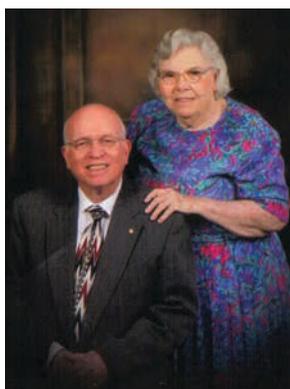




Carmen, Liana, José & Rodrigo Vega



Donald & June Rice

1950s

Donald D. Rice (MA '57) writes from Fort Payne, Ala., where he lives with his wife, June, whom he married June 6, 1955, when they were attending La Sierra College (now La Sierra University). They attend the Ownbey Chapel SDA Church in Ider, Ala. Donald and June adopted six babies: Dawn, Dean, Dennis, Daniel, Douglas and Deborah. Donald tells the story of their daughter, Dorothy.

“June was a prisoner of war in the Phillipines during WWII. She was starved greatly, and had been unable to conceive. After we were married almost 15 years, I learned of the ABCs of prayer from Glenn Coon, and I prayed the prayer of reception. I asked for a baby for my wife and me. I believed in the Lord Jesus. I quoted Psalm 127 where it says that a man’s children are like arrows in his quiver and happy is the man whose quiver is full of them. I said, ‘Lord, I have six adopted babies that we love greatly, please put an arrow into my quiver.’ I thanked the Lord for a baby of our own. In two months my wife was very sick. The doctor said she was dying of a fast-growing tumor. I said that she was pregnant. I had faith in His promise. Sure enough, in seven more months I held my only-begotten child. We named her Dorothy. She weighed 9 lbs. 11 oz. Dorothy means Gift of God. Over the years we served as the General Conference’s unofficial adoption service. We both had worked or were working in Adventist hospitals. We were offered 186 more babies to adopt, and found Adventist homes for all of them.

My favorite job for the Church was in the 60s and early 70s when I was pastor, school nurse and taught Bible doctrines, biology and world history at Adelphian Academy in Holly, Mich.

Over the past 54 years we have been foster parents to 182 foster children. We have two babies at the present time [we will be 80 in the spring]. We are licensed for the next two years, so we are continuing to care for babies.

The Lord has helped me to start two new Adventist churches—in Toms River, N.J. (after a tent effort) and another in Fort Myers Shores, Fla. (from having cottage meetings in my classroom). I enjoy teaching Sabbath School every week and still preach when asked.”

1960s

After 23 years (1988–2011), **José E. Vega** (BA '68) retired from service as a professor of education at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls in June 2011. While at this institution he served as an assistant dean in the College of Education and a faculty member in the Department of Teacher Education. José received an MS in education from SUNY-Albany in 1974, and in 1980 he earned a PhD in education from the University of Illinois-Champaign-Urbana. He began his career in higher education in 1979 at the State University of New York-New Paltz. Prior to his work in Wisconsin, José worked for the Department of Higher Education of New Jersey. José is married to Carmen I. Coballes-Vega, who is still working as a provost and vice president for Academic Affairs at Hostos Community College in New York City. José and Carmen were blessed with two children: Rodrigo E. Vega, a graduate of UW-Oshkosh, Wisc. and Liana C. Vega, a graduate of the University of Oregon.

1970s

Valerie Lee (MA '73), was named vice president for outreach and engagement at The Ohio State University in March 2012. Valerie joined the Ohio State faculty in 1991. She joined the Office of Academic Affairs as interim vice provost for Minority Affairs in April 2010. Later in the year, the Board of Trustees confirmed her as vice provost and chief diversity officer and renamed the Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

Valerie’s administrative service is extensive. She was elected to serve as chair of the Department of Women’s Studies from 2000–2002, and chair of the Department of English from 2002–2009. The English department is one of the largest units at Ohio State.

For a number of years she chaired the University Diversity Council. She also was chair of the University Senate’s Faculty Compensation and Benefits Committee. In addition, she has served on the Senate’s Diversity Committee and on more than 50 other university-level committees.

Valerie received the University’s Faculty Award for Distinguished University Service in 2006.

She has taught at all levels of the undergraduate and graduate curriculum and was a recipient of the Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching in 1993. The author of two monographs and one textbook, scores of journal articles, and book chapters, she specializes



Amy Floraday



The Bradley Family

in black women's literary studies, critical race feminism, multi-cultural pedagogies, law and literature, 20th century American Literature, and folklore.

She earned a BA in English and French from Atlantic Union College, an MA in English from Andrews University and a PhD in English from The Ohio State University.

1980s

Angela M. Bryan (BS '87) graduated with a BS in dietetics from Andrews University and a master's in public affairs, with a concentration in human services administration, from Indiana University. She currently works for USDA Food and Nutrition Services. Angela just published a book entitled *The Fine Wine of Aging*. It reveals how to slow down the aging process by practicing what she calls "the 7 habits of forever youthful people." Her goal is to promote healthful living.

Jerry L. Thacker (EdD '87), superintendent of the Penn-Harris-Madison School Corporation, was chosen 2012 Indiana State Superintendent of the Year by the Indiana Association of Public School Superintendents.

Winners are chosen by other superintendents who consider the qualifications and accomplishments of area colleagues. This year's competition also considered the candidates' ability to exert instructional leadership using limited resources.

Thacker has been superintendent of Penn-Harris-Madison School Corporation since 2006. During his tenure he has expanded AP course offerings, maintained its summer school and added a course in Chinese at Penn High School. He served as superintendent of Logansport Community School Corporation from 1998–2006.

Thacker is a graduate of Bethel College. He earned his master's degree at Indiana University-South Bend and his doctorate at Andrews University.

2000s

Amy M. (Wright) Floraday (BS '05, BBA '05) recently joined the Detroit office of Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP, as an attorney in its Commercial Law, Bankruptcy and Reorganization Department. She previously worked at Latham & Watkins LLP in Chicago, Ill. Floraday will assist clients in due diligence matters and drafting of transactional documents for the purchase of distressed and non-distressed assets. Floraday earned a JD from the University of Michigan Law School. In addition, she is a graduate of the John Nevins Andrews Honors Program at Andrews University where she earned a BS in Mathematics and a BBA in Economics, summa cum laude. She has been admitted to practice in Michigan, Illinois and the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.

Sarah (MSA '06) and **Marius Asaftei** (MDiv '06) moved to the Tampa Bay area of Florida in January, where Marius is now the senior pastor of the East Pasco Adventist Church in Zephyrhills, Fla. Sarah is still working for the General Conference, and has also started a media production company (skaMEDIA productions, Inc). Their two children, Tristan and Sophie, "are growing too fast and loving the warmer weather. Sarah's parents, Tom and Kathy, agreed to move with us as well, so we have the privilege of keeping three generations together."

After teaching for 20 years in Adventist education, **Gary Bradley** (PhD '08), is now an assistant professor of math/science education at the University of South Carolina Upstate. He enjoys teaching and mentoring student teachers. He recently had an article published in the *Adventist Review* (12/15/2011). He is married to **Stella Duncan Bradley** (att.) and has two children, Allison (10) and Zachary (8). As a family they enjoy playing music together and exploring nature. They are looking forward to Jesus' soon return.