

Simply Put

The Newsletter for Seventh Day Baptist Women

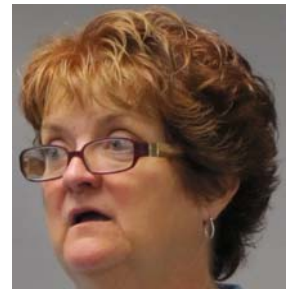
September 2010

Vol. 1 - No. 5

Chronicling some of our 2010 General Conference

The SDB Exec Blog, *The Sabbath Recorder*, our Conference web site, *Facebook*, and individual contributors have already shared a great deal about this year's denominational gathering. Rather than duplicate what is already out there, in these pages you will see photos taken especially for our newsletter, along with details of particular interest to Seventh Day Baptist women. Enjoy!

Victoria Burdick, given very short notice, chaired this year's Women's Interest Committee. She did a great job!



Althea Rood presided over a packed luncheon for the Women's Business Luncheon.

SDB women know how to multitask: eat, chat, read notes, and discuss business – all with grace and good humor!



The 2010 Women's Banquet: The Preliminaries



The Banquet Committee (Cheri Appel, ch., Pam Adams, Marian Anderson, and Mickey Johnson) spent months planning every detail of this year's gathering. They had even "walked through" the evening, trying to think of each thing that could make this particular banquet extra special. Having the Love Gift collection on its own table beforehand meant less distraction during the meal. Using place cards not only identified women at each table but also contained this year's party favors: a pin and a magnet, each bearing the new logo for our group. {The logo, designed by Pat Cruzan, is pictured at the very end of this issue.} Having the Board officers, committee chairs, and honored guests (e.g., the 2009-2010 First Lady, Diane Andries, and the 2010-2011 First Lady, Jo Rogers) wear leis made them easier to find, even across a crowded banquet hall –and seeing these also encouraged everyone to mingle more, since there was no head table.

More than any of these details, however, it was what took place before the banquet officially started that was the most noticeable difference from previous years. The 2010 Women's Banquet began with exhibits that were hosted by members of the SDB Women's Board. Whether it was looking at information about the *Robe of Achievement* with the real robe displayed or chatting with our webmaster who was equipped with an Internet-linked laptop to show the actual web site in real time, women had an opportunity to learn more about the many facets that comprise our Board's work. Next year when we gather at Hope College in Holland, Michigan, similar exhibits will be set up prior to our banquet so that even more of our women can learn firsthand about our various ministries.

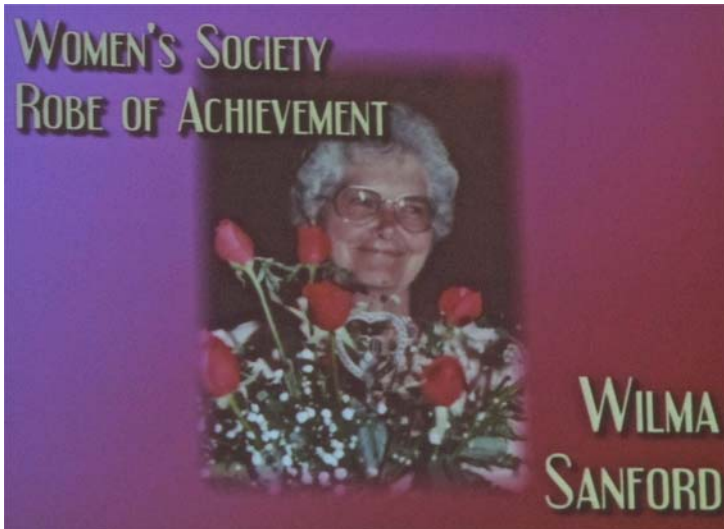
The Evangel University Events Coordinator and Staff along with the Aladdin Food Managements Services did a wonderful job of setting up and catering our banquet. The accommodations were excellent and the food was superb!

The 2010 Women's Banquet: After-dinner Infotainment



Upper left corner, holding the microphone: Cheri Appel who chairs the Banquet Committee

The dynamic mother-daughter duo of Althea Rood and Kristin Camenga took this year's banquet attendees time-traveling through Seventh Day Baptist Women's Society history –even venturing into the future. As they entered each era they described what ministries SDB women were undertaking organizationally, such as supporting missionaries in China and starting the Summer Christian Service Corps. As the pictures show, the audience was captivated. Reactions ranged from serious reflection and appreciation for the sacrificial work of earlier generations to outright laughter at some of the costumes (especially the long blonde wig worn by Althea as they revisited the 1960s and the antenna-laden hats both actresses wore for their lunar visit). What was conveyed so delightfully is our group's history, something we rarely take time to discover. Althea and Kristin have said that there is more than enough material to dig deeper into our history next year. It will be fun to see what they find and how they wind up sharing it with the rest of us!



This year's recipient of the *Robe of Achievement* is Wilma Sanford of the 1st SDB Church of Genesee ("Little Genesee") in NY. She received the robe and a plaque at her home church on Sabbath, August 7. ***Congratulations!***

Summer Christian Service Corps
SCSC

A special THANK YOU!
to all who gave of themselves
in support of this year's SCSC

- prayers
- financial gifts
- hospitality and meals
- transportation
- friendship
- opportunities to serve

The six teams that made up **Team WEAPON** were:

Wholehearted (Battle Creek, MI)

Jon Lawson, Jessica Patterson, Lauren Telford
 {Samantha Fick, Project Director}

Equipped (Colton, CA)

Elizabeth Camenga, Dorothy Noel, Jasmine Patterson
 {Sandra Lawson, Project Director}

Alpha (Milton, WI)

Katie Brown, Katrina Goodrich, David Pottinger
 {Kecia Thompsongordon, Project Director}

Potential (New Auburn, WI)

Daniel Lovelace, Christopher Zema
 {Wayne North, Project Director}

Opened (Seattle Area, WA)

Amanda Brown, Micayla Neher, Jon Pradetto
 {Ruth Burdick, Project Director}

Nike (West Palm Beach, FL)

Jackson Butler, Sarah Lawton, Lena Parrish
 {Jennifer Dixon, Project Director}

The **Training Staff** consisted of: Pastor Steve Osborn (Training Director), Andrew Camenga, Kory Geske, Helen Goodrich, and Kristine North. **Additional Speakers** included: Rob Appel (denominational restructuring), Barbara Green (health issues), and Jon Cruzan (safety). **Special Assistants** who helped the teams prepare lesson plans for VBS, Bible clubs, and camps were: Cheri Appel, Doneta Osborn, Kelli Barsness, Cathy Sager, Kecia Thompsongordon, and Kris North. Serving as **Nutritionists/Cooks** were Vivian Looper and Cheyanne Blevins. (They also gave lessons on table manners, etiquette, and "table talk.")

2010 Love Gift

The grand total of this year's Love Gift will be given in a future issue of *Simply Put*.

This year's *Love Gift* will be distributed:

\$480 Six new hospital beds for the Malawi Clinic/Hospital

\$500 Flood Recovery for the North Loup, NE, SDB Church's Nursery

\$500 I HOPE (Lebanon) Outreach

The remainder will be distributed, by percentage, under the direction of the SDB Missionary Society to international churches and conferences.

40% To furnish families in Sierra Leone or Uganda with blankets, cooking pots, tools, and children's clothing

30% To fund travel for the General Secretaries' wives of the African Conferences who are the women's teachers (bus, taxi, bicycle, etc.)

30% To provide medical supplies for the Women & Children's HIV/AIDS Clinic in Cameroon

Contributions will be accepted and included in this year's disbursement up until September 30, 2010. Please send individual and/or church gifts to:

SDB Women's Society
P.O. Box 1678
Janesville, WI 53547

Be sure to write "Love Gift" on the check's memo line.

Clarification/Correction: Gifts for SCSC must be specifically marked for SCSC. Unless SCSC is given a portion of an annual Love Gift, nothing from that Love Gift will go to SCSC. Proceeds from the Conference Craft Table went to SCSC, not to the Love Gift. The Editor apologizes for the confusion created in an earlier issue of *Simply Put* regarding this matter.

What's new in the orchard?

A Devotional Message by Jeanne Yurke

Based On The 2010-2011
SDB General Conference Theme

... the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.



Conference President Stephen Rogers has given us an interesting theme for this year. While we are probably all familiar with *the fruit of the Spirit*, we might have trouble articulating what it means to be living in such fruit. I suggest that this is a good kind of trouble to experience. In fact, I highly recommend that we go ahead and do the wrestling that is required to find out for ourselves what this means! Here is my own attempt. I invite you to share with me the results of *your* wrestling with this theme. ☺

I happen to think that it's easy to describe fruit, both natural fruit and supernatural fruit. And because it is so easy, we can well-imagine a Conference week spent talking about fruit, focusing, of course, on spiritual fruit, but all the time talking without ever doing anything else about it. Moving from a noun to a verb is a tough thing for many of us, mainly because it takes us out of our comfort zone. So, how can we move from describing to doing, and what exactly are we supposed to be doing?

When it comes to *spiritual* fruit God is the One who produces the fruit. We cannot create love, joy, peace, or any of the others on our own. As God's people we are His orchard, and the fruit He produces within His orchard is like no other fruit. To live in the fruit means to let God produce His fruit in our lives, not merely for a season, but each day, year-round. This is both the blessing and the tremendous responsibility of being God's people. We cannot pick and choose the fruit, because all are needed in order for us to live in Christ-like ways. Similarly, we cannot determine when a particular fruit is ripe other than by trusting the heavenly Gardener to pluck it and make use of it whenever He sees fit. This means that we must cooperate with the One who tends us and yield our sense of time to His. It is in the process of cooperating and yielding that we really LIVE *in the fruit*. The way this "looks" can be very different from one Christian to the next, because God has planted us as unique bearers of His fruit. Nevertheless, there should be some sense of order in the orchard as good fruit is found everywhere the Gardener has planted and carefully tends.

"What's new in the orchard?" Each of us should contain a sense of being new, regardless of how long or short a time we have been Christians. We are meant to bear fresh fruit, so there should be newness in our ongoing relationship with the Gardener. And it's when I take this to heart that I begin to do: to love God and my neighbor.

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How many quarters equal a whole?

If you thought that this would be the first issue of our *second* “volume,” you are not alone! After all, exactly how many quarters *are* there in a given year? Mathematically speaking, the answer is four. So, how did *Simply Put* wind up with six? Well, blame me, the newsletter editor. I thought that a handy way of

numbering volumes would be from the end of one General Conference session to the start of the next one. Wrong! I was told that we had to follow the regular calendar year of January through December to coincide with the Women’s Board’s business schedule. However, by the time this was brought to my attention we had already created two issues in 2009 and two issues in 2010. To label the first two issues as *volume zero* and the next four issues as *volume one* messed up all kinds of systems, or so I was informed. With the help of SDB Historian-Librarian, Nick Kersten, I was given permission (from historical precedent) to have six quarters in the first volume, as long as I started the January through December system in 2011 with volume two. I still think that my way makes more sense, but I was outnumbered.

Coming up in the next issue of *Simply Put*:

SCSC information for the 2011 season

Gleanings from the reports of local women’s groups (as submitted at Conference)

Reprinted items from church newsletters (as they become available)

News from you!

That’s right! We depend *on you* to share something about the ways in which the women in your church are ministering so that we can tell our readers. Pictures are especially helpful as they get us acquainted with one another in our geographically-scattered Conference family. ☺ (Be sure to identify the individuals as well as the occasion. Ordinarily, *Simply Put* includes descriptive captions to put names with all the faces. [This issue is an exception to that!])



Please bookmark our web site {<http://sdbwomen.org/>} and visit there often!

Simply Put is published electronically each quarter.

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