



Completing the exchange of funds: W. Lester Taylor, Alex Bryant, Joseph McCoy, and Del Johnson—December 2002



The late Frank L. Jones, W. Lester Taylor, Alex Bryant, Joseph McCoy, Del Johnson of NAD Retirement, and Stanton Reed—December 2002



Joseph McCoy, Frank L. Jones, and Del Johnson checking the details—December 2002



Regional Conference Retirement Plan and North American Division Retirement Plan leaders exchanging funds December 2002

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Recognition!

December 1, 2010 the North American Division Administrative Committee voted Denominational Recognition for the **Office for Regional Conference Ministry (ORCM)**. ORCM is the coordinating entity for all of the Regional Conference ministries in common. This is of added significance to the Regional Conference Retirees because our office is located in the ORCM.

The privileges granted to the Regional Conferences for those min-

istries in common include:

1. The privilege of licensing, credentialing and ordaining its employees
2. Award Employee Service Credit
3. Set employee group benefits among other things
4. Having direct access to all denominational services, which includes participation in all insurance programs offered by the Church. Without denomination recognition those services were indirectly provided through a sponsoring local

Happy New Year!

RECOGNITION!

Conference.

Reaching this milestone closes the book on doubts about the legitimacy of the ministries and activities supported by the Regional Conferences through ORCM. It also helped to soothe raw feelings of some of the Regional Conference leaders who did not understand the reluctance of the previous NAD Administration to grant that recognition.

Most of the reluctance centered on the creation of the Regional Conference Retirement Plan. The main issue was uncertainty about our ability to succeed with the new Plan, and subsequent ascending financial liability if the Plan should fail. Additional concerns centered around oversight privileges that the NAD would not enjoy.

Some believed that NAD reluctance to grant recognition was the one thing the NAD administration could do to express displeasure at our successful effort to implement the plan. It also presented a measure of satisfaction to some in NAD leadership who were incensed that we were “allowed” to create the plan.

Despite the reluctance to recognize us, the pictures on the cover of this issue of the De-

“Reaching this milestone closes the book on doubts about the legitimacy of the ministries and activities supported by the Regional Conferences through ORCM.”

ember 2002 fund exchange between the Regional Conferences and the North American Division, signifies that there was brotherly cooperation— when there was no denominational recognition.

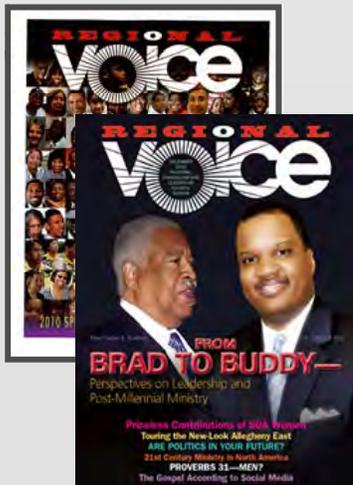
A special salute goes to the new NAD leadership, under President Dan Jackson. His management style shows determination to travel untried avenues of communication and understanding. He appears driven to eradicate small issues that have grown beyond reasonableness, civility and the good faith of brethren in Christ. God bless him as he charts a new course for the NAD; and God bless us as we go forward together with that spirit under the power of the Holy Ghost.



Joseph W. McCoy
Executive Director



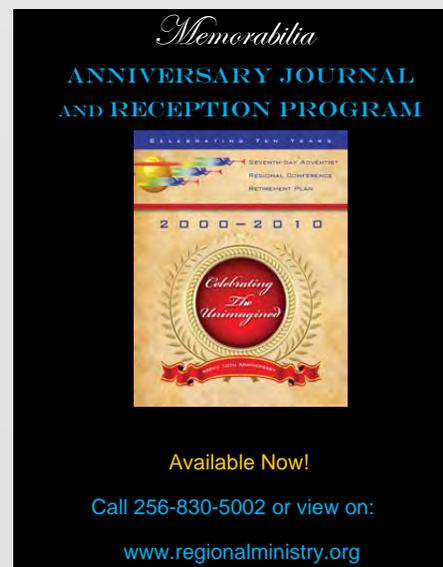
Lift Every Voice and Read.....



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www.regionalministry.org

10th Anniversary





10th Anniversary Celebration

December 6, 2010 marks the date the Retirement Board designated as the time to celebrate our Tenth Anniversary. The date was the second evening of the Pastoral Evangelism and Leadership Conference held at Oakwood University, Huntsville, Alabama.

The celebration was sandwiched around the Monday evening service, beginning with the viewing of a 30-minute video chronicling significant events leading to the creation of the Plan. The video featured the recollections of Joseph W. McCoy, Executive Director, who was the driving force of the creation for the Plan and; Alvin M. Kibble, Vice President of the North American Division, who was Chair of the Regional Conference Presidents' Council at that time.

The video also featured cameo appearances of Elder William C. Jones, Pastor Administrator, retired and Mr. Len Ross,

Department Manager, Oakwood University, retired. Both are retirees on the NAD Retirement Plan. They recounted some personal experiences that made clear the need for the creation of our Retirement Plan.

Following the evening service, the Retirement office hosted an Anniversary reception.

During that event, special crystal globe awards were represented to the eight men of vision and courage (G. Alexander Bryant, Alvin M. Kibble, Joseph W. McCoy, Vanard J. Mendinghall, Norman K. Miles, Hector M. Mouzon, W. Lester Taylor and Billy E. Wright), who were the Charter Signatories on the original document that led to the creation of the Plan. Also given awards were the two

Conference Presidents who introduced the concept to their conferences and vigorously supported the creation of the Plan (Robert L. Lister and Roy R. Brown, both retired). However, they were out of office when the final acts of implementation were completed.

Also celebrated was Donald L. King, president of the Atlantic Union Conference in South Lancaster, Massachusetts. In late 2001, as the new President of the Northeast Conference, King overcame the



Murray and Nannie Joiner (center), first happy recipients of the **Regional Conference Retirement Plan** (RCRP), flanked on left by presenter Terrell McCoy, Secretary Southwest Region Conference, and Trevor Baker right, President of Northeastern Conference.

obstacles that prevented his predecessor from joining the initial effort to bring that conference into our retirement program. To page 5

Support Christian Education



2011 Retirement Board and Black Caucus Meetings

January

25—Retirement Bd
23-25—RC Admin.
Tampa, FL

April

21
Retirement Bd
Regional Conf.
Officers' Meeting
Huntsville, AL

July

31
Black Caucus
Sacramento, CA

August

1-3
Black Caucus
3- Retirement Bd
Sacramento, CA

December

5—Retirement Bd
Regional Conf.
Officers' Meeting
Huntsville, AL

Celebrating African American and Church History

Chronologically Speaking...

"We have nothing to fear for the future lest we forget our (rich, rich) past..."

1797—Sojourner Truth, born Isabella Baumfree, anti-slavery lecturer; baptized by Uriah Smith; buried in Battle Creek, MI

1842—William E. Foy has vision that could have prevented the 'Great Disappointment' of 1844

1865—After Civil War, Ellen White counseled the Church to begin work among the coloreds of the South

1895—Ellen White's son Edson begins the Morning Star mission of educating former slaves

1895—First church building erected for SDA colored believers in Edgefield, TN for \$300

1895—Oakwood Training School established near Huntsville, AL, opens in 1896 with 16 students

1898—James Edson launched the 'Gospel Herald' - precursor to Review and Herald

1901—Anna Knight, first black missionary to India of any denomination

1909—General Conference organizes 'Negro Department' for 900 colored believers

1927—Riverside Sanitarium opened by Nellie Druillard for training black medical professionals for service to blacks

1943—Oakwood Jr. College changed to Oakwood College at Autumn Council

1944—General Conference voted and adopted 'Colored Conferences'; **1945-1946**—six conferences organized.

1954—North American Colored Department name changed to North American Regional Dept.

1958—Oakwood College accredited

1974—Breath of Life Media Ministries founded and produced by Walter Arties

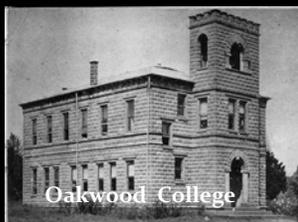
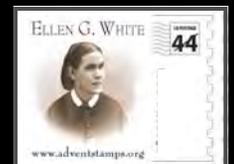
2008—Barack Obama 44th President of the United States of America

2009—First Ellen G. White approved US Postage stamp developed and promoted from OU branch

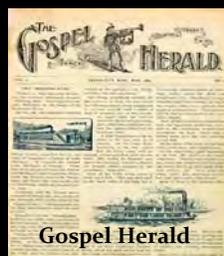
2010—10th Anniversary of Regional Conference Retirement Plan



Sojourner Truth



Oakwood College



Gospel Herald



Riverside Sanitarium Graduates



Barack Obama



More Snapshots page 8



Ramona Young, surviving spouse, shares her experience before RCRP guests.

The Celebration Reception included good food and fellowship. The party was also a reunion of the Charter Signatories and the other Conference Officials that were working, watching, coaching, and praying during the entire process of Plan-creation. The program concluded with testimonies of appreciation from current retirees attending the festivities. One additional highlight of the Celebration Reception was the flurry of activity by the attendees, which highlighted getting the signatures of the Charter Signatories onto the special posters created for the occasion.

Each person in attendance was given a poster and a decorative star-designed, red tasseled, silver bookmark to remember the occasion.

A special salute goes to Fredrick Russell, President of Allegheny West Conference who, as Chair of the Evangelism Council program, re-worked the schedule to accommodate the video presentation and the Celebration Reception. You may view the video on our Website: www.regionalministry.org. Also on our website are copies of the Anniversary Journal and Reception Program. You may request them from our office while supplies last.



**INSIDE
RETIREE NUMBERS**

Number now receiving benefits : **305**

New Retirees:

**Reather Cheatham— AEC
Secretary - 23.7 years**

**Priscilla Beamon— SAC
Teacher - 4.6 years**



2011

**Regional Conference
Camp Meeting and Workers' Meeting**

CONFERENCE	CAMPMEETING SCHEDULE	WORKERS' MEETING SCHEDULE
ALLEGHENY EAST	Jun. 30-Jul 10	Spr: Mar 27-30 Fall: Oct 23-26
ALLEGHENY WEST	Jun 16-25	Spr: Mar 20-23 Fall: Oct 23-26
CENTRAL STATES	Jun 16-18	Win: CANCELLED Fall: Oct 23-25
LAKE REGION	Jun 16-26	TBA
NORTHEASTERN	Jun 24-25 Eng July 1-2 Eng May 26-29 Hisp Aug 17-21 Fr	NYC -Mar 21 Rock West -Apr 4 Hud-Cap -Apr 4 West NY -May 10 Oct 17-19 All Area
SOUTH ATLANTIC	Jun 9-16	Jan 30-Feb 2
SOUTH CENTRAL	Jun 3-11	Sep 22-25 Family Retreat
SOUTHEASTERN	Jun 16-25	Feb 20-23
SOUTHWEST	Jun 1-19	CONVENED

RETIREE REMINDER!

If your bank changes your account number due to a merger, etc., you must notify us at **256-830-5002** of your new account number and routing number so that there is no interruption of your monthly retirement benefits being deposited into your account. This new banking information is also important to send to any companies that have auto deductions coming from your checking or savings accounts. If you move — kindly notify our office of new information. **PLEASE** print new address, telephone number, and send us your e-mail to alert you of any insurance changes - *E. Allston*



**Saluting
Blacks**

In the Military

**African American
History**



Charter Signatories



2000



2010

Celebrating The Unimagined

L to R: Hector Mouzon, former president of Allegheny West Conference; Roy Brown, former president of Southeast Conference; Charles L. Cheatham, president of Allegheny East Conference; Joseph W. McCoy, former president of South Central Conference, presently Executive Director of RCRP; George Alexander Bryant, former president of Central States Conference; Alvin M. Kibble, former president of AEC, presently NAD Vice President; W. Lester Taylor, former president of Southeast Conference. **Presidents missing from photo:** Vanard J. Mendinghall, South Atlantic Conference; Norman K. Miles, former president of Lake Region Conference.

This Month's Q&A Health Tips



Improved Memory

According to Dr. Wouter Rietesma, a Plattsburgh, NY infectious-disease specialist, has done some research on the topic of the benefits of exercise. Making it clear that he is not a specialist in the field, he revealed the following from his research:

One of the early concepts found was that exercise does seem to help treat or prevent early memory loss.

“There were a variety of studies of older people who were having early memory loss. Mild aerobic exercise or light-weight training did lead to improvement in mental functioning.”

Health Insurance for Early Retirees

Early last year the Retirement Board decided to discontinue health care coverage for those younger than 65 years old. Those of you contemplating early retirement may find



Positive results from those studies influenced Rietesma to dedicate himself to his regular exercise program.

“It’s a personal motivation for when I’m tired and don’t feel like going (to the gym): I picture myself at 80 and totally dependent on someone else, and that makes the gym more inviting.”

Dr. Rietsema also said that exercise improves the flow of blood in the body and that can lead to many health benefits from exercising, including a stronger immune system and better self-esteem.

We make this point to suggest that retirees may not have a gym but they do have a street in front of their homes. **A brisk walk each day could do wonders for your memory.**



the following interesting:

“Getting health insurance coverage after retirement is the biggest issue facing workers today who have saved enough money to retire early,” says economist Paul Zane Pilzer in the following excerpt from his book, *The New Health Insurance solution*, reprinted with permission from the author.

family policy, you are in luck. No matter how many medical issues you have had, if you were healthy when you first applied, you are probably still paying the basic premium for a healthy individual of your age. Basic premiums on HSA-qualified health plans range from \$158 to \$252 a month from top name-brand carriers.

\$\$\$Tip: If you are over 50 and seeking individual/family health insurance, it might be better to separate your family when you apply, especially if your spouse is younger. Health insurance for couples and families is sometimes based on the age of the oldest individual, and different combinations of family members to find the best deal. If you choose a family policy, put the policy in the name of the younger spouse so that person still has coverage

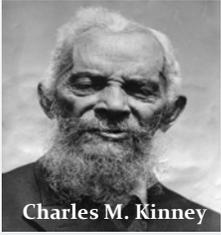
Taken from an article by Sharon O’Brien in the Senior Living section of About.com



It's All About the **MISSION...**

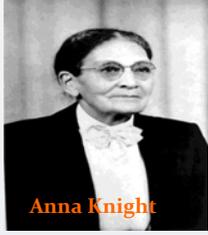


Snapshots of a Great History...



Charles M. Kinney

1889 First Black SDA Ordained Minister



Anna Knight

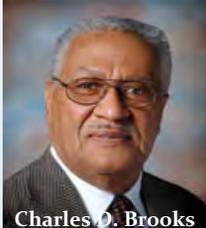
Missionary to India 1901



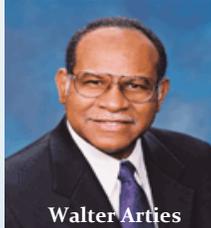
Review and Herald Published in 1935



Charles E. Bradford



Charles D. Brooks



Walter Arties

Charles E. Bradford, former (first Black) Associate Secretary of General Conference; retired as the President of the NAD of Seventh-day Adventists. Charles D. Brooks, elected 1963 as Union Revivalist and Assistant Stewardship Secretary. Became first speaker for Breath of Life television in 1975. Walter Arties founder and producer of the Breath of Life television program in 1974.



Jonathan Allison Family among first charter members in 1883 Company—Edgefield Junction, TN. Became a church in November 9, 1886



Laugh Out Loud...

Hard of Hearing

An old man decided his old wife was becoming hard of hearing. So he called her doctor to make an appointment to have her hearing checked. The doctor said he could see her in two weeks, and meanwhile there's a simple, informal test the husband could do to give the doctor some idea of the dimensions of the problem.

"Here's what you do. Start about 40 feet away from her, and speak in a normal conversational tone and see if she hears you. If not, go to 30 feet, then 20 feet, and so on until you get a response."

So that evening she's in the kitchen cooking dinner, and he's in the living room, and he says to himself, "I'm about 40 feet away, let's see what happens."

"Honey, what's for supper?"

No response.

So he moves to the other end of the room, about 30 feet away. "Honey, what's for supper?"

No response.

So he moves into the dining room, about 20 feet away.

"Honey, what's for supper?"

No response.

On to the kitchen door, only 10 feet away. "Honey, what's for supper?"

No response.

So he walks up right behind her. "Honey, what's for supper?" "For the fifth time, CHICKEN!"

His Legacy lives on through the Power of Truth-filled Preaching...



March 11, 1921– August 30, 2009

1954—E. E. Cleveland elected Associate Secretary of Ministerial Department of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventist. He retired a World Class Evangelist and model preacher for religion and theology students around the world and, in particular, the Oakwood University's Bradford-Cleveland-Brooks Leadership Center (BCBLC).

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Maggie Hopper

Born January 9, 1900 attended Louisville Church in 1911. Baptized in 1914 by Joseph Laurence. In 2006 Maggie was 106 years old. At that time, she was honored as the oldest member in South Central Conference.



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