

ALUMNI NEWS

Seminarians meet at Takoma Park

In 1960, students at the SDA Theological Seminary weren't sure where they would be attending classes for the fall session—Takoma Park or Berrien Springs. For a year some classmates were on both campuses, thus the nickname, "People of the Dispersion."

(Ironically, 40 years later, seminarians are spread out all over the Berrien Springs campus as the "new" seminary building undergoes renovation and expansion.)

But finally in the early 60s, the seminary moved, lock, stock and library, to a new location in Berrien Springs, and the doors were shut on the Takoma era.

The students from Takoma Park became, by default, Andrews University alumni, but most of them never felt like they quite fit in at the reunions and activities planned for the association. Then gregarious professor, Roger Coon, who attended Takoma Park and teaches as an adjunct professor at the current seminary, asked, "Why not a reunion for Takoma alumni?"

Aided by her colleagues, Leona Running, Robert Johnston, Russell Staples, and the alumni office, the first-ever reunion of alumni from the SDA Theological Seminary in Takoma Park was planned and took place May 19 and 20, 2000. More than 80 alumni attended.

The names of those who attended the reunion reads like an Adventist Who's Who. The testimonies were awe-inspiring. The ongoing service of these alumni to the world church is remarkable. Their re-kindled camaraderie was emotional. Apparently it was a time and place that will never be replicated.

On Friday the group toured some sights in Washington, D. C., including the National Library of Congress, a place many of them had frequented to complete assignments given them by their seminary professors.

Friday evening, in addition to a rousing song service lead by Ralph Workman, Louis Venden presented the vesper message, "Two for the Road." The PK String Quartet provided beautiful special music.

The Sabbath School lesson presentation, complete with a Greek exegesis, was skillfully presented by Earle Hilgert. Wilber

Alexander spoke for the worship service; his sermon title was "The Glory Story: Then and Now."

Roger Coon prepared an overview of the Takoma Park Seminary days by reviewing many distinguished professors from the different school years. His presentation was titled "History of the Takoma Park Seminary: The 'Lengthened Shadow.'"

Leona Running chaired the evening program, "Your Story Hour," when alumni were invited to share what made their seminary experience memorable. There were many chuckles, amens and grateful hearts. Ralph Workman also brought some slides taken during his school days that he shared with the group.

The reunion closed Saturday evening with three prayers of blessing—one for our Takoma Seminary alumni, one for the current seminary, and one for the worldwide work of the Seventh-day Adventist church—followed by the J. N. Andrews Benediction. Everyone promised to attend the next reunion and to encourage others to attend.



REUNITED: LEONA RUNNING (BA '55), ESTHER BENTON (MA '60), EARLE HILGERT (BD '55), Elvire Hilgert and MARY JANE MITCHELL (MA '57) at the Takoma Park Seminary reunion in May.



SONG SERVICE: DOROTHY and FRED BRENNWALD (MA '57), STEVEN VITRANO (MA '58) and LOUIS VENDON (BD '66) participate in the Sabbath morning service.



SHOW AND TELL: WILBER ALEXANDER (MA '57), DON MULVIHILL (MA '59) and HENRY KENASTON (MA '59) examine "artifacts."

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Alumni gather during GC in Toronto

What do U.S. citizens do on the 4th of July if they're in Canada? Plan a party, of course!

Nearly 100 alumni of Andrews University gathered for lunch on the Fourth at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, near the Toronto Skydome where the 57th Session of the General Conference was held. Dr. and Mrs. Andreasen were on hand to greet our alumni, to make a brief presentation about Andrews, and to answer any questions

Rebecca May, director of alumni services, says that it was an honor to host a gathering with alumni representatives from so many different

parts of the world. The international make-up and influence of Andrews alumni was immediately apparent. And even those who weren't U. S. citizens seemed to enjoy singing the Star-Spangled Banner and waving little U. S. flags!



ALUMNI CELEBRATE: VICKI (AS '86, BA '89) and KEVIN (BS '89, MA '93) WILEY enjoy lunch with Kevin's brother CRAIG (BS '89, MS '95) and wife CHERYL (Cronmer) (att.) and kids Justin and Brianna.

Alumni office greets summer visitors

With busloads of visitors to the campus due to the General Conference session in Toronto, the Office of Alumni Services arranged for campus hospitality throughout the summer.

Director Rebecca May worked with convention services coordinator Kelly Schmitt to ensure a smooth flow of traffic about campus and to make campus tours available throughout the peak visitor season.

"We were really happy that so many people wanted to visit Andrews as long

as they were in North America because of the GC sessions in Canada," explained May.

Groups from Europe, Asia and South America arrived off and on before, during, and after the time the world church met in Toronto.



FIELD TRIP: Hundreds of guests visited campus this summer, usually starting their walking tour at the J. N. Andrews family sculpture.

Alumni fun in the sun

On Sabbath, May 27, Orlando area alumni and friends gathered at the Forest Lake Academy Elementary Education Center to catch up with each other and hear news about Andrews.

Lisa Jardine from the alumni office was the host. STARR BENDER (BS '75, former staff) made sure there was great food for all, and ASTRID BERGMAN (BS '79) provided fresh flowers and decorations that made this event especially memorable. This gathering has become a tradition, and we look forward to seeing more of you next year!

In addition to the visitors, several groups, such as Adventist librarians, videographers and other church groups slated their annual meetings and seminars to be held on campus around the GC session.

Mark your calendar . . .

**Alumni
Homecoming**
April 26-29, 2001

**100 years in
Berrien Springs**