

Stake News

Vol. VI No. 2

Published by the Tallahassee Florida Stake

March/April 1985



The View

from the Pews

The world has Christmas. Starting right after Halloween, we are deluged with tinsel, store sales and television specials. It can be numbing, and between wrapping presents and rushing to parties, the spiritual meaning can be easily lost.

But Easter is still largely unspotted from the world. Sure, there are a few colored eggs and bunnies around, but by and large Easter is left for believers to celebrate quietly.

And that is a blessing, for Easter is the most important holiday on the Christian calendar.

I appreciate so much our Savior, who lived a sin-free life and was willing to buy our freedom with his blood. Being human, he was tempted as we are tempted and yet withstood all. Everyone is alone some time -- a teenager under pressure from non-members at school, a mother of small children at home without adult companionship, a father away on business in a strange town. But in our loneliness we can taste but a little of the desolation Christ experienced in Gethsemane. How I weep to think my own transgressions added to his burden.

How I admire the parents who gave their firstborn Son so that all their children could live forever. It is hard enough to watch a child be tackled on the football field or hurt by the cruel remark of a classmate. I can only imagine the feelings of the Father who sent his child to Earth, knowing full well

HAVING RISEN

Unnumbered
shades of green
greet me in my garden.

He who planted Eden
chose them one by one,
including some only bees can see.

I will know His hands
(if I should see them),
not just from the wounds,
but from the callous places.

Who sends the rain and seeds,
and leaf and tree,
sends me.

Mary was right the first
time, too,
that morning
having arrived at the
open tomb.
He is The Gardener.

Margary B. Broadbent
(Ensign, March 1983)

"THIS DO IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME"

Blinking out into the April brightness
One Sabbath after church,
I heard a Saint expound to a politely
listening friend,
"With us, the sacrament is just a symbol."

"Just a symbol."
All the sunlong day and starlong night
Those slippery words shadowed me.

True enough: the bread but bread.
Yet the body offered
up was real,
Its shattered nerves most verifiable
As pain spiked along the net.

Right enough: the water nothing more.
But the shed blood pulsed power-poor,
Streamed swift, then slow, to dry and cake
Down racked arms and flanks.

How pallid the bread when pale the memory.
Yet sweet the nourishment when we his
Spirit summon
By rich remembering.

Every symbol has two halves.
But to us falls the matching.
What match we, then, in sacramental token?
What fit we to the water, and the bread?

Elouise Bell
(Ensign, April 1980)



But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, . . .

And . . . she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus.

Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away.

Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master.

Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God. (John 20:11, 14-17.)

Continued on Page 9

Stake Presidency Message

by Paul Nicholson
Second Counselor



THE SAVIOR'S LIFE -- ONE OF SERVICE

As we examine the life of the Savior, we see that in its entirety it was devoted to helping and serving people and doing our Heavenly Father's work--which is the same thing. His was the perfect life and if we desire to attain that same perfection, we need only to copy what He did.

As we contemplate this Easter season, which was the greatest service the Savior did for us? Perhaps we should examine our own lives to see just who or what we are serving. The world is full of lonely people, handicapped people, sick people, elderly people, and people in prisons--all needing the help of others.

When we are interested in only our own welfare and the welfare of our loved ones and forget or overlook the strangers in our midst, it seems to me that we might have trouble calling ourselves followers of Christ.

We have been advised by President Kimball that we should mingle more in the community, get involved with people outside the Church, to be active in community organizations. What better way is there to follow this counsel than to get active in some service-oriented organization?

The Savior died nearly 2,000 years ago so we could repent of our sins through His suffering. What a debt we owe Him! What better way to repay Him than through our service to others.

Calendar

April

- 6-7 General Conference
- 7 Easter
- 12-13 Road Shows 7 p.m.
- 19 Youth Dinner 7 p.m.
- Youth and Young Adult Dance 8-12 p.m.
- 27 Blazer Camp
- 27 Single Adult Cookout - McClay Gardens
- 28 Thomasville Ward Conference
- 28 Single Adult Fireside
- 30 Stake Auxiliary Leadership Meetings
- Priesthood Leadership Meetings

May

- 3-5 Single Adult Spectacular
- 4 Scout-A-Rama
- 4 Raquetball Tournament
- 10-11 Father/Son Outing
- 12 Mother's Day
- 18 Stake Young Men/Young Women Activity
- 19 Valdosta Ward Conference
- 21 Stake News deadline
- 26 Stake Priesthood Leader's Seminar 4:30-8 p.m.
- 27 Memorial Day

June

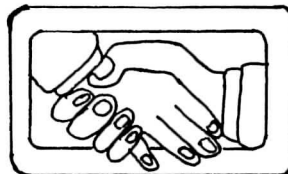
- 2 Stake Priesthood Meeting 5 p.m.
- 2 Seminary Graduation 6:30 p.m.
- 8 Ladies Softball Tournament
- 9 Moultrie Branch Conference

Labor of Love

by Tom Rhames
Stake Seventies President

Missionary work is a labor of love which touches our lives every day. The question, "How can I do missionary work?" is much like the question, "How can I do math?" The field is wide open. I will give some suggestions for success in missionary work.

Fellowshipping of new and prospective converts is a most vital area. It is easy, especially in our larger units, to pass in the hall without speaking, because Sister X and Brother Y will surely do it anyway. The most difficult part of the conversion is often the social one. These people have just given up a way of life and often lose many friends in the process. It is vital that they feel needed, appreciated and wanted. Take the time to speak, or better yet, have them over socially.



Pray daily for doors to be opened to all countries of the world, and especially, to the doors in your neighborhood.

Feed the missionaries! Missionaries are really motivated to work when they are shown this kind of attention and appreciation. Keep it to an hour or less.

Go on frequent tradeoffs. You'll get much more out of it than you can possibly put in.

Be friendly and cheerful with those you come in contact with. A good example of the gospel is the best sermon.

Offer your home for the discussions when missionaries find someone who has no contacts in the Church.

List your non-member acquaintances, prayerfully select one to three of them to friendship and plan ways to interact with them on a weekly basis. This requires a sacrifice of time and energy to be a friend.

When they get to the point that they ask questions about your beliefs, ask them to your home to find out more about our beliefs in Christ (life after death, the Book of Mormon, etc.).

In conclusion, missionary work is work! It requires a sacrifice of our time, talents and energy. The kicker is that we can never put in more than we get out.

The Lord will bless your every effort!

For when you looked into my mother's eyes,
you knew, as if He had told you,
why God sent her into the world--
it was to open the minds of all who looked,
to beautiful thoughts.

Sir James M. Barrie



Young Women

by Ann Christiansen
Second Counselor
Stake Young Women Presidency

Eventful is the way to describe the past weeks with the Young Women of the Tallahassee Stake. Beginning January 26 with a Mini Youth Conference in cooperation with the Marianna Stake, the Young Women combined with the Young Men for some fun games, a choice between two movies, a taco salad dinner, a fireside with Marianna stake president Daniel Stone as the speaker, and finally a dance with more refreshments. Responsibility for the evening's events was shared by the youth and leaders of both stakes. As a result, new friendships were made and old friendships renewed.

On the evening of Friday, February 8, the Young Women with the Young Adults shared a Stake Dance. During the evening there was, of course, a variety of music and dancing. The floor show was comprised of spontaneous break dancing, with a lot of hidden talent being revealed, to the delight of the spectators. The refreshments were delicious, plentiful, and substantial.

On the morning of Sunday, February 24, the youth arose early to be in attendance at a special youth session of Stake Conference. Elder Vaughn J. Featherstone was the presiding authority at this meeting and shared some of his own experiences as a youth which helped to make him the leader he is today. Elder Featherstone also shared some of the experiences of his own children, some humorous, all heartwarming. This time shared together gave the youth a greater sense of the humor, gentleness, strength and humility of this Church leader as they became a little closer to him. Musical numbers were provided by members of the Young Women Presidency, their daughters and invited guests.

Fathers and their 16-year old daughters shared an evening that was fun and filling, yet practical. The girls to be presented during the Gold and Green Ball were invited to a rehearsal dinner with their escorts on Friday, March 1. The participants were served a dinner prepared by the Young Women Presidency. During a get-acquainted time the girls introduced themselves and their escorts. A short rehearsal for the presentation at the Gold and Green Ball concluded the evening.

DATES TO REMEMBER

April 19 - Youth Dinner Dance 7 p.m.
April 30 - Young Women Leadership 7 p.m.
May 18 - Career Workshop/Dance
June 27-29 - Youth Conference

Preparing for the Laurel presentation. . .



GOLD & GREEN BALL

Dana Butler,
one of 23
Laurels
presented, is
escorted by her
father, Charley
Butler, Jr.



"An Evening in Paris" was the theme of the Gold and Green Ball held March 8 under the spell of a beautiful night sky in the cultural hall. French cuisine was served in the Cafe La Petite by Chef Chris Case. The fare included chicken crepes, croissants, chocolate mousse and a delightful punch served from a flower cast punch fountain.

The stage setting continued the street cafe, with colorful umbrellas and matching table cloths. A unique stained glass window made by the talented hands of Donna Tucker created a window effect. Street lamps lined the street and gave a great effect. A lovely fountain stood in the street that carried you to the Eiffel Tower.

Twenty-three Laurels were presented. They were: Wendy Blankenship, Naomi Riffle, (Bainbridge); Dana Butler, Patricia Walden (Cairo); Christina Cooper, Sherri Hayes (Moultrie); Nacy McGuire, Cathy Singletary, Emily Singletary (Perry); Suzanne Clark, Amy Courson, Pam Hardee (Tallahassee I); Penny Clark, Courtney Williams (Tallahassee II); Lisa Carroll, Julie Douglas, Tracy Douglas, Janelle Packard, Melody Packard, Lennea Speck, Michelle Stayton (Tallahassee III); Fifi Burgess (Valdosta).

The Master of Ceremonies was Brother Lacy Douglas, Tallahassee Third Ward, who was dressed in tux and tails for the event. In French and English he sang "Thank Heaven For Little Girls" to honor these special young women.

After the presentation, the girls and their dads danced while the spectacular show of stars illuminated the night scene. Dancing to music of D.J. Farrell Wahlquist of Bristol was enchanting.

Vince Atterbury, Apalachicola Branch, and Bob Kerns, Stake Activities Committee Chairman, labored long and hard to make the night sky studded with hundreds of "stars." Linda Hall, Stake Cultural Arts Specialist, Donna Tucker and Nell Tucker served as the decorating committee.

Many people have commented that this was one of the most beautiful and outstanding Gold and Green Balls in our stake. It was a night in Paris long to be remembered.

JOURNEY TO THE TEMPLE



by Max Sweat
High Priest Group Leader
Tallahassee First Ward

We are very blessed to have a temple so close, but even the journey to Atlanta can seem challenging. Here is a step-by-step guide to the temple.

DRIVING UP

The temple is about 270 miles from Tallahassee, closer to folks in Georgia. It's about a five hour drive from Tallahassee. The route which most people seem to take from Tallahassee is US 319 to Tifton and I-75 to Atlanta (take I-475, the bypass around Macon, Georgia). Take the Greenville, South Carolina turn-off (I-85), to I-285 West, then exit from I-285 onto Georgia Highway 400 North (exit #19) and travel North about one mile. Take exit 2B (not 2A!) Abernathy Road West, Sandy Springs. The exit road will merge onto Abernathy Road. Drive for 1 block and turn left onto Barfield Road. The temple is on the right.

If your motel is on Roswell Road and you wish to check in before going to the temple, continue on I-285 to the Roswell Road exit (here again, don't take the Roswell Highway exit, which you will come to before Roswell Road). There are several motels and many eating establishments in this area, as well as the Liahona L.D.S. Bookstore. To reach the temple from Roswell Road, go east on Mt. Vernon and turn left onto Barfield Road. The temple is on the left.

You can use the ride board on the Tallahassee I bulletin board to reduce travel expense by filling out a card requesting riders to share the fuel cost, and in some cases, the motel bill as well. There are also cards for those desiring to ride with someone else, so both parties can check the board for expense sharing possibilities.

LODGING

A list of motels, campgrounds, and member homes is posted on the bulletin board in the stake offices and is available from your local priesthood leaders. The rates are \$9.00/night and up.

TEMPLE HOURS

Sessions are every 30 minutes, with the first session at 7:30 a.m. and the last session at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday. On Saturday the first session starts at 5:30 a.m. and the last session at 12:30 p.m. The temple is closed on Sundays and Mondays, the Saturday of General Conference, and July 13 through July 30. See the stake directory for more details.

People who go to the temple regularly recommend weekdays when possible, as Saturdays are often very crowded.

IF IT'S THE FIRST TIME

If you are going for your own endowment, you need to call for an appointment. The same applies for those going to be sealed.

Also, if it is your first time at the temple, you will need to take enough money to rent temple clothing (\$3 to \$5) and enough to purchase several sets of temple garments to bring home with you. You can figure on spending \$5 to \$7 per pair. Beehive Clothing can be reached by dialing (404) 396-7569 or toll free to Salt Lake City: (800) 521-1203.

ALSO OF INTEREST

If you get lost, want to contact the temple for rooming information, or desire temple schedule information, you may reach the temple by dialing (404) 393-3698 or call the Temple Hotline (404) 458-2303.

Before leaving, remember to check to make sure you have your temple recommend with you and that it is current.

If you have moved into your present ward from another ward, contact your present bishop to have a new recommend issued showing your correct ward and stake, and have the temple workers (at the desk immediately to the left of the clothing issue room) change the coding on your plastic recommend holder. This way, your sessions will be applied to the correct ward/branch and stake.

The Temple Annex is now open for those wishing to change into travel clothes before returning home. Also, children who are old enough to display appropriate behavior may wait in the annex while parents attend the temple.

Meals and snacks may be purchased in the temple cafeteria, so patrons can plan to spend the day in the temple without having to leave for these items.

If you've flown to Atlanta on business and don't have a car but would like to visit the temple, don't fret. Bus 85P stops right in front of the temple, although this service is limited to certain times of day. Recent expansion of Atlanta's subway system has made it easier than ever to get up there; call MARTA at (404) 522-4711 for more information.

As you plan toward and travel to attend the temple, remember that you are about to perform one of the most high and holy ordinances in the Church and in the world--whether for yourself or for another, and that the opposition to God's work seeks to do all that he can to prevent such. So, if problems, strife, and hindrances arise, it helps to remember why they are coming at this particular time, recognize them for what they are, and prayerfully find a way through or around them. Happy traveling!

STAKE WOMEN'S ATHLETIC CALENDAR

Stake Women's Athletic Committee
Marion Whitley, Lynda Bergstrom, Randi Fagan

On March 2 the Women's Volleyball Tournament was held at the Stake Center. First place went to the DAISIES: team members included Larissa Chapple, Joanie Bowen, Trista Whitley, Marty Ferguson, Wendy Dransfield, Randi Fagan, and Lynda Bergstrom. Second place went to the TULIPS: Diane Meresse, Mary McCreless, Altera Tew, Jackie Taylor, Marion Whitley, Janice Tucker and Brenda Martin. An atmosphere of friendship, fun, and mutual encouragement was shared by all. Thanks to all who participated.

COMING UP

Now that volleyball is over it's time to look forward to softball. We are encouraging all wards and branches to get together a team of women ages 12-112.

We will be starting on April 19th behind the Tallahassee chapel. We need a roster from each ward by April 15th in order to set the schedule. The Stake Softball Tournament will be held on June 8th. For more information, write or call Marion Whitley, 5084 Tallow Point Road, Tallahassee, Florida, 32308, (904) 893-7832.

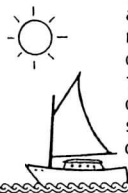
Hope to see all of you out there!

SUMMERTIME ACTIVITIES

With the arrival of warm weather, everyone is ready to head outdoors. Here are some favorite ideas for family outings from some of the members of our stake.

One really nice spot is the Suwannee River State Park. There are facilities for cooking-out and picnic tables with shelters, just in case the weather turns against you. One of the especially neat things about this park is that there are paved trails and signs along the way explaining the animal and vegetation life in North Florida. This particular spot is also a historical site, being the station for Confederate troops during the Civil War. The army of the South waited here as back-up for the possible advancement of Union troops following the Battle of Olustee; however, the war ended before troops reached the Suwannee River. The River was of particular importance because of the railroad crossing the Suwannee, being a major source for supplies. This spot is also good for small children. There are well-maintained playground facilities and even overnight camping spots available (complete with electricity and water). Showers and restrooms also can accommodate the campers. There is a boat loading dock and lime rock springs (for the daring swimmers who can stand that chilly water!).

Our favorite family outings have been to the festivals in the area. You can get a schedule from the local Chamber of Commerce for most all town's festivals in the area (or whole state for that matter). The parades and rides make great entertainment for children, and the arts and crafts shows have always interested my husband and me. The great thing about attending festivals like the Forrest Festival in Perry (October) and the Blue-Gray Festival (Lake City in February) and even the Madison Down Home Days Festival is that the family can spend as much or as little money as they wish. There's always a good bit of free entertainment with cloggers and music, and most every organization is peddling fantastic food at reasonable prices (always for fund raising for a good cause). --Lisa Cavanaugh (Madison Branch)



Relief Society

by Dena Hall
Second Counselor
Stake Relief Society



Easter time is a wonderful time for us to remember the love our Heavenly Father has for us. "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son." Not only did he give us his Son, he gave us a friend. Have you ever thought of Jesus as a friend? He is a true example of what a friend should be-- loving, self-sacrificing, long-suffering and most of all forgiving.

It has really been on my mind about us, as sisters, being friends. How many of us feel as if we have friends in the Church? When we go to Church do we see friends or sisters? What is the difference between the two? A sister is someone we carry polite conversation with and promptly ignore afterwards, also, she has a select group of those that she will serve. A friend is someone that we talk with, finding out what she feels and thinks, and serves all. To make our sisters into friends takes caring. Can we look at ourselves and say that we are a friend? Do we take the time to be a friend, or do we expect others to make the effort? We have to be a friend before we can expect to have friends. Friends are like flowers, they blossom under care and nurturing.

If you feel that you do not have a friend at Church, take time to talk and listen to your sisters; you will be surprised at how friendships will develop. As busy Latter-day Saint women, we must learn to "Stop the work you must prepare and take the time to say, 'I care.'"

Let's all remember Heavenly Father must hold friends as something very precious, for he gave us a wonderful example to follow, Jesus Christ.

Debra Moss (Tallahassee I) grew up in Perry and recalls lots of family outings at nearby Hagan's Cove. It is on the Gulf, but fairly secluded, and waters are shallow which makes it a safe afternoon for a family with small children.

In Tallahassee, the Indian Mounds near Lake Jackson are a great place to take the family. There are picnic tables (but no cooking facilities), a nature trail, and a feeling of history. Besides catching fire flies along the trail in the evening, the highlight for our children is the bridge that crosses a little brook. We all like to take off our socks and shoes and wade in the water. The park closes at dark. --Sue Morgan (Tallahassee II)

Paul and Nancy Baggs-Sushereba (Tallahassee I) go sailing at Shell Point and Panama City Beach. This activity is accented by reading early American history, or real North American pirate stories while driving. Reading appropriate subject matter in the car could apply to any activity.

In the early fall, the Jack Hall family (Tallahassee I) gathers at the beach for a traditional family home evening. The evening starts with a barbeque, continues with a lesson and ends with a testimony meeting around the campfire.

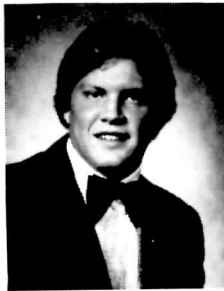
Madison

by Lisa Cavanaugh
Madison Branch Public Communications Director



The United States Achievement Academy recently named Ray J. Robinson of the Madison Branch as a National Award winner in Football and Leadership. Ray received the national honor through a nomination by Madison County High School Athletic Director Bob Stinchcomb. This prestigious honor is awarded to less than 10 percent of all American high school students. Ray was selected upon recommendation of the school sponsor and standards of selection set forth by the Academy. Criteria for selection included academic performance, leadership qualities, responsibility, citizenship, attitude and cooperative spirit, and dependability. Ray is the son of Brother Joe and Sister Margaret Robinson of Lee. His participation in the Church includes music leader, extraction worker in genealogy (Spanish records), and he is a member of the Madison Branch Priests Quorum. Ray has also been a major contributor in many of the roadshows of the Madison Branch.

Greg Simmons of the Madison Branch also received recognition recently as the Madison County High School senior was named to the Valdosta Daily Times All-Area Football Team. The 182-pound strong safety made the newspaper's first team. He is the son of Brother Lee and Sister Jane Simmons of Lee. His activities in the Church since his baptism in October, 1983 include serving as a home teacher.



* * * * *

The Madison Branch enjoyed fellowshiping and socializing February 10 with a pot luck dinner following Sacrament. In honor of the visiting President Chapple, members carried in dishes of lasagna, vegetable casseroles, chicken and rice, and plenty of desserts to be enjoyed by the 60 members attending that day. President Chapple gave an interesting talk during Sacrament and afterward conducted interviews with members of the Branch.

Moultrie

by Wendell Allegood
Moultrie Branch Public Communications Director

The warm weather has made everyone ready to get outdoors and the youth are looking forward to a trip to Crystal Lake this summer. But we may have a get-together sooner (if the weather holds) at Reed Bingham State Park, located on Little River about 15 miles east of Moultrie on the Colquitt-Cook county line. The park features swimming, fishing, camping, nature trails, miniature golf, a large playground for younger children, as well as picnic shelters and cooking facilities.

We are presently planning to hold a series of lessons on ballroom dancing as part of this year's Relief Society Cultural Refinement activities.

Member participation from Moultrie has been good at both the Valentine's Dance and the more recent Gold and Green Ball. And, of course, everyone is looking forward to the roadshow!

Cairo

by Kati Walker
Cairo Branch Public Communications Director

FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES FOR BUILDING ADDITION:

- 1) Beginning in February, running through December, Relief Society sisters are participating in a "WOG-A-THON." For every mile sisters jog, walk or bicycle, several brethren in the branch have pledged to pay 25 cents towards the building fund. 100 miles were logged in February.
- 2) On February 22, we had a pot luck dinner and movie night to celebrate George Washington's birthday and raise money for the building fund.

YOUNG WOMEN ACTIVITIES:

- 1) Two girls were presented at the Gold and Green Ball: Tricia Walden and Dana Butler.
- 2) February Service Project: They made chocolate candy and gave it to the Relief Society to be delivered to the sisters by their visiting teachers for Valentine's Day.

BAPTISMS:

- 1) Christopher Bynum
- 2) James Bynum

BUILDING DEDICATION:

Sunday, March 24, 1985
Branch History by C.L. Butler, Jr.
Special Piano Duet, "The Spirit of God" by
Florence Ewing and Kati Walker
Dedicatory Prayer, President Chapple

Roadshow rehearsals have begun -- lots of fun
Director: Margaret Harding

PRIMARY: Easter Egg Hunt held March 30.



The sweetest sounds to mortals given
Are heard in Mother, Home and Heaven.



William Goldsmith Brown

TIME TO GET GROWING

by Melanie Guris

When planting your tomato plants, take off all leaves except the very top three leaflets. Dig your hole deep enough to set the tomato plant in so these leaflets show just above the soil line. Build a ring of soil up about a foot out from the plant to form a saucer effect. This way all the water and nutrients you add will go down to the roots. I recommend a fertilizer especially for tomatoes. It has the extra elements added that a general purpose fertilizer might not have.

There are two types of tomatoes. Determinate grow to about three feet tall and form a bush. Tomatoes come on over a short time and are gone. Indeterminate grow ten feet tall or taller and need staking. Since the vine bears tomatoes on the growing tips, it produces tomatoes until fall. The suckers (side branches) need to be removed as they grow if you want larger tomatoes.

Tallahassee III

Compiled by Dorothy Roberts
Tallahassee III Public Communications Director

Tallahassee III Ward would like to fill you in on some of the growth we have made since we became a new ward, just a little over a year ago. First a few words from the activities committee.

The activities committee has had five successful activities to date. We started by having a Ward Budget Auction and Dinner, making it a fun way to pay ward budget. A halloween party was complete with spook alley done by the youth, costumes, pie throwing, and many other games and refreshments. Movie night was successful in helping the Cub Scouts in our ward raise money for their troop fund by selling popcorn, candy, and drinks. Next the Christmas party was a nice sit down dinner with Santa Claus paying us a visit. The turn out of people far exceeded our expectations, but was a delightful evening for all.

Our last activity was for adults only. We sailed on our cruise ship to the ports of Hawaii and Mexico. We dined on beautifully set tables with fine china and were served a gourmet meal. Dancing set the mood for the lovely islands. As the ship set sail, we all relaxed with our leis and sipped on pina colodas. It was hard to believe that we never left the Cultural Hall.

We have had some great activities in our ward due to an excellent committee and a lot of support and ward participation. This has brought us closer together and has also been a great missionary fellowshipping aid.

The Seventies Quorum has been helping the youth learn how to fellowship their non-member friends and introduce them to the gospel. The Young Men and Young Women have been reaching out and including their friends in their activities. In January the Deacons and Beehives had a hot dog cookout at the Dransfields' home and invited several non-member friends. A big bon-fire was great for roasting hot dogs and melting marshmallows for s'mores. Some funny outdoor activities and then watching a BYU film topped off the evening. In February the 14-18 years olds had an ice cream social at the Shipley home. Actually, all the ingredients for delicious banana splits were available, along with a game and film and then departure for the Stake Valentine's dance. Again, several non-member friends were invited. The missionaries are involved in the activities so they can meet the youth. Everyone feels like these activities are a fun way to introduce non-member friends to ward youth and church activities. It's a fine fellowshiping opportunity.

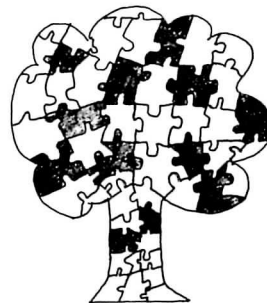
And finally, since Third Ward was created, many changes have occurred in the Priests Quorum. At first, everyone wondered if we would ever be close because of our differences, the biggest being that First Ward boys mainly came from Leon and Second Ward boys were from Lincoln (rival high schools in Tallahassee). We fooled everyone by taking each other in faster than some of us drive. We acted like pieces that fit together like a perfect puzzle.

We had an investigator named Rueben Daniel who found happiness in the gospel and the Priests Quorum. Now there are eight of us brothers who love each other.

We are planning a "splunking" trip at the Marianna Caverns this month, which will be a lot of fun. We are always trying to plan fun things to do, just as brothers would.

We are very proud of our ward. We were taken

from two wards and combined to make a new ward. We all had changes to make and we felt a little sad to leave wards that felt like home. But it did not take long to make new friends and to realize "home" is always where you share the Gospel with brothers and sisters of the Church. Now you could say that Third Ward runs like a well-oiled clock, only missing a beat now and then.



Ancestors

by Lorine Lahtinen
Stake Genealogy Librarian

At the time of this writing the new (1984) issue of the International Genealogical Index (IGI) has arrived at our Stake Genealogy Library. However, there are no envelopes yet so we cannot use the sheets of fiche until the envelopes arrive. Hopefully, by the time you read this there will be a LARGE sign on our door announcing its availability to you.

Have you checked each of the following sources for your missing ancestors genealogical identification?

- Family Bible before 1900
- Family chart, history or notes
- Clue to family locations (property, land annual, etc. of any kind)
- Church letters of recommendation
- Deeds, wills, list of wedding guests, etc.
- Certificates from lodges, clubs, vet groups
- Military -- enlistment or discharge
- Letters (before 1900) from and to family members
- Marriage, birth, death certificates
- Diaries, notebooks, samplers, quilts
- Family photos
- Family traditions
- Mortgages, census, and tax records

Genealogical identification requires names, dates, places and relationships; birth and christening certificates; death or burial information.

Quality is important! It is better to compile one family group sheet that is correct and carefully documented, than a dozen with many names, places and even dates that have no documented facts.



Tallahassee I

by Kristina Booth
Ward Activities Committee Co-chairman

"Clips and Chips," an evening of movie entertainment and refreshments for the entire family, was enjoyed by Tallahassee First Ward on January 26. The ward activities committee had planned a low key activity to follow the excitement of the Christmas holidays. What transpired was an evening of spell-binding entertainment, laced with tension and anxiety as the hushed audience watched Grace Kelley's narrow escape from danger in the Alfred Hitchcock thriller "Rear Window." Children ages three and up were also captivated by "The Dark Crystal," "Sinbad's Adventures," and "Mr. and Mrs. Quack." The adults were served nachos covered with a Mexican cheese dip accompanied by lots of Root Beer and Sprite! The children munched on popcorn, popcorn, and more popcorn. "Clips and Chips" was a successful activity as it brought our members together to enjoy one another's company.

Stake Conference Summary

SATURDAY NIGHT SESSION

The theme of the Saturday evening session of Stake Conference was "Obedience and Sacrifice Bring Forth the Blessings of Heaven."

President Madsen stated that when it comes to the gospel, we can't be lukewarm, because there is a war going on between good and evil. He advised us to consider what things we can take with us through "celestial customs" and put our energy in those areas. He stressed that even though perfection will not come in this life, we need to be always trying and heading in the right direction; striving and failing is not the same as failing to do what you know you should.

Sister Kristy Atterberry, Apalachicola Branch, spoke about the Savior as the perfect example of obedience and sacrifice. She commented that we know it is sacrifice when it hurts to give.

Mildred and Lincoln Barlow, Moultrie Branch, talked about how obedience and sacrifice had brought their family the blessings of heaven. Sister Barlow spoke about the peace, commitment and joy that living the gospel brings. She commented, "You need a faith to live by, a self to live with, and a purpose to live for." President Barlow observed that no matter how obedient we are, we will always be indebted to the Lord. He also affirmed that their family had felt the blessings of tithing; their temporal needs were always met.

Brother Jay Lybbert told about several times when his wife had received revelation for their family, and he had benefited from listening to her counsel. He reminded us that the Lord is bound when we obey his commandments, so we might as well obey and enjoy the blessings. He pointed out that learning correct principles is important and that we don't need to memorize the exact wording of the scriptures because we have the Holy Ghost to guide us in everyday living.

Elder Featherstone said that when we obey the Lord, we have a right to call on him for assistance. He talked about the many responsibilities of Church members and, after taking suggestions from the audience, stated that there are at least 54 things we should be doing to perfect ourselves. Yet he assured us that it was possible to meet all the demands, because gospel living can save time and effort. Through prayer and inspiration we can see things clearer and accomplish goals faster. He recounted how he had been struggling at work one day to write a training manual, not being successful until he stopped and took the time to pray. After that he was able to sit down and write quickly.

SUNDAY MORNING SESSION

President Chapple talked about gardening, recalling his childhood and how every year he would spade the garden and carry out buckets of rocks, thinking he had them all, only to discover that the process needed to be repeated the following year. He compared that situation to our lives and our attempts to improve -- to get rid of the rocks.

He identified some rocks we might need to dig and get rid of: Lack of commitment, making excuses for not doing what we should, saying, "I'm too tired (or burned out)" and having a prideful desire to seek status.

He recommended some crops that we might plant in our personal gardens.

- 1) A tithing bush - the Lord doesn't need our money, but we need to give it.

- 2) A temple tree - to get away from the world and do for others what they cannot do for themselves.
- 3) A home/visiting teaching vine - giving us opportunity to serve.
- 4) A prayer tree - produces the most when nourished several times daily.
- 5) A parenting plant - we are partners with God.
- 6) A service plant - there are as many ways to serve as moments in a day.

President Chapple concluded that if we plant such a garden the Master Gardener will help it to grow and we will grow too.

Two young people bore their testimonies. Sherri Hayes, Moultrie Branch, talked about the importance of fasting, prayer and scripture study. Clayton Tew, Tallahassee III, said his testimony was a strong foundation to keep away the elements of the world.

President Nicholson talked about our striving for perfection. He observed that it was a continual process, since there was always a higher goal to aim for. He declared that the Church is not a showplace for saints, but a hospital for sinners. If we want to be a certain way, we need to do what that kind of person does. We need to stop doing things we know we should not be doing. He drew a connection between perfection and obedience, saying that obedience equals perfection equals keeping the commandments.

President Madsen asked us if we are really ready for the blessings of the gospel, and ready to keep the commandments. He reminded us that the Holy Ghost never screams; we must listen. By listening, we will know what we are doing is right.

President Packard spoke on the reality and importance of a living prophet. He recounted his own feelings at having met President Kimball and expressed a firm knowledge that he is a prophet. He suggested that when the prophet speaks we need to end his counsel with a period, not a question mark. question mark. There is no instance in holy writ when the people erred in following a prophet.

Elder Featherstone concluded the conference with an inspiring talk covering several topics. He gave examples of unselfish service, saying that how we feel about the disadvantaged measures our reverence to God. He stated that we are indeed a church of Godmakers; the Lord was serious when he said, "Be ye therefore perfect." Repentance is a vital tool in attaining perfection.

The mother's heart is
the child's schoolroom.



Henry Ward Beecher



SCOUTING NEWS - DATES TO REMEMBER

Saturday, May 4 - Scout-A-Rama. This year the Scout-A-Rama will be held in five separate locations, rather than in one central place like last year. Scouts from our stake will participate at sites in Quincy, Thomasville, Bainbridge and Tallahassee.

Saturday, May 18 - The Spring Creek Canoe Race, starting in Bainbridge and racing to the top of the lake, will be sponsored by the Chadesega District and the fee will be \$10 per canoe.

THE VIEW FROM THE Pews, from Page 1



what would happen; or the anguish of the mother who stood on Calvary and witnessed the awful events of that Friday afternoon.

People outside our church sometimes wonder why we claim to be Christians yet do not display the cross. President Hinckley has explained, "For us, the cross is the symbol of the dying Christ, while our message is a declaration of the living Christ."

Most of us have lost loved ones to death. How would it be to have them return three days later? Such joy was experienced by Christ's friends -- happiness because he was done with the recent agony, then a dawning realization that this great thing really was happening and His resurrection makes ours possible. The world was changed forever that Sunday morning and eternal life is a reality for all of us.

So let us celebrate -- perhaps not as Madison Avenue would have it, but with hymns of joy and the sharing of testimonies.

MOTHER'S DAY

It's well to have a special day
By proclamation set,
The second Sunday found in May;
But I will gladly bet
Most mothers as they trace the years,
In short or long array,
Will murmur as some scene appears,
"That, too, was mother's day."

The day each came; the day they walked;
The day they were baptized;
The day on which they clearly talked
(Those words she's always prized);
The day small fingers picked for her
That stemless, sweet bouquet
(No other one did she prefer);
That, too, was mother's day.

The day her daughter's gift was brought
In hands that kept it warm,
Made more with glue and loving thought
Than true artistic form;
The day he made the school patrol,
Recited in the play,
Or won some cherished childhood goal,
That, too, was mother's day.

The days may honor and reward
Her daughter and her son.
Success may bless with its accord
Their deeds that are well done.
Whate'er their joy, where'er they dwell,
Somehow there is a way
To bring to her, who loves them well,
Another mother's day.

• NEW MEMBERS •

We welcome the following new members who were baptized in our stake during January and February:

Apalachicola: Phyllis Simpkins

Cairo: Timothy West

Madison: Mark Courterier

Monticello: Lisa Starling

Moultrie: Robert Gavigan III, Vera Drst, Gerald Ward

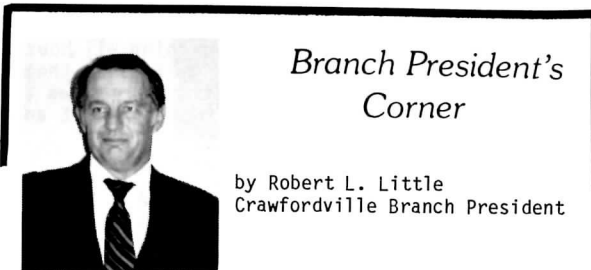
Tallahassee I: Billy, Martha, Matthew and Timothy Barrett, Gary Weber

Tallahassee II: Son Thi Vuong and Hien Allison Vuong

Tallahassee III: Richard Cooper

Tallahassee Student: Walter Hammock

Thomasville: Jerry Brown, Bettye James



Should I admit that in the beginning I doubted President Packard's wisdom in sending non-proselyting missionary couples to the Crawfordville Branch? Well, in the same breath let me testify to you that I am now fully converted -- and repentant.

The parable of the lost sheep has come to my mind and heart. There has been great joy as members of our fold have returned to our midst. How we love and appreciate them, and how we enjoy their love for us and benefit from their service to us.

Because of President Packard's wisdom and inspiration, the Crawfordville Branch has gained (or regained) eight members in only six months. Consider the blessings generated among these eight: we have a new elder, two new priests, a Primary teacher, another member holding a temple recommend, and we look forward, in April, to the baptism of a child-of-record. As a sidelight, let me share that the young lady to be baptized will be baptized by her father, who is our new elder.

Activation is a part of missionary work that is sometimes overlooked. Those who have wandered away should have an interest in our daily prayers, and like the Savior, we should seek them out. They need to know that they are loved and missed, and that they, "the one," make a difference to us and to the Lord. Crawfordville is certainly thankful for our eight "ones," and for the difference they have made in our branch.

Now, the branch would not forgive me if I didn't say something about our current missionaries, Brother and Sister Godfrey. First of all, "Thank you, President Packard." Secondly, we want the Godfreys to know that we do truly appreciate the sacrifice they made in order to come and serve a mission. We are certain that they were headed to the Crawfordville Branch from the moment their bishop in Utah asked them into his office to extend a mission call. The active and non-active members have felt their love and noted their sincerity and dedication. WE LOVE THEM!



Stake Married's Conference

The seventh annual Marrieds' Seminar was held February 16 at the Stake Center. President Richard L. Chapple spoke a few words of welcome and introduction.

President Paul Nicholson spoke on "My Spouse is My Best Friend." He said that trust is a prerequisite for friendship. He also stated that research has shown that children need 12 hugs a day, and people need 12 hugs to overcome a put-down. He reminded the brethren that if their wife is their best friend they should naturally want to spend time with her. He stressed the importance of overcoming ego and hard-headedness, and replacing anger with happiness. He reminded us that our mate deserves the best we can be.

A workshop was conducted by Bobbie McDermid-Fain and Cindy Bryan on the problems of single parenting and the gospel. Although single parents face unique challenges in spiritual growth for themselves and raising their children in the Church, the gospel does provide some helps to meet these challenges. Counsel from inspired leaders, personal and family prayer, scripture study, and family home evening all boost single parents with added strength to fulfill their roles. Church and social participation by singles is also encouraged to overcome feelings of guilt and loneliness.

The parenting panel focused on the interaction of parents and their children. Panel participants were President Patrick Lightcap, Ann Nicholson, Bishop Don Whitley, and as panel moderator, President Charles H. Madsen Jr.

Parents were encouraged to discuss how they want to raise their children and what they will do when specific situations arise. Groundrules should be made and clearly understood by all family members. Discipline is more effective if done in a positive way and should be directed toward the child's behavior, not the child; yelling, hitting and arguing will just make parents and children enemies.

Children's feelings are important to them and parents need to foster the expression and guidance of these feelings. Parents' willingness to listen, verbal response, facial expressions and other body language can encourage or discourage children to express themselves. Children of all ages need physical affection.

It is important that father and mother demonstrate to their children that they love each other and that, while conflicts arise, they can be resolved. Children should be taught that they are not responsible for any spousal conflict. As children marry, they will often model their parents in their interaction with their spouse.

One panel member said, "We are not meant to be happy all of the time but the Lord expects us to strive for happiness. Happiness is a by-product of righteous and appropriate living."

It is the parents' challenge to build self-esteem in their children, to help their children communicate feelings and ultimately to teach their children to make wise decisions for themselves.

A small but enthusiastic group of grandparents met for discussions led by Larry and Renee Anderson. Topics included how we "grandparent" when our loved ones live far away or in the same town, when our

grandchildren are not members of the Church, and also when we have step-grandchildren. Scriptures dealing with grandparents are few, but Deuteronomy 4:9-10 and, especially, Proverbs 17:6 are very nice. Also, Malachi 4:5-6, 2 Nephi 26:9-10, and Mosiah 13:13-14 relate to grandparents. The high point of the workshop came when each participant recalled special memories they had for one or more of their grandparents. This helped everyone to know one another better in a personal way and also reminded them of ways to best interact with their grandchildren.

"Marriage is a co-equal relationship," stated President Madsen in his talk entitled "How Do I Love Thee." This equality does not change the basic roles of man as priesthood holder or woman as childbearer and homemaker.

A husband and wife should know each other well enough to be able to please each other. For example, it may seem a nice gesture for a husband to bring his wife candy, but she may prefer flowers, especially if she is on a diet. A marriage is made of two people who were not raised alike and don't always think alike. They have different opinions, likes and dislikes, habits, manners, and so forth. Disagreements will occur, but by "agreeing to disagree" you can resolve conflict.

In a marriage we should remember the parable of the ten virgins and their lamps of oil. We fill our lamps of marriage one drop at a time with the oil of trust, love, loyalty, understanding, kindness, and so on. But one bad behavior can put a hole in the bottom of the lamp and we can lose our precious oil. Sometimes we take out our frustrations at home even though our families deserve the very best, just as we might strive to be on our best behavior in public.

People may say, "I'm not doing anything with my life; I'm not creative or successful." But what could be more important than creating a beautiful relationship?

We all need someone to believe in us, to lovingly point out our mistakes but also our strengths. Marriage can give us the feeling of never being alone. There is a triad in each marriage consisting of the husband, the wife, and the Lord.

President Chapple noted that the one theme common to all sessions of the marrieds' conference was "realizing the primacy of relationships." He cited many personal examples of the legacy given him by his parents, not just through specific teachings, but in the values he "inherited" from them. "Our home reflects that which we are or hope to be inside," he said, and added that we teach what we are, whether we want to or not, whether it be good or evil. He encouraged us to reflect on the legacy left to us and to consider the legacy we will leave to those we love.



(The following people contributed to this report: Cheryl and Dennis Prescott, Cindy Bryan, Earl Childers, Renee and Loran Anderson, Sunny Little.)

Happiness is
being married
to your
best friend!



Book Briefs

by Suzanne Meik
Seventies Bookstore
Representative

As the spring season unfolds, let's take a look at some new spring publications:

MARK E. PETERSEN: A BIOGRAPHY
by Peggy Petersen Barton
\$9.95, Deseret Book

In his new biography, his younger daughter shares insights into the remarkable life of this beloved Apostle. She writes as only an insider can, using his own personal history and diaries as well as warm, human-interest stories and intimate knowledge from family and friends.

MAKING YOUR HOME A MISSIONARY TRAINING CENTER
by Joe J. and Barbara Christensen
\$6.95, Deseret Book

Brother Christensen, accompanied by his wife, served as mission president at the Missionary Training Center for the Church and have drawn from experiences teaching their own children and training full-time missionaries to write this book. This book will help parents prepare their families to share the gospel with others and serve as effective missionaries themselves.

THE UNDERSTUDY (a novel)
by Jack Weyland
\$7.95, Deseret Book

Michael Hill is an actor. He has done a few television commercials, played a police lieutenant, and the poet Carl Sandburg. Now he's accepted a part that could change his life. His next movie is about the life of Jesus Christ. In this book, Michael Hill learns some valuable lessons of compassion and stewardship when he agrees to play the role of the Savior. He finds out what it means to follow the example of the Master.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS: A CONTEMPORARY HISTORY OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
by William E. Berrett
\$11.95, Deseret Book

An exciting new one-volume history of the Church, which details the Church's early years up to the present day worldwide movement. This promises to be a popular book in a year when the Saints are focusing on the Doctrine and Covenants.

Orders may still be placed for the BYU national championship T-shirts, white or blue. Adult sizes S, M, L, and XL; children's sizes S(6-8), M(10-12), L(14-16). Cost is \$5.50 payable in advance. Contact Suzanne Meik, at 904-562-0190.

MORE GOOD READING....

Mother's Day is coming and it's time to think about a gift. If the mom you have in mind is a full-time homemaker, here's a present she'll enjoy for a full year: a subscription to Welcome Home, a monthly publication in support of mothers who choose to stay at home. Published by the non-profit organization, Mothers At Home, Welcome Home can be a great comfort to full-time mothers who are often looked down upon by society.

The inside cover explains, "Welcome Home is for the smart woman who has actively chosen to devote her exceptional skills and good mind to the nurturing of her family." Articles cover a broad range including

child care, self-development and making money at home. Cost is \$12 per year; send to Welcome Home, P. O. Box 2208, Merrifield, VA, 22116.

While this publication is not affiliated with the Church, it espouses some of the values we hold dear.

Missionary Calls...

Several individuals from the Tallahassee Florida Stake are currently serving missions in the Atlanta Temple. We are proud of the service they are performing.

Francis Collins (Madison)

Grace Tucker (Crawfordville)

Stella Herring (Tallahassee II)

The Buzzetts (Apalachicola)

Also, **Sister Ruth Moody** of the **Quitman Branch** transferred from the Washington DC Temple to the Atlanta Temple.

...and Releases

We wish to congratulate **Brother Noah and Sister Lucille Barber**, **Sister Bessie Monford**, and **Brother Marco Clark**, who completed missions in the Atlanta Temple. All of these individuals are members of the **Quincy Ward**.

Also, welcome home to **Elder Brian Burnham** of the **Valdosta Ward** who returned from the **Canada Calgary Mission**.

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Managing Director	Loran C. Anderson
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The Stake News is a publication of the Tallahassee Florida Stake, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It is published bimonthly and the deadline for the next issue is May 21. The mailing address is Stake News, 2310 Oxford Road, Tallahassee, Florida, 32304 and the phone number is (904) 576-5774.

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CLASSIFIED

LOST: Pink knit baby bonnet on January 20 somewhere in the stake center. Matches a complete sweater set. Please call 904/575-2117 if you can help.

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