

Regional Conference Retirement Plan

February 2006

Friends:

The New Year is well underway and I am sure as you review the events of your lives, the blessings of the Lord are so great you can't help but rejoice in Him. When you started in the work decades ago the year 2006 was not even fathomable but here we are.



Joseph W. McCoy

The Regional Retirement Plan is doing well. We have crossed the \$67 million mark in funds. We have also more than \$3.5 million in the Supplemental Healthcare Plan and there are 132 persons currently receiving benefits from the Fund.

The Plan is young and growing, and with that comes questions and scenarios that we did not anticipate at its beginning. However, we view them only as opportunities for improvement as we mature.

One question that has begun to recur is, "When will there be a cost-of-living adjustment?" An important step in reaching that goal is an up-to-date actuarial study. Currently, it's being done by our vendor and should be completed by mid year. At that time the Retirement Board will give attention to that issue. Remember our objective remains to only make promises we can surely keep.

Finally, during this month dedicated to the celebration of Black American History, I am reminded to encourage you to tell the story of our overcoming in the SDA Church to younger generations early and often. If so great a figure as Martin Luther King Jr. could become a stranger to many young people today, it is entirely conceivable that Regional Conferences could lose their legitimacy to our own young people if those who have lived its history do not tell the story with vigor and conviction.

So as you enjoy the fruits of your labors as beneficiaries of this God-blessed retirement plan, you are challenged to keep on telling the story to all who will listen, and even to those who will not, until the coming of the Lord.

Peace!

Joseph W. McCoy
Executive Director

Meet the *NEWEST* Regional Conference Retirees

Today, we report that we now have at the close of December 2005, a total of 132 happy and blessed retirees on the Regional Conference Plan. For the year 2005, we added a total of 22 new retirees to the plan. The Regional Conferences have 1,729 workers and their spouses eligible to benefit from the plan.

We are pleased to introduce the *NEWEST* retirees that were added in 2005:

1. Artemus W. Tucker – Allegheny East – 32 years
2. Jasmin Horsham – Northeastern – 35 years
3. Janice Williams – Southeastern – 35 years
4. Leroy Hampton – Lake Region – 34 years
5. Eugene Schemerhorn – South Atlantic – 2 years
6. Ralph Shipman – Allegheny East – 38 years
7. William D. Felder – Northeastern – 35 years
8. Richard H. Long – South Atlantic – 34 years
9. Oster H. Paul – Southeastern – 41 years
10. Ralph P. Peay – South Atlantic – 52 years
11. Edner Corbier – Allegheny East – 34 years
12. Carl Van Sirls Hayter – Central States – 8 years



These 12 new retirees have labored 380 years. God has blessed them abundantly. Dr. Ralph Peay served 52 years at many levels of the world church. May the blessings of heaven rest upon these faithful workers.

We have truly been blessed of God to see the Regional Conference Retirement Plan grow so fast in just six years and two months. On December 31, 2005, Mutual of America gave a one year report and we were thrilled to learn that we had more than \$67 million dollars invested in the plan in six years. This is indeed remarkable, for we are now on a course that will lead to a fully funded Retirement Plan in the near future.

Please remember that you are part of a “Defined Benefit Plan.” A federal income tax favored plan that guarantees specific benefit level. If you need a copy of the new benefit plan booklet, please give us a call or write for a copy.





Healthcare Information



The new Regional Conference Retirement Plan provides an excellent supplemental healthcare plan for all retiree's who are 65 years old and have obtained a Medicare Card with Part A and B. A retiree with 30 years of service can obtain the base coverage: dental, vision, hearing, plus prescription drug coverage for \$192.00, the new rate for 2006. A Medicare extension coverage has been added for \$72.00 per month.

The whole package will cost the retiree (who has 30 years of service) and spouse \$264.00 per month. The **NEW** earned credit of \$192.00 (for 30 years of service) is given to the retiree and spouse starting **March 2006**. Including the Medicare Extension, the retiree and spouse will pay \$144.00, a savings of \$26.00 per month or \$312.00 per year in savings. This cost will be deducted from the retiree's paycheck each month.

SPECIAL NOTE:

The Regional Conference Retirement Plan is not recommending retiree's enroll in the Medicare Part D Prescription Plan. The Supplemental Plan provided by the Retirement Plan offers a much better and less costly prescription plan. If you still have questions, please feel free to give us a call.

A healthcare card has been provided to the retiree and spouse. Present this card along with your Medicare Card when hospital or doctor's care is needed. Request the hospital or doctor's office to bill **Medicare directly**. When Medicare pays, you'll get a copy of the Medicare Summary Notice, and it will tell you how much you are to pay. Request the doctor or hospital to bill Risk Management for the part you are to pay. See address below:

**ARM Regional Healthcare
P.O. Box 10804
Silver Spring, Maryland 20914**



This card will assist you in purchasing prescriptions from your local pharmacy. We recommend that you ask your doctor for two prescriptions when you need prescriptions. Get one for 30 days and one for 90 days. Request your local pharmacy to fill the 30-day prescription. Then send the 90-day prescription to:

**Medco Health Services of Ohio
P.O. Box 182050
Columbus, OH 43218-2050
(800) 841-5396**

You save on the 90-day prescription through the mail order house. A generic prescription will cost \$37 for 90 days. If you do not have the supplemental healthcare booklet, please contact us to mail you one. **Watch for price increase in prescriptions.**

Major Events Past and Future

God is still leading this church in a marvelous manner. We have seen five million new members join the church over the past five years. There are now over 14 million Seventh-day Adventists in 13 world divisions. Thirty-three percent of Adventists live in Africa. We are adding new members at a rate of 2,933 per day, and adding four new churches every hour. The North American Division has now passed the 1 million membership mark.

The black work in the North American Division has grown to 300,000 members who gave \$150 million dollars in tithe at the last report. Behold what God has wrought!

Breath of Life:

Speaker, Elder Walter Pearson is currently running a Week of Prayer at the Oakwood College. The meetings are being recorded for future Breath of Life presentations.



Evangelism Council 2005:

Held at Oakwood College, December 4-7, 2005, was a great season of blessings for North American Pastors, Teachers, Ministers of Music, Administrators and others. This Council is celebrating 26 years of service to workers. Over 900 workers assembled on the Oakwood College campus. Many workers fulfill their required Continuing Education needs. Great preaching, seminars, etc. are available. Dr. Gardner Taylor, the great preacher from Brooklyn, New York, was the 2005 keynote speaker.



United Youth Congress – April 19-23, 2006:

BAYDA (Black Adventist Youth Directors Association) and the Regional work in North America are sponsoring the 2006 Youth Congress. Over 30,000 youth are expected to attend this great congress to be held in Atlanta, Georgia.

The Retirement Office wishes for you and your family a happy and prosperous 2006. Our prayers continue for health and happiness in Christ for all retirees who have fought a good fight and now await the soon coming of Christ our Lord in great glory.

For
More
Info
Contact:



Regional Conference Retirement Plan
7000 Adventist Blvd—Huntsville, Alabama 35896
Phone (256) 830-5002—FAX (256) 830-5078