

Cows and camaraderie

Herdsmen Larry Adams retires serving at Andrews Dairy

IN AUGUST OF 2000, LARRY ADAMS BEGAN working at the Andrews University Dairy as a herdsman. In addition to looking after the overall herd health of the cows, Larry oversaw students and taught nutrition and dairy management classes. Before coming to Andrews, he had worked in several other places including Idaho and Walla Walla University in Washington.

When asked what he most appreciated about working at Andrews, Larry shared about his fellow staff members and student workers. Even though it had been his goal since college to work outdoors with cows and livestock, it was this camaraderie with the students that consistently made his day.

Larry has numerous stories of students who left an impression on him. He remembers one particularly petite, athletic student who asked for extra work, and he told her to dig a 4–5 foot hole for a post. “She went after that hole with a crowbar and a shovel and we went back to check on her and I couldn’t see anybody. Here she was in the

hole, digging, and the hole was all the way to the top of her head. She was so exuberant and enthusiastic,” he explains.

Students like her gave Larry some of the best teaching experiences of his life. Teaching these students and watching them learn was very satisfying. “Job satisfaction kind of comes from within. You can tell you’ve done a good job at the end of the day,” he says. “Sometimes kids come back and thank you for your patience that you’ve displayed. Those were the perks of the job.”

During his time here at Andrews, Larry witnessed several additions to the dairy including a new milking parlor, holding pen and barn. He worked closely with his friend and staff member, Tom Chittick, to design aspects of the buildings and milking parlor to efficiently meet the needs of the cows as well as employee comfort.

Throughout his years at Andrews, Larry strived to be a faithful worker. “If you’re faithful in your duties, God blesses. I’ve always thought that was a really excellent



aspect in my Christian life. That was kind of my guiding principle: being faithful and doing as well as I could at everything I did. I think God blessed me because of that,” he says.

Now that he is retired, Larry hopes to do some volunteer work with his church, go camping, and visit his daughter. Even though he and his wife are staying in the area, they may decide to spend their winters in a warmer climate.

Contentment and colleagues

Lee Davidson retires from TLC after 17 years of service

SEVENTEEN YEARS AGO, LEE DAVIDSON accepted a position as an associate professor of teaching at the Department of Teaching, Learning & Curriculum. Prior to his arrival, Lee had been teaching in Adventist education in numerous places including Oklahoma, Zambia and Alaska. After teaching for about four years, he became chair of the department. He also served as the associate dean for accreditation and assessment for two years.

“It has been great to see the students that I have taught here go on to be teachers both in Adventist schools and public schools,” he says. “They are highly regarded and every year we get more requests for teachers than we can supply.”

In fact, during his time here, Andrews became increasingly well-known as a high quality teacher preparation institution. Due to their high rankings, Andrews actively

contributed to and was respected for their input at state-level education discussions.

Throughout his 11 years as the department chair, Lee learned the importance of making the best out of each situation. One of the verses that has always been a motto for his life is Philippians 4:13, “I can do all this through him who gives me strength” (NIV). With this in mind, he says, “I have learned whatever the situation to be content. I didn’t start out to be an administrator, but I soon found that no matter where I was, that before long, I was a part of administration. All I can say is that it is a gift from God.”

Lee’s favorite part of the job was being with his colleagues. Each of them brought their own unique personalities and skills to the department. “I have found that you can learn from everyone. Each person has ideas that can help the department,” he states. “As a leader my job is to listen and coordi-



nate the faculty so that we can always be improving. No one has all the answers.”

Even though he is retired, Lee will continue to work with his colleagues and students as an adjunct professor. When he isn’t teaching he hopes to spend more time woodworking, traveling and visiting his children.