

# Madison Survey

and  
ALUMNI NEWS



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JUL 11 2000

## HOME COMING TWO THOUSAND JUNE 16 - 17, 2000

ADVENTIST  
HERITAGE CENTER  
James White Library  
ANDREWS UNIVERSITY

### MADISON MEMORIES

By Elaine Culpepper Cantrell  
As gleaned from Ben & Edith Brost

In 1935, I began my journey to Madison from Lincoln, Nebraska. I don't know why I chose Madison, except I had heard you could pay for your own education with the work program they offered. I rode the train and bus, then walked the two miles from Madison.

The faculty gave me a job on the farm. It was more than interesting for a North Dakota boy. The cornfields were long and hand hoed. The mule was new to me and I didn't know "gee" from "Haw." (The mule knew that also.) I was a good mechanic and helped in fixing many pieces of the farm machinery.

While planting one day, my foot slipped off the clutch and pulled the sole from my shoe, the only shoes I owned). I never asked anyone for anything; I just depended on the Lord. I owned two work shirts and a pair of work pants. Before the day ended the farm manager came to me and gave me some cash. He explained the money was for

working so hard. His gift met my clothing and shoe needs.

One day my stomach began bothering me. The doctor decided my appendix needed removing. The surgery and the stay in the hospital came to a grand total of \$37.75. Edith worked in the hospital so it made my stay very pleasant.

Madison was full of study, fun, and work. We were all one big family. Edith and I made a good couple, since I was shy and Edith outgoing. Social events, walks to her residence, and a few concerts, made up our dating times.

After graduation in 1938, I stayed at Madison for six months with no real plans in mind. E. A. Sutherland came to me with a letter from the TVA chairman. The chairman wanted married couples and I wasn't married. I didn't give his proposal any more thought. Several months later, the chairman came to Madison and wanted to talk with me. When I explained that I wasn't married, he asked if I had any prospects. I introduced him to Edith. As a result, Edith and I became engaged. (now we could hold hands legally).

Edith and I married and left Madison for Celo, North Carolina to start Celo community, Inc., which is another story in itself.

At Celo, I used all my knowledge and skills from Madison and more. I'll always be grateful to Madison for my education, and for my Edith.



Gladys M. Lowder

### Portrait of An Early Graduate

By Elsie Stinchfield Brownlee, N '60

Gladys joined the first class in the newly formed School of Nursing at Fletcher, North Carolina. At the beginning of her third year, it was discovered that the school was

not able to meet all the requirements of the Board of Nursing Education so she made arrangements to transfer to Madison for her last nine months.

Gladys has a very interesting school history as she was the first boarding student to arrive in September of 1920 to attend the Naples Agriculture and Normal School near Fletcher, North Carolina. She remembers living in a tent cottage.

It was here that she met her, husband, T. Coy Lowder, who was also a student and they were married in 1923. They had both become workers at the school and when Gladys transferred to Madison to finish her Nurses training she had a seven year old daughter that she sent to her sister in Ohio and her husband stayed at Fletcher.

The time passed quickly and soon it was time for graduation in May of 1932. They had chosen a speaker from Peabody College but he never showed up. The class officers and faculty advisor scurried to another room to have a committee meeting and decided Dean W. E. Straw should give the commencement address.

Gladys tells that she remembers what he said. His text was Esther 4:14 *"and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"*

She had taken her State Board in Tennessee and passed, but to her dismay, North Carolina would not accept her credits from Madison and she was not able to get reciprocity in North Carolina so she began working in Hydrotherapy where she had worked before.

In 1935 Gladys graduated from academy at Fletcher since they had only had ten grades in their earlier years.

In 1941 Mrs. Elsie Brownsberger, the Director of the School of Nursing at the Mountain Sanitarium and Hospital at Fletcher conceived the idea that Gladys should go to Cook County Hospital in Chicago, for nine months post-graduate work in order to become a registered nurse in North Carolina.

At Cook County she was scheduled to take, Medical - Surgical Nursing, Pediatrics, Communicable diseases, — everything except Obstetrics, yet Obstetrics was what she was short in and the reason North Carolina would not accept Madison's credits.

When she sent her credits in for reciprocity, they still would not accept them because of the lack of Obstetrics.

She was so disappointed that she would never go anywhere again even if she never got reciprocity.

In 1943 Mrs. Brownsberger persuaded her to go to Duke University for three months to take obstetrics. Finally in 1943 she did get reciprocity in North Carolina.

At that time she took charge of Nursing Service and continued in that position until 1948.

When Mrs. Lew Wallace, Director of Nursing, left she took charge of that and continued to do both until 1963.

She says she had many pleasant years working with the students, until 1970 when she resigned. She says she personally knew every student that had enrolled in the School of Nursing.

She was presented a plaque for 46 years of service in the Fletcher Institution at the time she resigned. She did not retire but worked full or part time for another ten years until she had a freak accident and fractured a hip.

She says that all she accomplished in those years she owes to Madison College and Fletcher.

Her favorite quotation, *"God never leads His children otherwise than they would choose to be led, if they could see the end from the beginning, and discern the glory of the purpose which they are fulfilling as co-workers with Him.*

Desire of Ages 225

Gladys is still going. A petite little lady walking with a cane. She enjoys going to church and to alumni meetings where she greets her former students. Gladys was 98 years old on October 19, 1999 and is looking forward to meeting each student, graduate, worker, and friend in the earth made new. I'm glad that Gladys is one of my special friends.

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### FROM THE PRESIDENT OF TCMC Clirt Kreitner

Every day in the life of Tennessee Christian Medical Center's healing ministry provides countless opportunities to witness on behalf of the Lord we serve. We get lots of feedback in the form of both complaints (which we regard as opportunities for improvement) and compliments. For example, we recently received the following letter from a patient's mother. "My experience at Tennessee Christian Medical Center during the recent illness of my son has made a definite impact on my faith. I knew that there was a God, but having grown up in the Moslem faith, did not always feel the personal touch. Through encounters with the loving



loving staff at TCMC, I had a realization about the true depth of God's love.

My son was in a diabetic coma for three weeks at Vanderbilt Medical Center. After three weeks he was transferred to TCMC. On the first night I attempted to come in and visit my son, but was not allowed to see him because of visitation hours being over. My son had just been removed from life support, and I was terrified that he would die. The following morning I went to the hospital early, and stopped by the Resource Center. Marilyn was there early, and sensed my distress and need. She asked me if I would like to pray with her. During the prayer, I felt the arms of God soothing my fears. I had numerous other visits to the library, and found both Rebecca and Marilyn very supportive and loving. I truly appreciate the Godly love I feel from your hospital. I have shared with my son how the love I feel at TCMC is unconditional and nonjudgmental. He is interested in finding out more about Christianity. In the past he has been soured by overzealous Christian people who showed condemnation and hatred to him. He is open to learning more about Christianity because of my experience, as well as his own personal experience in the Resource Center."

Here is an example of how two of our staff members showed tender Christian love and compassion to an anxious mother in the normal course of their work. They have planted a seed that the Holy Spirit can harvest in His time and in His way.

It often seems that the most effective moments in our ministry are based on the little things. The other day a woman called to tell me how

much she appreciates the way our staff members answer the telephone when she calls TCMC. She said she always has the feeling that we care about her and her needs, and contrasted our manner with that of other hospitals whose telephone manner she characterized as brusque and uninterested.

I relate these experiences not to be boastful, but rather to share some of the tangible evidence we receive that notes the impact of our God given mission on peoples lives. I often remind staff that we are a flesh and blood demonstration of Christianity to the people with whom we come in contact. It is both a wonderful privilege and an awesome responsibility.

A recent survey of our Medical Staff indicated that TCMC's Christian mission orientation influences 45 percent of these physicians to care for their patients at TCMC rather than at other hospitals. This might not seem as high as you might want, but other factors, including powerful economic forces, greatly influence where physicians admit their patients. Further, 57 percent of the physicians indicated that our spiritual mission has a positive impact on their patients. One day I would like to see these percentages closer to 100 percent.

You can tell from the newspapers that hospitals and physicians are experiencing tremendous pressure in today's environment. TCMC is not immune from that pressure, so we solicit an interest in your prayers as we continue to aspire to be a beacon of Christian hope and healing to those who live in our region. We are always happy to see you on campus

and look forward to the next time we can visit together. (Some are asking what the relationship is with Baptist Hospital. Mr. Kreitner, himself personally told me that the only relationship is the joint ownership of the new office main entrance building.)

## HIGHLAND HISTORICAL MARKER DEDICATION

By Albert Dittes

To honor and recognize the work of Seventh-day Adventists in the Portland, Tenn., area, the local historical society developed a marker telling the early story of the Adventist community there.

Several descendants of the founding families and those who continued Adventist work at Fountain Head participated in the unveiling ceremony November 21, 1999. The mayor of Portland and the president of the Highland Rim Historical Society also spoke at the dedication ceremony.

The marker recognized the role of Ellen White and Madison in starting the school and sanitarium at what was then Fountain Head. The institutions later developed into Highland Elementary School, Highland Academy, Highland Manor Nursing Home and Tennessee Christian Medical Center/Portland. The founder, Braden Mulford, was one of the first Madison students to go out and start a school on his own.

The marker text reads as follows: "This community's roots began with the 19th century rise of the Seventh-day Adventist movement. Ellen White, one of the founders of Adventism, advocated church members start work in the South. Their mission included spreading Christianity through teaching agriculture methods and healthful

living to the community and providing work-study opportunities for youth. To this end, a school began .3 mile east of here in 1907, a church in 1909 and a sanitarium in 1913.

“Braden and Pearl Mulford, with Forrest and Lulu West, started Fountain Head Industrial School and Sanitarium as extensions of an Adventist school begun at Madison, Tennessee, in 1904. The sanitarium was destroyed by fires in 1928 and 1935. Russell Crutcher supervised the second rebuilding. By 1940, the new facility opened with Dr. Reuben Johnson as medical director. The Kentucky-Tennessee Conference of SDA assumed management in 1945, renaming the institution Highland Academy and Highland Hospital.”

The local Highland Rim Historical Society organized a committee to research and write the copy for this marker. Members were Betty and Jennings Crutcher, Albert Dittes and Tom Huntress of the Highland Adventist community and Bettye Glover, president and Polly Kepley of the Highland Rim Historical Society.

The Tennessee Historical Commission approved the project, and the Tennessee Department of Transportation workers erected the marker at the Highway 109 right of way entrance to the Highland campus.

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## HOW THE MADISON COLLEGE BUILDINGS WERE NAMED

**Williams Hall:** Named in honor of Hattie Williams, deceased first wife of Edgar Andrus Williams of

Bradford, Pennsylvania. Edgar Williams had been a student at Battle Creek College, in Michigan at the time E. A. Sutherland was there. They were friends. Dr. Bralliar, solicitor of funds, received \$15,000 from a Nashville business man, \$8,000 more from individuals, \$10,000 from the General Conference, an unidentified amount from the Ky-Tenn. Conference and Southern Union conference, and an unknown generous amount to finish the construction by Edgar Williams, of Bradford, PA. The students of Madison College raised \$1,000 to purchase a slightly used stainless steel steam deck and serving counter. **Bralliar Hall:** This classroom and laboratory building constructed of native stone was fondly known for years as the SCIENCE BUILDING. The architect was the institution's building-superintendent, Horace E. Standish. Mr. Standish designed and supervised the construction of most of the college buildings..

**Droll House:** Built of native limestone this building, completed in 1932, was the home of Dr. George A. & Lydia Sutherland Droll and was situated directly across the road from the Sanitarium. The Madison College Alumni Assoc. used this building for a time and moved to present location when the Droll house was demolished.

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## MY STORY

Joyce Jones Merrifield, N '50

I had just finished my junior year at Bonnerdale Academy in Bonnerdale, Arkansas. My mother had learned that I could attend Madison Academy. My aunt, Margaret Bull

Pride, was in the nursing class of 1945. She was home on vacation so my mother packed me up and sent me back to Madison with my aunt to finish academy. I graduated in 1945 with Mavis Savage Sutherland and Shaen Sutherland. I graduated from the nursing course in 1950. I spent many hours of fun and work at Madison. I made friends that I have had since and my days at Madison are remembered with fondness.

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Audrey Bursley Trevor, N '50

I had always dreamed of being a nurse with a good education yet my parents were farmers and money was always in demand. I was taught that if you earned it, an education would be appreciated more. My mother had been a student at Madison and worked canning blackberries. She did missionary work in the surrounding area with Miss DeGraw. My mother felt that this would be an excellent atmosphere where her first born could get an education. I worked as a waitress to get money for my entrance fee.

I was put on a train for Madison, Tennessee. I waited for hours for someone to come pick me up at

L & N train station in Nashville. Finally Mr. Matthews arrived dressed in barn boots and overalls. He had just come from milking. If I had had the money, Virginia Denler from Wisconsin who had also been waiting, and I would have turned around and gone back home. God knew best and two tired soldiers went to a bare dorm room late at night to start this new life. I was able to work and pay all of my expenses. Homesickness hit hot and heavy but



with much encouragement from my parents things got much better and I graduated from nursing with flying colors. (Audrey married L. C. Trevor and remains in the Nashville area. She worked for many years in the nursing field.)

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**Beatrice Lay Dunn, N '50,  
 Anes. '55**

I did not know that Madison even existed until I met and married

F. J. Dunn at La Sierra University in California. He was a former student at Madison. Of course he told me a lot about it and while we were still here in California, he took me to several "Madisonite get togethers" in Los Angeles etc. I was intrigued by the camaraderie shown in these groups and said "Self, you need to be a part of this."

When ready to start training we found out that a sister-in-law, Eleanor Speaker, was Director of Nurses at Madison and she invited us to come and stay with her until we could get settled. And so I was "in."

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**Fletcher Academy**

By

**Elsie Stinchfield Brownlee**

Nursing Class of 1950

Past President, M. C. A. A.

Board Member

Current Vice-president M. C. A. A.

**F**letcher Academy is a self-supporting school that was founded on the same principles as Madison.

The land for Fletcher was purchased in early 1910 for \$5,750. The purchase price included only the real estate, no furniture or cattle.

It was a run down plantation of 416 acres belonging to a J. F. Byers

and parties near Naples, North Carolina.

The individuals named as trustees on the deed dated 11 March 1910, were: Martha E. Rumbaugh, Edward A. Sutherland, R. L. Williams, Percy T. Magan, and Sidney Brownsberger.

Shortly after the purchase the Brownsberger family moved all their possessions and cattle out to the plantation and were joined by the A. W. Spauldings.

The only place to live was in the old plantation house and it needed many repairs. All moved in and made repairs as they could.

The minutes show that the first meeting of the now named Naples Agricultural and Normal School Board of Trustees convened in Fletcher, North Carolina at 9:45 A.M. on Monday, September 6, 1910. Present, Mrs. Rumbaugh, Sidney Brownsberger and E. A. Sutherland. Five people were invited to be present: Mr. & Mrs. F. J. Hall, Mr. & Mrs. A. W. Spaulding, and Mrs. Sidney Brownsberger.

The first action taken at this meeting was to vote the objective of the projected institution. Which was to conduct a training school for "Christian Workers" in connection with a medical work for the training of workers and the care of the sick.

To be self-supporting was the goal. Many trials and hardships were experienced and overcome during the early years with the Lord's leading and blessing, and the encouragement of Ellen G. White.

With monetary help from Mrs. Rumbaugh and others and later the Layman Foundation they worked toward their goal.

The first workers received five cents an hour, students ten cents an hour. All ate their meals in the plantation house

The first church was formed on April 20, 1911, and was called the Naples School church with thirteen members.

The first school calendars were issued in 1913 in the name of Naples Agriculture and Normal School.

The sanitarium work started in 1916.

In the church record for February 14, 1920 was stated, "The church desires to have the name changed from Naples church to Fletcher Church."

The school name was also changed at some point to Asheville Agricultural School in the 1940s and at a later date to Fletcher Academy.

The paper, "*The Voice of Fletcher Academy September 1999*" says: For the eighty-ninth time in their closely linked histories, the doors of Captain Gilmer Elementary and Fletcher Academy opened with 109 Elementary and 132 academy students.

Fletcher Academy Principal, Chuck Workman says he sees nothing but good things in store for the coming year.

On the weekend of October 1-3, 1999 Fletcher Academy celebrated Fletcher Alumni weekend..

It started at 5:30 PM with an Alumni Reception and Registration in the second floor Band Room of the Fletcher Academy Chapel.

The food was delicious and the renewing and visiting with old friends, meeting new friends was a joyous occasion and cameras were flashing all around and many squeals

of happiness and delight.

Friday Evening Vespers was in the Academy Chapel at 7:30PM with the honor class of 1989, the ten year class, having the services.

Sabbath Morning, we all assembled at the Fletcher S. D. A. Church for the Sabbath services, .At 9:15AM Sabbath School was conducted by the class of 1974. The twenty-five year honor class.

During intermission between Sabbath School and Church the Fletcher Academy Band played and the Academy Choir sang.

The Alumni welcome was given by Bill Holt, class of '85.

Scholarships were presented by Chuck Workman, the principal, and Pauline Hill Lowe, class of '59.

Mrs. Lowe challenged all the Fletcher Alumni members to get an envelope and write on it "For Fletcher Academy" and put a dollar per week in the envelope and bring it to homecoming next year. Fifty-two dollars in each envelope to be used for scholarships and academy needs.

The church service was conducted by the class of '49—the fifty year class. The message, "Be the Best of Whatever You Are."

After the church service the traditional Alumni Potluck was downstairs in the fellowship hall.

At 2:00PM there was a concert in the church sanctuary given by the Fletcher and Hutchinson families and other "Fletcher Pioneers."

These families lived in the surrounding mountain area of the school and touched the school in many ways. Members of the families helped with the construction work and their children attended the school and nursing school.

At 3:00PM the Heritage Room in the academy administration was open for people to visit and see the memorabilia it contained from days gone by and from the School of Nursing that closed in the mid 1980s.

Sabbath vespers were held in the Fletcher Academy Chapel at 6:45PM by the class of 1939 the sixty year class. There were five class members present, three girls and two boys of the class and their theme was, "Friends Friendships."

Saturday night at eight there was recreation on the Fletcher Academy Field.

On Sunday morning at 8:30 the academy cafeteria served the "Alumni Breakfast." Tables were set up for ninety people and they kept coming and coming. Places were added at the ends of the three long thirty capacity tables and a small display table was cleared and eight places set up there. Extra chairs were placed at the back of the room.

About nine we finally started going through line for our breakfast. It was like going to Shoney's breakfast bar, only better ! We didn't run out of food but I saw several that had no place to sit. About 9:45 the business meeting began and needs of the school were presented and the amount of funds in hand. This amounted to over \$7,000 and it was voted to give it to the school to be applied toward a new van for transporting students to different activities. The classes of '58 and '59 got together and bought one hundred forty-four new trays for the cafeteria at an approximate cost of \$800.

I had to leave at ten to keep an appointment twenty-five miles away at 10:50. I don't know how the

business meeting ended. They had not even begun to talk about the Lelia Patterson Center, the new recreational facility being built for academy and community use.

Praise God for our schools and the dedication of the leaders and the friendships we make.

Fletcher is a self-supporting academy and the principal told us they now have 140 students. He says, "Excited students are your best recruiters. Students want to come to a school where they are happy, learning, involved, and spiritually enriched."

I heard that two hundred seventy - seven alumni registered and not all that came registered. What a school spirit and backing. I know Madison college is no more, but Madison lives on in these schools and I hope the Madison Alumni will wake up and uphold the Madison College Spirit and our Alumni Association. We still get calls wanting to know about Madison's self-supporting plan.

Madison was an institution inspired and led by God and it's impact has been worldwide. Let's do our best to keep the concept going until our Lord's return.

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## Homecoming 2000

There is no on campus housing unless you are staying with friends. There are several nearby motels and for your convenience, I list the motels and the toll free reservation number of each. They are all within a block or two of each other. They are within two miles of a major shopping mall. There are several eating establishments in the area. The TN. Christian Medical Center(Madison Hospital) is 6 -7 miles away. Our



meetings are held in the Madison Campus Seventh-day Adventist church which is across the road from the hospital.

Madison Area exit 95, Old Hickory Blvd (State 45)

Madison Inn 118 Emmet Ave. In Madison 1-800-821-4148

Friendship Inn 625 Gallatin Pike North 1-615-865-2323

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I-65 N, exit 97, Long Hollow Pike area

Baymont Inn, 120 Cartwright Ct. 1-800-301-0200

Comfort Inn, Conference Dr. 1-800-228-5150

Econolodge Rivergate, Long Hollow Pike 1-800-553-2666

Hampton Inn, Northgate Cir. 1-800-426-7866

Holiday Inn Express, Conference Dr. 1-800-465-4329

Motel 6, 328 Cartwright, 1-800-466-8356

Red Roof Inn, Long Hollow Pike 1-800-843-7663

Shoney's Inn, Long Hollow Pike 1-800-222-2222

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Exit 96-Two Mile Pike

Super 8, 622 Two Mile Parkway 1-800-800-8000

I advise early reservation to be certain of having lodging.

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### A Pioneer

Did you know that Sallie V. Sutherland taught German at Battle Creek College, Art at Walla Walla and German and art at Battle Creek again. She taught German at Madison too.

She co-led in four great reforms in the Seventh-day Adventist Denomination. 1) Non flesh diet. 2) Opening of church schools. 3) Movement of practical education from cities into the country. 4) The union of sanitarium work with school work under one management.

She was one of the first teachers in Cooking and Home Economics in any of our colleges. She conducted the vegetarian cafeteria in Nashville for five years. Extracted from the Peptimst Crier February 9, 1938, page 3, column 3

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### More of Homecoming June 1999 CLASS OF 1949

**Lucy DePas Zetko:** There were ten in our class. Five have been laid to rest. I'm happy the Mays are here. They were our class sponsors. I appreciate my training at Madison. I have many memories of Madison. It has been a long fifty years but it went fast. I am thankful the Lord has given me strength to keep working. I am working full-time, sometimes over-time. I work the night shift at Friendship Manor at Pewee Valley. I hope I can quit one of these days. It has been good to be home again.

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### Class of 1955

**Reuben Perales:** I came to Madison in 1951. I flew from Puerto Rica to Miami and rode the bus all the way to Nashville where the Dean of Women picked us up. There were several years of hard work and a lot of fun. In 1953 I met Pat Gaulding and in 1957 we married. After several more years here on the campus we moved to Dickson, TN where we have been for 33 years.

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### Class of 1957

**Pat Gaulding Perales:** I came here from Paris, Tennessee in 1953 and graduated in 1957. We have four sons and 11 grandchildren and most of our children live in the area.

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### Others of the Fifties

**Lois Bale Cheever, N '51, "Larry" Cheever, N '51, BS '52, Anes. '54:** I will speak for Larry first. After we took nurses training he went ahead and took anesthesia. He worked at that until 1990 when he was going to be 70. He had said that when he got to be 70 years old he was going to retire. Well, he did.

A month before he retired a doctor came into the dressing room and said, "What's this I hear about you're going to take a vacation." Larry said, "It's not really a vacation. I'm going to retire." "What!" He left two weeks later. Two weeks before we were because he thought that if Larry wasn't going to be there he wasn't either, so he quit and moved to another place. They haven't had any surgery at that hospital since.

We have felt very badly because it is a good hour drive in any direction from our area to another hospital. So we feel the people there really need the hospital but they

could not find anybody to take Larry's place.

We have six children, one living in Minneapolis and the other five live in the Orlando area. We spend our winters in Orlando where we have a home and enjoy our children.

We go to West Virginia in the summer. We raise a garden and can and do all the fun things like, mowing the church yard and the work that needs to be done there. We have enjoyed our time in retirement contrary to "Oh, you won't like it if you retire." We've been so busy we really haven't missed the work. I don't know how we would have gotten anything done if Larry had kept working because we have been so busy it seems like we've been doing time and a half instead of straight time. We enjoy coming back and seeing the faces of those that we have known in years past. Thank you for coming. We love each one of you.

**Lloyd "Joe" Wilson, MCA '48, S '50:** Son of Ray and Melba Laverne Wilson. We came to Madison about 1939. As I look back there are so many things I learned that have been so helpful. Now I didn't always go the straight way, I'll admit that but I knew which way was right because I had good training from teachers here at Madison. Mr. Zeigler, Mr. Rimmer was a favorite of mine because I liked chemistry and we got along real well. My oldest brother, John Robert, was killed in 1944, he was a fighter pilot. Walter "Bud" was in the navy, he is a little older than I am. My sister was in the army nurses corp. Bud and I were around Madison for some time. Mr. Hilgers went to Rutherford

Hospital and I went with him. Then I spent 3 years in the service. After I got out I had my own laboratory and blood bank at one time here in Nashville. Now I'm retired and stay busy trying to take care of my brother and sister. I'll never forget the days at Madison. I used to work on Dr. Sutherland's car and Dr. Kendall's. Had to put clutches in his car all the time. He rode the clutch.

**Gene Sellars, BSN '61:** Class of '61 in nursing. I married my nursing instructor. That helped me along in life a lot. Virginia Davidson is my wife. She isn't here today, she had surgery four days ago so she couldn't come. She took nursing at Southern Missionary then came here and got a B.S. and was nursing instructor at Madison. After we came back from the mission field in '79 she was a nursing instructor at Kettering for 16 years. I have done six different things. First I took nursing. Later on I got chewed out by the doctors a few times. I said this is not a field for me, I need to get something else. I went to the University of Tennessee and took physical therapy so I did 29 years in that field. I was 38 years old when I finished P.T. school. I'd spent 10 years and 7 months in the navy. I finished chaplains training while I was at Kettering. I got an MA in religion so I ended up confused. I don't know what I'm going to do. Two years ago Jan Marcusson has a medical meeting ever so often in Benton, IL so I went up there and he told about a naturopathic school. After 2 years I got an ND degree. It doesn't mean much, there is hardly any state where you can practice. I am growing my medical plants and practicing on myself. By the way, if

you folk need someone to practice on you I would be willing to volunteer because I don't have any clinical experience. In the time of trouble we are going to need to be able to go out and get some herbs and treat our friends. I go to the jail twice a week and minister to the prisoners. We have a nice place on 3 ½ acres. I'm trying to get my barn ready. Who knows you might need to let somebody live in your barn. I enjoyed my training here at Madison. It headed me in the right direction even though I am confused as to what I should do sometimes.

**Mary Kurzynske, BSN '59:** I graduated in 1959, of course I went to Little Creek for four years. My parents became Adventist when I was a year old. That was in Oklahoma City when Elder Frazee was there. So I'm really only a second generation Adventist. Not too many in our family have become Adventist which we feel bad about. We see them every now and then. They are good Christian people but with this message you want them all to believe in the second coming and the Seventh-day Sabbath and be in heaven too. That is a burden on my parents and my heart for our relatives. I graduated in '59 and went to Hinsdale to work for a few months until I married in 1960.

I met my husband here at Madison. He was a couple of years behind me, he's a little younger than I am. He went to Andrews and graduated 2 years after we were married. We have 2 daughters, both born in Michigan. We are very thankful that they both went to Little Creek and have married Christian men and are very active in their churches. Karen



our oldest daughter lives in Columbus, Ohio. She is a nurse also and works part time at a hospital in Delaware. Her husband works for Bank One. They have 2 sons. A 13 year old and one 3 years younger who has some artistic talents and sold one of his paintings. If you have seen "My Book of Prayers" by Beth Halvorsen, the picture on the front he drew and a couple of eagle pictures that he drew are in that book. My youngest lives in south Georgia. Her husband was born and raised on a farm. He got his MBA from Owens Business School here in Nashville but the farm was in his blood so they are back on the farm. If you know what farm life is like, they work night and day. They have a huge farm. They have a small church and have restarted their church school since the grandchildren came along. She is a nurse with a masters in public health and she likes teaching better. The 3 children keep her busy but she has nursed a little to help the cash flow. When you are farming, your money is tied up in the farm. She is thinking about being one of the school teachers. She never really wanted to be a nurse. My grandchildren are a joy to me and living here in the middle, I don't get to see them often enough. I am planning to retire from full time work in August so I can have more time to go and stay awhile. The day I retire my youngest grandchild is coming to spend a week with me while her mother goes to the "Camporee" in Oshkosh with her older daughter. I worked here continuously for 30 years since we moved back here, part time until my daughter went to Little Creek and

then full time. All of the full time has been in the operating which I never thought I would enjoy but I kind of fell into place there. I do appreciate the efforts of having this alumni association. I know it's hard to get a lot of people back. Many of you may have been here that I didn't know but I always do love to come and hear people tell their experiences. In my retirement I am hoping to witness more to my neighbors. We attend the Ridgetop Church because it is a smaller church and we feel needed and it is in the country.

**Carol Taylor Hite, N '63:** I graduated in '63 and I worked here for 10 years then I worked a couple years at Westside. When my son was born I didn't work in nursing anymore. I helped my husband in his business. He passed away in April of this year. My son is 23, one grandchild and she will be 2 August 3rd.

**Geraldine "Gerry" Hamilton Dickman, BSN '52:** I usually let Louie do all the talking, I just stand in the background. I came to Madison in '49 for the nurses course and graduated in '52. We married in '51. We have three children, Pamela, living in Jasper, Georgia, she has three children, Randa, Conn Avery, named after Conn Arnold who married Pam and her husband. Randy, our oldest, had a car accident when he was 18 and is paralyzed from the neck down. He finished his course at Madison and then took the degree program out of Keene, Texas and finished all of his education. He is now running the nursing home at Harbert Hills. We have 50 patients. He does more than a person that is on his feet. He does a good job as

administrator. Steve, who graduated from Harbert Hills and then worked for the Corp of Engineers has come back to Harbert Hills. He is now president of the institution and does many things other than being a principal. He has 2 children, Heather and Julia, and has a lovely Christian wife. We are thankful that all of our children are in the church. We went to Harbert Hills when we were 25-26 and have been there ever since. I was Director of Nurses for many years. I recently tried to partially retire. The lady that took my place is not a Seventh-day Adventist but she upholds all of our Christian standards. Last year we had 25 students and hope to have that many this year. Louie is working in the garden program. I think that I would never be happy just staying home. I do the blood work for the Nursing Home and also take Randy's place if he needs to be out of the office.

**Martha Soule Peacock, BS'53:** Today is special for us, Ivan and Martha Peacock, today is our fiftieth anniversary. We haven't been here for several years even though we live at Portland, Tennessee. We have five different mission experiences and six places that we have volunteered in.

**Ivan C. Peacock, S '52 - 54:** I heard of Madison when I was a boy. There was a teacher in our community who had finished her Normal course in Madison. She told us about the Madison she knew which was back in the 20s. When it got near time for me to go to college, she suggested that I come to Madison. I would have liked to come. I wrote and was accepted but my father was very much against Madison so I wasn't

able to come. That was in '38 and then in '39 after I finished pre-nursing they again accepted me. I had been working my way through and I still had a bill so I had to work all summer. Then by the fall I didn't have any money to come so that was the end of that. I took Physical Therapy in Loma Linda then I went to LaSierra. My wife had graduated there in '48. I wanted to take Bible. I took a course in Gardening from Mr. Judson and two of the students in the class had been to Madison and they told me about Madison. When I was taking Physical Therapy, one of the class members was Miss Fellemende and when we graduated she said, "If you ever have an idea that you want to come to Madison, let me know." In '51 I wrote to the Layman Foundation, I was thinking of going out to Fletcher or one of the smaller units. I wasn't thinking of coming to Madison at all. Some one from Madison came to see me just a few days after I wrote The Layman Foundation and told me they wanted me to come to Madison and teach Physical Therapy. So we did. We came here in '51 and left in '59. I probably would have stayed here but when I was born my parents dedicated me for foreign mission service so I thought I should try as much as I could to be a foreign missionary. In 1959 there was a call to come to Iran and set up a training there. On our vacation I stopped at the General Conference and they asked me, "Would you be willing to go?" I said, "Yes." That was in the fall of '58 and early in '59 we went to Iran. Soon after I arrived Elder Wilcox became the Division president. There was a Middle East

Division at that time. He didn't give us a very good welcome. He said, "Oh, you're from Madison. I don't want to hear anything of your fanatical work from Madison." After we had been there about 4 years he came to me one day and said, "You know, I think that students from Madison have a place in our work." So, he had changed his mind and later on Leslie Morris came to Lebanon. We came home and they couldn't get anybody to come and take my place over there. They did get someone but he only stayed about 3 years. He didn't feel accepted and he didn't want to go back so I offered to go back but they said, "Oh, Physical Therapist have to have a degree in public health so you are not eligible. So I suggested brother Sellars and he was able to go. After I retired from Highland I first went to Honduras for a year and then to Thailand for a year to set up a Physical Therapy Department, give lectures on health. Then I couldn't find any place to teach physical therapy so we went to Poland to teach English. That was quite an experience. We have enjoyed several projects with Maranatha. We went to Newfoundland and in '94 we went down to Argentina. We are still active in the work. After I retired I wasn't able to get a job in this area as a physical therapist. So in '96 I joined the Civil Air Patrol as a chaplain and I am serving in the Sumner County Squadron. I had trained and graduated as a chaplain. I took training for lay pastors. Recently we went to the Michigan to learn about planting churches so that is what our job will probably be. **Martha-** "I wanted to mention about

the children we have taken care of. We did not have children of our own but we have taken care of three boys, and one girl at different times and we have an adopted son. We have a grandson who just turned 18. We have our permanent home at Highland."

**Eunice McGoon May, S '47 -'48:** We have lots of fond memories of Madison. I trained in Florida Sanitarium & Hospital. That's where Luther found me. We married there in Orlando and he had to go to the service. He went over seas about 3 months after we were married and was gone for 25 and a half months. He had attended Collegedale some but had not finished so when he came back, he wanted to go to school and finish college. Collegedale didn't have any place for married students at that time. We were told that if we could bring our own housing we could come to Madison. So Luther got busy and bought us a little trailer. It didn't even have a bathroom in it. They let us park i by the laundry and plug into electricity there. We lived there until they were nice enough to let us have that little cottage across the road from the boys dormitory. When I first came I worked in the cannery. I had quite a bit of experience in nursing but enjoyed the change. I had taken physical therapy after I finished nursing. I helped out a little bit here but mostly I was in OB. I loved Mrs. Zeigler and the nursing department. Our first little girl was born in the new hospital but now that's all gone. Luther graduated in 1950 and we went to Pisgah for awhile. We have three precious daughters, five grandchildren and we have just had



our first great-grandchild. None of them were going to be nurses but all ended up as RNs. My mother was an RN so nursing kind of goes in our family.

**Pat Mitzelfelt Silver, BS '60:** The thing that most of us learned at Madison is the Madison spirit and the self-supporting work. This was totally new to me. My father had taught in public school for a number of years and during World War II he decided that if he was going to be an Adventist he needed to get out of public school work because they had Friday night basketball games and Saturday afternoon football games. We were going to a little church in Southern Illinois at Mount Vernon. We ended up at Auburn Academy in Auburn, Washington. That was quite a welcome change. We were there for 3 years during WW II and then we went to Walla Walla. The Shankles, Virginia Rittenhouse's parents, persuaded daddy to go to AUC. He spent a couple of years there, then he decided he wanted to go back out west, stay and retire at Auburn. The week we got there they fired the principal and the new principal that came in got rid of 80% of the faculty the next year of which my dad was one of them. Dad was an outspoken German and liked to say what he thought about things. That probably didn't always do him a lot of good. They wanted him to go to Portland, Oregon but instead ended up at Madison College where grandpa Straw was president for a couple of years until he had a stroke and permanently retired to Little Creek.

So we got introduced to the self-supporting spirit. I really hadn't be

introduced much to that idea. Grandpa had taught at EMC for a number of years and when they retired he went to Little Creek then ended up here until he had a stroke and had to quit teaching.

It was quite a new experience. I remember going to the ASI meeting in the old Helen Funk Assembly Hall and that was quite a new experience one, that today, I greatly respect. As a young college student you had a lot of questions in your mind, particularly when you had been a part of another work on the West Coast that he'd enjoyed. I appreciate the opportunity to have learned of this even though my husband and I worked here for a number of years then ended up at Shenandoah Academy. Then we came back here and finished our Master's at Peabody. Then we went to Forrest Lake for eleven years, Andrews University for seven years and then Collegdale opened up. It's a lot warmer down here, although I had a great time in Michigan and our daughter still lives there. Our son is in Texas in Chiropractic School struggling away with all that hard work. I retired two years ago and Bob is going to retire at the end of the year. We haven't decided exactly what we are going to do with ourselves.

I did appreciate being exposed to the idea of service. I think that was one of the most important things that a young person can learn and not only service, we learned how to work.

Most of you came to Madison because you didn't have access to educational opportunities because of finances. I think the thing that

probably did me as much good as anything was learning to work, to be busy and try to accomplish something and to dedicate yourself for service to others.

**Bob Silver, BS '55:** I guess you could say I'm the reluctant participant. I first met Louie Dickman in 1948. I didn't become an Adventist until I was a freshman in high school. We were living in Campbell, California and in the fall my mom decided it was time to go to an Adventist school. We lived about forty miles from Mountain View so we went to Mountain View Union Academy. Here was a little sophomore in a new situation and Louie was a senior in that school. I learned about Louie. As much as a sophomore can about a senior. He graduated. The next two years I went to Monterey Bay Academy. When it came time to go to college my sister said, "You ought to go to Madison and take X-ray and Lab." If she had known how I felt about sick people she wouldn't have suggested that. To placate her a little bit I agreed to apply to Madison. At the same time I applied to Walla Walla with the thought that the first acceptance letter would be the one to which I would go. Guess where it was, Madison. I didn't know a thing about Madison so I got on a bus and rode for three days and came to Nashville, phoned and some guy came and brought me out to Madison. This was in 1951. I looked at these stone buildings and thought okay. Then they took me down to Wasiota Hall. My room was going to be right next to the furnace room. Now this furnace burned coal. I thought, boy, if some one would give



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me a nickel and take me back to Nashville, I'll go back home. But I decided to stick it out a year even if it killed me. They kept telling me, "You need to go up to the San Kitchen and get yourself a job." I said, "I can't until I get my living quarters taken care of. If you will give me the paint I'll paint the room." "Ok, but remember you can't mix any paint you have to use what we have." I painted the room and then it came time for the trim. I thought, some gray would really look nice with this paint they gave me for the walls but they didn't have any gray paint. So I painted the trim gray and it looked pretty good. Then Dean Tonsberg came in and asked, "Where did you get that gray paint?" "Well they didn't have any so I had to mix some." By the time I got my room painted I had a job in the Electrical Department. I never did work at San Kitchen. You how it is when you've been at Madison for awhile, you sorta get used to it. You

learn how to work. You learn how to get up when you should..

When I came Louie was here but he had to go to Korea for two years. When he came back, we graduated together. He was the class President and I was the Vice-president. We graduated in '55 but by March of '55 I was fed up with school and if it hadn't been so close to graduation I would have quit. I met Pat here and we got married. After graduation we went out West for a little while, got drafted in the Army, spent a couple years in Germany and Pat told you of all the places we worked. But any place you go, people from Madison still know how to work and they are leaders. Since 1985 I have been Director of Pera-counseling. For ten years I also had the mail service at Southern and doing recruiting of students for the College We have seen a lot of students come. Anyway at the end of the year I'm going to hang it up and let somebody else do it awhile..

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