

# Madison Survey

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and  
ALUMNI NEWS



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## **The Madison legacy lives on** By Albert Dittes

During the last weekend of October, I had the privilege of being part of the centennial celebration of the medical school at Loma Linda University by offering my book, Letters from Dr. Percy Magan, for sale at a table.

The event was in a new centennial building for the medical school, and as I felt, people there recognized the name Percy Magan and bought the book documenting the part Lida Scott of Madison had in the rise of Loma Linda. Business was steady during most of Friday, and I saw many distinguished looking people walk by my table.

Madison was a big part of the centennial in the person of Vincent Mitzelfelt. He directed the symphony orchestra and choir for the two services in the Loma Linda University Church. He graduated from medical school there in 1960 and has been as active in

music as medicine through the years. The bulletin insert mentioned that he had started his education at Madison College and then went on to Union College and Loma Linda.

Roger Hadley, dean of the medical school, said, "In planning we felt that if we wanted to do the music right, we should get Dr. Mitzelfelt to direct, and he gladly accepted."



Dr. Vincent Mitzelfelt

Center for Adventist Research  
Andrews University  
Berrien Springs Michigan

His father, Harold Mitzelfelt, taught music at Madison College during the 1950's, and his sister, Patricia Mitzelfelt Silver, enjoyed a distinguished career as band director in several Adventist schools.

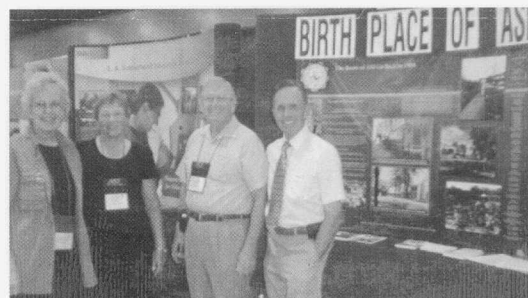
Dr. Mitzelfelt, now semi-retired, lives with his wife Karin in Valencia, Calif. He has three children: Ramona Lynn Evans of Los Angeles, Dawna Coote of Phoenix and son Bradley, a supervisor of San Bernardino County, Calif.; two stepchildren, Pia Roberge and Mischa Zirpel; three grandchildren; a brother, Richard of Albuquerque, N.M., and two sisters, Patricia Silver of Collegedale, Tenn., and Sylvia Cerrato of Memphis, Tenn.

## The ASI Convention

By Henry Scoggins

Marjorie and I had the privilege to staff the Madison College Alumni booth at the ASI convention in Phoenix, Ariz., last August. This was our first opportunity to attend an ASI convention since our days as students at Madison when the forerunner of ASI would have its annual meeting at the College. It was indeed as inspiring and exciting as I remembered. It was amazing to see the large number and the variety of organizations and ministries that were represented. A sign at the Madison Alumni booth proclaimed Madison as the "Birthplace of ASI". That caught the attention of folks and we had the

opportunity to explain how the concept of "self supporting" work and laymen's ministries grew out of EG White's vision of the work that Madison should do. Few people knew of Madison or the role Mrs. White had in the development of the concept of independent ministries. A few Madison alumni stopped by and were glad to see their old school represented. I believe that it is important that Madison continue to be represented at the ASI conventions and that hand out materials be developed to tell the "Madison story" and of the unique work that "self supporting missionaries" were to be trained to do. The experiences of the Madison pioneers will continue to be a source of inspiration to those who continue the work they began.

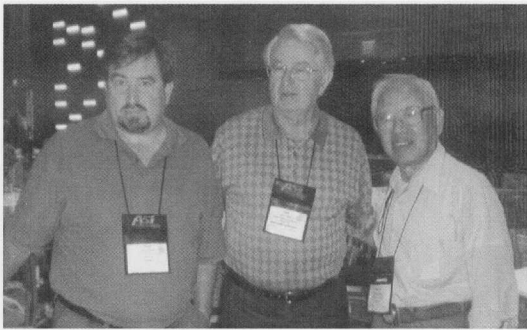


Henry '61 and Margie Hancock Scoggins '63 hosted the Madison College alumni booth. Here they pose with two friends who worked for Henry when he was CEO of Hackettstown Adventist Hospital in New Jersey: Carol Fremling, left, and Roy Burgess, right.

## Mark your calendars

**Next alumni weekend  
June 18, 19, 2010**

Louie Dickman, featured speaker



Other Madison alumni at ASI were John Reed '53, center and Charles Wang '52, right. John's son David (left) came to sign his new book Dinosaurs, An Adventist View.

### **90 Years Old and Still Working**

#### **Madison alumni still on the job**

“Orvan Thompson’s life has taken him from a boyhood on a Canadian farm to his job as a sitter for Vanderbilt Home Health, and, at the age of 90, he is Vanderbilt Medical Center’s oldest working nurse,” proclaims the House Organ.

A cover photo shows Evelyn and Orvan Thompson as a young military couple, with Orvan in uniform. They have been married for 66 years, according to the story.

“Thompson, who trained as a nurse in the 1940’s and still works as a sitter for Vanderbilt Home Care Services, has nearly a full head of silvery hair and a mustache to match, “ according to the story. “His glasses are thin and his gait is sure and steady.”

The author indicated he works on-call on a 3-to-11 p.m. shift. “He is usually

called in twice a week but once worked a 21-day stretch.”

Thompson was born the month World War I ended in 1918, grew up on a Canadian farm and read the 1938 Reader’s Digest article about Madison College preparing students for careers in agriculture, industry, teaching and health care.

He went to Madison College, studied nursing and met his wife as a fellow nursing student.

The Thompsons bought a house in Madison in 1950 and raised four children. They still live in that same house.

### **From our Readers**

Carol (Hilgers) Kunau retired on Sept. 30, 2009, after more than 40 years of nursing. She has worked in nearly every phase of nursing from floor nurse to Vice president of Nursing Services. She and her husband Rit are moving from Oregon to Apopka, Florida for the winter to be near their children and two granddaughters.

\* \* \* \*

Dear Survey Staff,

“I want you to know how much I appreciate and love Madison news and going down memory lane. The more we mature in life the more precious our memories become . . . especially those at Madison. It was awesome being at a school where the standards set by my wonderful mother were also exemplified among the staff and students! I am taken

back to yesteryear of all the outstanding teachers, friends and those that made our daily walk sweet . . . for example deans, kitchen, laundry and farm staff . . . thinking also about all the buildings, singing, speeches, orchestra and choral. I especially remember the time Elder Welch took us for a nature walk through the woods on a lovely Sabbath afternoon--in my scrapbook still remains the Red Oak Leaf and a Honey Locust Branch reminding me of that awesome journey! Elder Welch was one of a kind . . . always tender, gentle and with sweet love for His Master! I am so awed at the innocence of those times . . . wishing that the cruelty of time and awakenings did not have to be, meaning having done and said things that were not of good character!

“My children are doing well. Ramona lives in West Covina. Debra does occupational therapy in San Diego as well as works with autistic children. Billy is a urologist at Alaska Native Medical Center, Anchorage. Louis LaMar lives in Jacksonville Beach, Fla., and is taking some time out to spend quality time with his parents.

“I am including my new address for the Survey and hope that my classmates and others will write to me.”

Ramona Seath-Lubke  
130 Maple St.  
Big Rapids, MI 49307  
(231)-796-4748

Editor's note: Ramona has written Take My Hand, Walk With Me, an

Angel Award Winner as is also a vocal CD of hers entitled “Ramona, Serenity.”

\* \* \* \*

Dear Mr. Dittes

“You really ought to have e-mail communication so that Madison College alumni and friends could easily send information and queries for the Madison Survey. You must have a computer in your office connected to the Internet and someone who can use a keyboard. E-mail is free and easy after that. My own address is [museo8o@yahoo.com](mailto:museo8o@yahoo.com).

“Not to tell you how to run your business (as president/editor), but I was intrigued by the short note you printed from Eloise Young Jackson of Jacksonville, Fla., in the last issue asking “. . . do you have any record of Professor James Tillman?”

“Mrs. Jackson (are you Edith Eloise Young J.?) you asked about Professor James Tillman. You must be referring to my very good friend of those long ago days who lived in Cottage 9 with Clyde Vance, who had a distinguished career in the U.S. Army. (Robert Shalkop and I rounded out our little club of four.) Because of the impending U.S. participation in World War II and the need of many students to leave campus to work and transfer to accredited colleges, we lost touch. I knew he continued his education at the University of Tennessee and was a highly regarded member of its faculty until his retirement. Many years after we had lost touch I read an article on the front page of a newspaper citing Tillman's

breakthrough invention in the improvement of radar detection, so important in the Navy and in aviation.

“Since you call him “Professor,” are you referring to his long career at UT or, wild idea, after the war did he return to Madison College for a while as head of the physics department? That would have been especially interesting since he had been expelled from the College at least once for going roller skating at a rink, an activity and exercise he loved. All of my friends and I were fond of Madison College and valued highly the opportunity it gave us to begin our higher education. Since you mention Jack Weeks, whom I remember, you may be around my age and we might have known each other (though not being guilty of that great sin of “Conspicuous Association.” Remember that?)

George Ellis Burcaw  
Madison College 1939-1941  
Professor Emeritus of Anthropology  
University of Idaho

• \* \* \*

“I wish I could make the Homecoming but doubt if I ever will get back that way again.

“I first attended Madison after high school graduation for one year. Then I became involved with a weekly newspaper until I was called into the army. After discharge I returned to Madison and graduated in 1958 with a Bachelors degree in Business Administration and Secondary Education. I taught the seventh and eighth grades at Wytheville, Va., for one

year and then joined the Wytheville Hospital and helped start the short-lived Echo Valley Academy. I left Wytheville in 1961 to take over the weekly newspaper I had worked on during high school. I did this until it suspended publication in 1976.

“During the time of operating the newspaper I also was asked to do some of the accounting for a new community hospital located 16 miles east of town. During this time I served for over 15 years on the board of directors of the local school district, first as secretary and then president. I was also appointed to serve as town magistrate and then became Mayor, serving terms over the next 20 years. Part of my active “business” life also included operating a “general” store that I closed in 2000 and retired.

“I did have a stroke in 1990 that still handicaps me some as far as a good walking pace.

“I have been back to Madison two times since I returned to Colorado. There was so much change I was disappointed. I always felt Madison had some very unique buildings, such as the library.

“In my retirement I volunteer with the local community radio station, doing the scheduling with a software program.

“Again I sure wish I could be there and visit with the many people I think of often. I would love to hear from anyone who remembers me. My address is P.O. Box 13, Parachute, CO., 81635, and my e-mail address is:” [floydmac30@comcast.net](mailto:floydmac30@comcast.net).

Floyd McDaniel



## News Notes

### New CEO at Fletcher

Dale Twomley is the new president of Fletcher Academy. Dr. Twomley has served as Dean of the School of Business at Andrews University, CEO of Worthington Foods and as principal of Mt. Vernon and Shenandoah Valley Academies.

### New President at Laurelbrook

Ron Oxentenکو is the new president of Laurelbrook School and Sanitarium. Ron has been the Project Manager for an accounting software package produced by DacEasy Accounting Systems. Later he was the Office Manager for Jerry Eller's Forestry Service Company. Most recently he has managed his own construction company in Florida. Ron is an alumnus of Laurelbrook from the class of '85.

\* \* \* \*

\*Bill and Marie Sandborn celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in Fletcher, N.C. They have three sons, one deceased daughter and one grandson.

\* \* \* \*

\*Jack and Nancy Gibbons have just moved to Hamburg, Pa., to be near their daughter Nancy Lynn (Doug) Stewart on the campus of Blue Mountain Academy.

## Alumni weddings



\*Jodi Eulene Dodson and David Patterson were married on Nov. 29 in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Jodi Eulene has four children: Loni Batiste and John Borton, California; Linda McCabe, Pennsylvania, and Kim Dodson (step-son), Tennessee.

“Most of the Madison alumni will remember me as Eulene Borton; I sang in the Silvertones, was secretary to Billy Wilson at the Academy and later in charge of dictation in the Medical Records Office. My past years were taken up with child rearing, home making, composing music, choir directing and singing.

“David has six children: Alan, South Carolina, Paul, Gloria and Barry, Tennessee, Norma and Michael, North Carolina; and graduated from Madison College Industrial Education department.

“After serving in the army, he taught and served at Harbert Hills Academy for 17 years plus various self-supporting and conference schools in teaching and Business Managerial positions. He is now on the adjunct faculty of Southern Adventist University and at Chattanooga State. He is also a volunteer tutor, a museum Docent and fills other volunteer opportunities. In addition to this, David has been the organist in a variety of churches and is now one of the organist at their home church where he and Jodi Eulene met in choir. David is also a bird enthusiast and has written articles, one of which is in a Moscow museum.”



\*Lloyd (Joe) Wilson, whose family moved to Madison in 1938, married Carol Hite Wilson at the Madison Boulevard SDA Church on Nov. 7, 2009. Their friendship began after moving to nearby Cumberland Towers about three years ago.

## More pictures from Alumni Weekend



Patricia Mitzelfelt Silver played her trumpet extra well during her student and teaching career at Madison. One of her students, Jim Closser (center), now director of development at the Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia at Madison, and Les Andrus from the community joined her in furnishing music.



Stella Sutherland, Irma Trivett with daughter Beverly Rawson and Viola Knight

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**New addresses wanted**  
George C. Barnett  
Vera M. Bergman  
David and Rose Couch  
Beatrice Dunn  
Clyde P. Holland  
Almon Johnson  
Brynda Jean Johnson  
Geraldine Ralis  
James F. Roberts  
Arthur Vanderboss  
Alice B. Wilson

Deaths  
Edna Baker  
Uriel Van Campen Guest  
Esther (Meinsinger) Sutton '64,  
Howard Sutton '64 and George Stilwell  
'64. Esther and Howard prepared the  
Friday supper and Sunday breakfast for  
attendees, along with Becky Rosenboom  
and Elaine Cantrell.

