the way.

I can remember praying for rain those Saturdays, hoping that there would be a delay, and I’d get to play that Monday (because the Baptists and Methodists would never be asked to play on Sunday). The rain never came when I wanted it, and I often wondered why God was punishing His remnant.

While most of my teammates were sympathetic, I had to answer a lot of questions about my religion that made me uncomfortable. I guess I never felt entirely natural witnessing, so I just shrugged and told them the best I could about the Seventh day, the fourth commandment, and, if they were really curious, the state of the dead.

Although I was feeling bitter about the predicament my faith had placed me in, I would also bitterly defend it. They couldn’t understand it, I’m sure, but I would no more break the Sabbath just once than I could steal just one car or start just one forest fire. In the law’s eyes these things are different, but in God’s eyes they’re all sins.

So, spring seasons came and went, and at the end of every year, after the season had ended, everyone on the team was invited to the Tennis Banquet. It was a time for the coaches to honor the individual players for their achievements and a time for the team to chip in and buy the coaches a present for their help. I looked forward to these banquets because it was a time to hang out with the guys (and the girls) but I didn’t expect much recognition. I didn’t play in the big tournament, so what difference did I make?

But during the banquet held at the end of my junior year, this Adventist became overwhelmed by the acceptance of the non-Adventists. Shirley Braden, the head coach, announced the last award to be given. She said that there was one person that was missing, and that one person was important to the team.

That person was me.

“Rob hasn’t played for us in the district tournament because of his religion,” she said. “But Rob is important to this team.” And then she presented me with the Weatherman Award. It was a little joke about my watching the weather on Saturdays, hoping for rain. It wasn’t a particularly funny joke, but it meant a lot to me.

It all became clear to me then. My playing in the tournament would have not accomplished much. I might have won some matches, but I would have lost eventually. I was good, but not that good. But by sitting out on those Saturdays, I had been an example.

Titus 2:7,8 says, “In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned.”

If you are an Adventist who has ever felt like your faith was getting in the way, don’t feel that way. By following your faith, you are providing a service to God. You don’t have to be an eloquent speaker to preach. You don’t have to be able to recite long portions of the Bible from memory in order to minister. When God puts the ball in your court, just do what you know is right. God will reward you for your service and your peers will respect you. ✯
Cort Sommerville, senior business administration major from Maryville, Tennessee, straightens his robe and hood as he prepares to graduate with 272 of his classmates at Southern's commencement ceremony on May 12, 2002. PHOTOGRAPHER: Garrett Nudd.
Alumni Weekend* is October 24–27.

If you know of alumni who have been involved in volunteer service, please email us at alumni@southern.edu or call 1.800.SOUTHERN, so we can add them to our honorees.

*honoring volunteers


Mike Fulbright, ’88
Friday night vespers

Harold Cunningham, ’77
Sabbath worship

Lynell LaMountain, ’89
The Third

Jennifer LaMountain, ’90
Sabbath musical program

Carl Hurley
Humorist, Saturday night program

Also...
Meet the Firms, career fair, Thursday 2-5pm
Alumni Banquet, $15 advance ticket, Thursday 6:30pm
Southern Golf Classic, The Bear Trace, Friday 12:30pm

Find the complete schedule in the Fall COLUMNS or online anytime at alumni.southern.edu