

Stake Conference Scheduled

Regional Representative James O. Mason will preside at Stake Conference on September 14 and 15. The theme will be "How the Atonement and the Principles of the Lord's Justice and Mercy Affect Our Lives." Scheduled meetings are as follows:

Saturday, September 14

4:00 p.m. Priesthood Leadership for all stake, ward and branch priesthood executive committees, and stake missionaries.

6:00 p.m. Meeting for all adults 18 and over.

Sunday, September 15

10:00 a.m. General session for all members of the stake.

Primary will be held during the general session for children ages 3-6.

and classrooms are readily available from the central core of the chapel-cultural center. Less floor area requires less land, thus providing a savings on site purchases as well.

To conserve energy, the building is enclosed within an envelope of super-insulation, all windows are glazed with insulated glazing, and entrances are doubled with a vestibule between, all to make it easier to control the interior environment regardless of exterior climatic conditions.

Lighting is designed to enhance the aesthetics of the interior, to produce special effects, and more especially to help create a spiritual atmosphere for all who enter.

Construction of the new Moultrie Chapel is to begin later this year.

Tallahassee Second and Third Wards have recently made application to build The Sage. This new building will be constructed on 6.56 acres which the Church owns on Thomasville Road. This tract lies east of the road just north of Killearn. Construction should begin by mid-1986.

Apalachicola, Cairo and Valdosta are each presently exploring the possibility of adding to their buildings.

New Buildings Planned

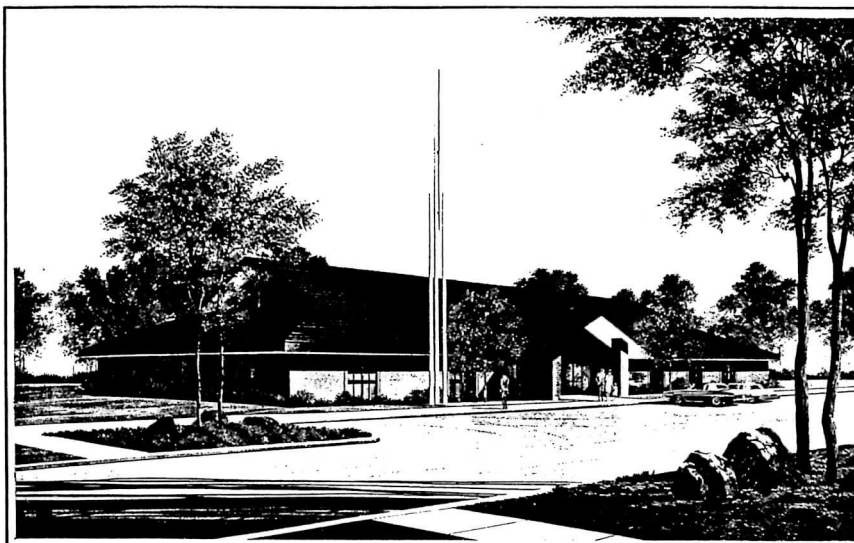
by Bill Clark
Stake Physical Facilities Representative

The Moultrie, Georgia Branch has recently received approval to build a new chapel, "The Sage".

The Sage is a new multi-ward meetinghouse designed as a single rectangle enclosing less space to be more efficient in use for the occupants, easier to construct, a great saver of energy, and to have a greater number of flexible teaching stations and areas for use of three wards. Four wards can be housed with the loss of just one teaching station. All offices

The Stake is making application for a Stake suite addition to the existing stake center which would include a new stake president's office, stake high council room, stake clerks' office, new meetinghouse library, and new genealogy library. This will result in returning approximately nine classrooms for ward use, and will also give the Student/Young Adult Ward permanent residence in the main building.

(Editor's note: As Physical Facilities Representative, Brother Clark's responsibilities include overseeing any building construction that takes place in our stake. Also, these building plans will be funded 96% by the Church and 4% by local membership. Our stake qualified for the 96% contribution by meeting a minimum number of full-tithe-payers requirement.)



"The Sage"

Stake Presidency Message

The Importance of Missionary Work



by Charles H. Madsen, Jr.
First Counselor

President Kimball has stated repeatedly that the most important priority we have as members of the Savior's Church is to share the restoration of the Gospel with those of Heavenly Father's children who are prepared for this glorious message. We have a sacred and solemn responsibility to seek out individuals and families that can be taught by the full-time missionaries.

We rejoice with members of our stake, in the greatest work in all the world -- saving the souls of our Father's children. President Ezra Taft Benson (president of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles), recently spoke to Mission presidents from throughout the world and told them that he had re-read every address on missionary work given by President Kimball in his tenure as the living prophet. He said, "As I have done so, tears have welled up in my eyes as I have again caught his marvelous vision of missionary work as given to him by direct revelation."

The following is a partial abstract of President Benson's remarks.

Our living prophet lives, and though he cannot speak to us I testify to you by the Spirit that his words stand as a living testimony of what the Lord would have us do today. I fear that unless we fully understand the words of President Kimball, catch his prophetic vision of missionary work, and implement his words, we will be held accountable before God. I also fear that we have not yet done what the Lord would have us do as directed by His holy prophet.

I have arranged President Kimball's messages into four separate areas of missionary emphasis.

First, President Kimball's greatest emphasis has been the sacredness of bringing souls unto our Father in heaven and the importance of greatly increasing convert baptisms.

In October 1974 President Kimball asked the question: "What is the greatest blessing that can come to man? The answer was given to John and Peter Whitmer: . . . 'And now, behold, I say unto you, that the thing which will be of the most worth unto you will be to declare repentance unto this people, that you may bring souls unto me, that you may rest with them in the kingdom of my Father' (D&C 15:5-6)."

President Kimball continued, "If one labors all his days and brings in save it be one soul! . . . One soul! How precious! Oh, that God would give us that kind of love for souls!" (Regional Representatives' Seminar, Oct. 1974.)

In 1979 he reminded mission presidents: "We have paused on some plateaus long enough. . . . think, brothers and sisters, what would happen if each active family were to bring another family or individual into the Church; . . . we would be joined by several hundred thousand new members of the Church." (Mission Presidents' Seminar, June 1979.)

As a Church, we have not yet caught that vision. Members are not bringing several hundred thousand members into the Church each year. We have not yet met this challenge of a living prophet.

President Kimball has stated: "Now you are going out on your mission not merely to make friends for the Church, though that is important, but to properly convert and baptize. . . . Notice the quote .

. . . "He that believeth and is baptized must be saved, . . . " (Mark 16:16.) Not he that heareth but he that believeth and is baptized."

President Benson has indicated, "Brethren, the spirit of this work is urgency. We must have the spirit of now. N O W. We are not just waiting for the natural, slow process of bringing people into the Church. We must move more rapidly. (Mission President's Seminar, June 1975.)

Then in 1979 he stated:

"Please do not confuse straightforward emphasis on missionary work with mere statistics. Our concerns are with souls, not statistics. We desire growth only because that will mean that we are reaching our Father's children who desperately need the gospel and Church in their lives. . . . What we have been doing in our missionary efforts is good but it is not good enough. It is time to stir ourselves, and then we can stir others.

"Convert baptisms are not the responsibility of the Missionary Department of the Church, but are the responsibility of ecclesiastical line officers and members of the Church."

Thoughtfully, President Kimball suggested:

"When we try to find causes for our lack of greater progress in missionary work, I suggest that we ponder what happened at the Last Supper when the Savior indicated that one present would betray Him. The disciples did not look or point at each other, but all responded with a very candid question, "Lord, is it I?" (Matthew 28:22.)

"Let us assume that we might be part of the reason the work does not go as well as it must. (Mission Presidents' Seminar, June 1979.)

In his second major emphasis, President Kimball indicated that missionary leaders, missionaries, and members must have much greater faith than we have ever demonstrated if we are to dramatically increase the number of convert baptisms. He quoted the words of the angel that "with God nothing shall be impossible" (Luke 1:37.)

(to MISSIONARY, pg. 10)



Relief Society

by Renee Anderson
Stake Relief Society President

The Lord never asks us to do anything unless he prepares the way for us to follow (see I Nephi 3:7). As members of the Stake Relief Society we have had this message brought to mind in many ways since the wonderful visit with the General Board sisters from Church headquarters. We recognize them as true servants of the Lord sent to help us receive instruction and counsel.

We have been implementing the suggestions made by filling positions on our stake board as follows:

Betty Hackney - Leadership Training
Marilyn Cranford - Curriculum/Inservice
Betty McGuire - Welfare
Dee Durrance - Homemaking Leader
Dorothy Rudd - Mini Class chairman

Each ward and branch Relief Society will be visited each month by a stake board member beginning in July. We hope this will foster closer relationships for us as sisters throughout the stake and press forward in ways not realized before.

We see much work to be accomplished by the sisters and know we can do it as long as we commit ourselves and our families to listening to the promptings of the spirit and following our leaders.

On September 28, all women of Relief Society can look forward to our Special Women's Broadcast from Church headquarters in Salt Lake City which we receive live via satellite at our chapels.

Another important event for all Relief Society presidencies will be the annual Leadership Training session scheduled for October 29.

If any sisters have questions or suggestions for a better Relief Society, please contact a board member visiting your unit.

CALENDAR

August

- 30 "Mom & Dad's Night Out" adult dance at stake center 7:30 p.m.

September

- 1 Tallahassee First Ward Conference
2 Labor Day
10 Stake News deadline
14-15 Stake Conference
21 Young Men/Young Women stake youth activity
22 Crawfordville Branch Conference
27 "Mom & Dad's Night Out" adult dance at stake center 7:30 p.m.
28 General Women's Broadcast
29 Tallahassee Third Ward Conference

October

- 5-6 General Conference
12 Priest/Laurel Conference
13 Quitman Branch Conference
26 Stake Halloween Costume Dance
27 Apalachicola Branch Conference
29 Priesthood/Auxiliary Leadership Meetings
31 Halloween



Cairo Scout Reminds Motorists



July 4th holiday travelers entering or leaving Cairo via busy US 84 East received a very visual reminder to "don't wreck your vacation."

Fourteen-year-old Life Scout Larry Murkerson, Jr., staged a very realistic "wreck" consisting of two smashed cars and fake bodies to drive the message home.

One requirement for "life" scout calls for a candidate to display leadership in the community. As part of his preparation, Larry met with the Cairo City Council to explain the project and obtain the Council's permission to erect it. He also enlisted the assistance of local merchants to provide the wrecked cars and the mannequins. City Council members have described the visual holiday traffic warning as a "very good community project" and several passing motorists thought it was a bona fide traffic accident.

Larry is a member of Boy Scout Troop 312, sponsored by the Cairo Branch, and has been in scouting just over two years.



From the General Authorities...

"Now, the atonement of Christ is the most basic and fundamental doctrine of the gospel, and it is the least understood of all our revealed truths."

"The Lord's atonement is the most transcendent event that ever has or ever will occur, from Creation's dawn through all the ages of a never-ending eternity." (Bruce R. McConkie)

"Repentance is not a once-in-a-lifetime thing; rather, it lasts a lifetime, an ever-recurring acknowledgement of weakness and error. . . seeking and living for the higher and better." (F. Burton Howard)

"Most human misery represents ignorance of or noncompliance with the plan of salvation." (Neal A. Maxwell).



Moultrie

New Branch President

by Wendell Allegood
Moultrie Branch Public Communications Director

Neil Bennett Roberts has been called as the new president of the Moultrie Branch, succeeding president Lincoln Barlow, who is enjoying a well-deserved, though most probably brief, rest.

President Roberts, 35, is a history teacher at Colquitt County High School. He also serves as defensive line coach for the Colquitt County Packers football team.

He and Sister Dianne Carol Roberts have been married for 16 years and have three children; two daughters, Alice Dianne, age 10, and Angela Camille, age 5, and one son, Micajah "Caje" Bennett Roberts, age 7. They are expecting their fourth child in August. The family received their endowments and were sealed in the Atlanta Temple in February of this year.

President Roberts was born to members of the Church but credits his mother, Sister Edith Roberts Rehberg of Thomasville, with converting his wife three years after they were married. President Roberts describes the Church as, "the best thing that could ever happen to my family."

Sister Roberts manages Satellite Systems of Moultrie for Brother Don Cowling of Thomasville. Sister Roberts has been able to bless the Moultrie saints with facilities for viewing Conference and special Church broadcasts from Salt Lake City. She also serves as first counselor in Young Women for the Moultrie Branch.

President Roberts has served in previous callings as Sunday School teacher and as first counselor in the Young Men presidency. Because of his career involvement with young people he enjoys a special relationship and commitment to the Moultrie Branch Young Men and Young Women.

His stated goals as Moultrie Branch president reflect these commitments:

1. To promote the spiritual growth of each young person.
2. To promote the growth of the Moultrie Branch.

President Roberts has called Alton J. Parrish and Robert Thornton as his counselors.

Young Women

by Ann Christiansen
2nd Counselor, Young Women Presidency

As soon as they began summer vacation the Young Women began preparations for a spectacular summer. The evening of Sunday, June 9, the youth, their parents, advisors and chaperones met in an orientation fireside preliminary to Regional Youth Conference and the Stake Youth Temple Trip. Guidelines were given for dress code, code of conduct and expected schedules. In addition, special messages were given by President Chapple, President Madsen, and President Nicholson. (continued next column)

Thomasville Ward hosted the Stake Dance on Friday, June 21. The change of scenery from the Stake Center to the smaller Thomasville building was enhanced by delightful tropical seaside refreshments and decorations. Those who attended had a great time. Hats off to Thomasville for a super job!

"These Are Your Days" welcomed us to Troy, Alabama, the home of the Tallahassee Region Youth Conference. Over 400 youth and leaders converged on the Troy State Campus from the Tallahassee, Marianna and Pensacola Stakes. Among the activities were several informative seminars, an informal dance, a semi-formal dance, sports activities, and a semi-formal dinner followed by a special speech by Young Men General Board Member Brother Terry Nofsinger. In addition, the conference culminated with a priesthood meeting and Young Women meeting (once again with guest speaker, Terry Nofsinger, formerly with the National Football League's Pittsburgh Steelers), closing with a very special testimony meeting. Those who attended Youth Conference will agree that the occasion was a wonderful opportunity for growth and making new friends and renewing old acquaintances.

September 21 has been set as the date for a Stake Youth Activity for all youth, ages 12-18. Twelve and thirteen year olds are not able to participate regularly in Stake Youth Activities, but this event is for all youth and all are encouraged to attend. More information will be forthcoming regarding this event.

We appreciate working with the Young Women; they are beautiful inside and out and continue to prove this over and over. We love them and pray for them always.

Quincy

by Steve Hall
Quincy Ward Public Communications Director

On July 27, there was a farewell party held in the Quincy Ward for Richard and Susan Clark. Brother and Sister Clark are moving to Johnson City, Tennessee for Brother Clark to further his education. Both Brother and Sister Clark will be sorely missed in Quincy. We wish them the best.

The ward held a temple trip, beginning July 30, and lasting through August 3. This trip could best be described as a staggered trip. Some of the members left for the temple on July 30, while others, because of work and meetings were unable to leave until July 31. Also, some were only able to stay for one day and had to return home on July 31. The last group left Atlanta and headed for home on August 3.

Those who were able to make the trip were Willard Rudd, Lucille Barber, H. Marco Clark., Richard and Susan Clark, Greg and Beverly Decembrino, Steve and Joan Hall, Bernie Morrow, Paula Nicholson, and Iwan Teare. Kathy Rudd was also there to do baptisms for the dead. While at the temple, there was work accomplished in nearly all stages of proxy work. Those of us who were able to be in attendance are extremely grateful for the opportunity we had to attend the temple, and we are especially grateful for having a temple so close. I hope we all can make the time to attend the temple in the near future.

On July 31, as part of the Quincy Ward temple trip, there was a very special event. Brother and Sister Hall were sealed together for time and all eternity. A reception was held for the Halls on August 4 at the home of President Paul Nicholson.

Youth Temple Trip



A Day at Six Flags

One hundred and twenty-two youth, chaperones and leaders left for Atlanta Wednesday, July 10 to do baptisms for those who have died. Included in the days' events were an evening at Stone Mountain and a day at Six Flags. The last day, Friday, July 12, was spent at the Atlanta Temple. It was a memorable day for many -- over 1200 baptisms and confirmations were completed. As might be expected, this required the patience of those reverently waiting their turns. The youth were very admirable during this process and can be commended for it.

The following is a list of all those who participated:

Bainbridge: Danny and Toni Brough, Sean Johnston, Michelle Kitchens, John Maddox, Karen Riffle, Lyn White.

Cairo: Cindy, Dana, and Rhett Butler, Frank and Jim Harding, Nikki Humphreys, Trisha Walden, Kristy Watts.

Crawfordville: Kelli Allen, Diane Gonzales, Holly Hunter, Jyo Kerns, Sherri Kight, Candice Miller, Marsha and Shannon Tucker.

Monticello: Robert Duquette

Moultrie: Jereme Allegood, Bobby Cooper, Irene and Krista Godwin, Dennis Jacobs, Holly Parrish, Neil Roberts.

Perry: Amy Compton, Janice and Mike Gunter, Paige Lee, David and Kathy Singletary.

Quincy: Allen, Michael, Paul and Paula Nicholson, Christa and Kimberly Rudd, Randy St. Cyre, Iwan Teare, Rhett Tucker.

Quitman: Jim Moody, Millie Sanders, Anissa and Valerie Wheeler.

Tallahassee First: Dusty Anderson, Tim Barrett, Dax and Kelly Brock, Lori Clark, Keith and Keri Davis, Sheri Dove, Jack Hall, Mechelle and Timothy Maxey, John Miller, Chris and Mike Poppell, Petrea Schrader, Candy and Sonja Settles, John Taylor.

Tallahassee Second: Cynthia Baird, Willie Brackin, Tiffany Bullock, Larissa, Marika and Richard Chapple, Penny Clark, Shaunie Feagle, Carol Jackson, Nathan and Nickie Jimenez, Scott McDermid, Tammy Rivers, Elena Russold, Elizabeth Strickland, Sylvie Voyles, Bill Whitfield, Nancy Whitfield.

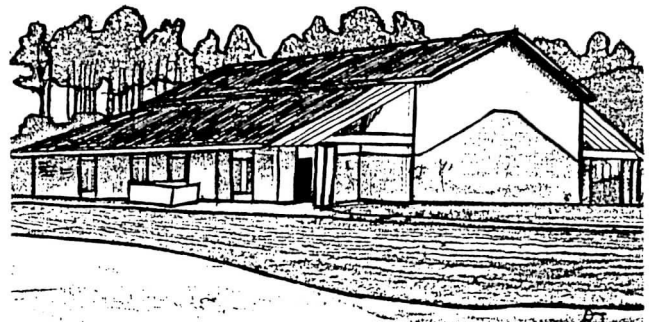
Tallahassee Third: Ann Christiansen, Billy Roberts, Maenell Smith, Michelle and Monica Stayton, Marion and Trista Whitley.

Thomasville: Mildred Adams, Sherryll and Wayne Clanton, Russ and Shannon Covington, Woodrow Cranford, Natalie James, Chance King, Donna Newell, Edith Rehberg, Shannon and Kimberly Roberts, Rick Watson.

Valdosta: Ronni Bartholomew, Diana Bridgman, Fifi Burgess, Bruce Chambless, Shawna Cooper, James Giles, Jessy, Jimmy and Joseph Gill, Amelia Goodwin, Julie and Melba Henderson, Tammy Kassum, Julie Solomon, Heather Strayhorn, Jared Walker.

(Editor's note: We apologize for any names we may have omitted or misspelled.)

Bainbridge Branch History



Editor's Note: Dedication services were held earlier this year for the new meetinghouse in Bainbridge. It was a milestone in the short history of the Bainbridge Branch. Information for the following branch history was supplied by Henry Covington and compiled by Rebecca Johnston of Bainbridge.

The Bainbridge Branch was formally organized on July 11, 1976, by then Tallahassee Stake President Jay Lybbert, with approximately 30 members. The Branch was dependent under the Quincy, Florida Ward and its Bishop, W. Paul Nicholson. The first Branch President for the Bainbridge Branch was S. G. Solomon. The unit met at the Shrine Club building east of town until it could move into its first building, a large two story house on Evans Street, on August 1, 1976.

The branch began to grow and on January 9th, 1977, it was made into an independent Branch by Stake President Jay Lybbert. Due to the moving of the Solomon family later that year, on November 20, Dan Brough was called to be the Presiding Elder, and then on November 27th, he was called to be the Branch President.

The Branch again needed more space so on July 17, 1982, it moved into an old church building in West Bainbridge. On Saturday the 4th of November, 1982, Stake President Richard L. Chapple held the groundbreaking ceremony for the current site, although the actual construction did not begin until December, 1983.

On Easter Sunday (Branch Conference), April 22, 1984, Stanley J. Webb was called to be the Branch President. The new building was first used for services on August 19, 1984, and passed final inspection on September 13, 1984. The current membership is approximately 150.

Institute



(classes begin September 3)

Weekly Courses

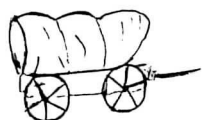
Name	Title	Place	Day	Time
REL 341	LDS History Institute		Wed.	7:30 p.m.
REL 341	LDS History FSU Campus	Tue./		12:20 p.m.
	Room TBA	Thurs.		

Registration: \$3.00 for college students of all ages and their spouses and young adults under 26. \$15.00 for non-college adults 26 and over.

Monthly Courses

Number	Title	Place	Day	Time
REL 160	Preparing for Celestial Marriage (singles only)	Institute	Fri. Sept. 6 Oct. 4 Nov. 1	7:30 p.m.
Lecture 31R	Parenting (marrieds & single parents)	Institute	Fri. Sept. 13 Oct. 11 Nov. 8 Dec. 6	7:30 p.m.

Registration: \$3.00 per person for singles and \$3.00 per couple for marrieds (if not already registered for REL 341).



Bainbridge

by Rebecca Johnston

Bainbridge Branch Public Communications Director

The Bainbridge Branch had a rousing "good ole' time" on Pioneer Day! The Young Women sponsored a talent show with participants from age 3 on up to "nobody's telling." The Primary began by singing "Primary Children." Then followed 23 varied talent presentations of song, dances, gymnastics, skits, and readings. The program ended with all singing "Come, Come Ye Saints." There was a refreshment break half-way through the program which also gave the audience time to view a beautiful display of homemade craft items brought by various members. Special thanks go to James Blankenship for acting as Chief Engineer and Stage Manager and also to the Young Women and their counselors who worked long hours to pull everything together for a great evening for all! We're looking forward to the next one!

Bainbridge welcomed a new family to their Branch in June. Roger and Claire Bowers, and 4 of their 7 children, moved from Tennessee. Welcome! Brother Bowers did a great comedy act in the Talent Show!

The Bainbridge Branch softball team won first place in the city-wide church league again this year. Several non-members were regular players! Congratulations on another successful season!

Earl and Brenda Starling's third baby, born on July 17, was a real record-breaking one! Their son, Zachary Wyatt, weighed 12 lbs. 11-3/4 oz. (a hospital record!).

Young Women Canoe Trip



by Kati Walker

On July 26 and 27 twenty young women and their leaders canoed down the Coldwater River in Milton, Florida, as part of their camp certification (3rd, 4th and Summiteer levels).

Those young women attending were: Ronnie Bartholomew, Kelly Brock, Fifi Burgess, Penney Clark, Christina Cooper, Tammy Kassum, Holly Parrish, Petrea Schraeder, Sonya Settles and Sylvie Voyles.

Adult leaders joining in the fun were: Oran and Sheila Greene, Debra Moss, Paula Nicholson, President Paul Nicholson, Dianne Poppell, Nancy and Paul Sushereba, and Kati Walker.

Highlights of this year's canoe outing included: Dianne Poppell (Summiteer leader) flipping and swamping her canoe in the trees, unintentionally; President Nicholson protecting everyone from harm with his trusty canoe paddle; walking upstream to ride the river "one more time"; paddling with every bit of strength in a thunderstorm; camping overnight on a beautiful white sand bar, only to be kept awake in the wee hours of the morning by serenaders from Tallahassee wards; and stopping at nearly every sand bar so the leaders could swim while the girls sat in their canoes ready to move on down the river.

This was a terrific canoe outing. Everyone had a fun, fun time. It will be hard waiting for next year's adventure!



If you have a news idea for your community media or the Stake News, contact your Public Communications Director.

Rebecca Johnston (Bainbridge)
 Fran Council (Crawfordville)
 Ron Flynn (Monticello)
 Wendell Allegood (Moultrie)
 Steve Hall (Quincy)
 Warren Pritchett (Quitman)
 Nancy Sushereba (Tallahassee I)
 Barbara Young (Tallahassee II)
 Dorothy Roberts (Tallahassee III)
 Joe Ann Owens (Thomasville)

TALLAHASSEE III

by Donald M. Whitley, II
Tallahassee Third Ward Bishop

In September 1985 the Tallahassee Third Ward will turn two years old. I am constantly amazed that so much time has elapsed in that it seems only yesterday the Ward was formed. I remember the first few meetings when everyone was learning who was who and who did what. I'm thankful for the dedication and strength shown by our members as we organized ourselves. The Third Ward started out with just over 300 members, the smallest of the Tallahassee Wards (except the Student Ward).

It is a wonderful feeling to look around and see the increased number of members, not only in our Ward but in the Tallahassee area as a whole. We have now reached over 400 members, and although we are still the smallest in Tallahassee, we feel very blessed by the addition of many fine families into our Ward. At an early ward meeting the Third Ward bishopric indicated they felt that with real diligence on the part of its members, their Ward, with the other two wards in Tallahassee, could again be ready to divide into 4 wards within two years. That challenge has been borne out in the number of converts in Tallahassee. With continued emphasis on missionary work by all our members we will certainly see the Lord's blessings pour forth.

I am very proud of the Tallahassee Third Ward member missionary efforts both in seeking to share the gospel with their neighbors and acquaintances and also in preparing themselves and their families for missions. We presently have five members on full-time missions -- Brother and Sister Bone, Greg Carroll, Richard Martin, and Ricardo Shipley and one member, Richard Tucker, who has just received his mission call to the Arkansas Little Rock Mission. The Ward also has five other young men planning to go on a mission within the next six months. President Packard, our Mission President, has said many times that a ward's missionary effort is in direct proportion to the number of missionaries serving full-time missions from that ward. I truly believe that is the case in the Tallahassee Third Ward.

Another exciting missionary tool that has recently been implemented in the Ward is the use of Stake Missionaries. Three couples have been called as Stake Missionaries: Brother and Sister Stoutamire, Brother and Sister Goldstein, and Brother and Sister Shipley. Their purpose will certainly be to teach and correlate with the missionaries plus a new emphasis where they will help coordinate the Missionary effort of the Ward through their respective quorums and auxiliaries.

As members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints we have been very blessed with knowledge of truths that many have never had the opportunity to hear. As a Ward we have dedicated ourselves to spreading the gospel by word and example, always with love for our fellowman and our Heavenly Father. It is my hope and prayer as a bishop that not only can our Ward grow but that each unit in the Stake can accomplish the work that our beloved Prophet has said is the most important for the Lord at this time - the work of spreading the gospel.

The View

From the Pews



I could be any of the music personnel in the Tallahassee Stake. I play the organ or piano for your sacrament meetings. Sometimes I play for other meetings as well. In some units I am a brother; in other units I am a sister. I have a few thoughts I would like to share with you today.

I want you to know that I love the Lord and His Church. I feel it a privilege to be a part of His Kingdom here upon the earth. I enjoy the opportunities I have had to associate with and to serve the saints in various callings I have had and currently have in the Church. I especially enjoy my opportunities to contribute to the spiritual setting of sacrament meeting.

But herein lies my problem. As hard as I try, sometimes you members won't let me do my part. "How," you ask, "do we keep you from doing your part?" Let me answer you in this manner. What do you do when you hear the prelude begin? Do you say to yourself that it is time to get ready for the sacrament meeting; to put myself in a reverent, listening mood by contemplating things of the spirit? I'm afraid that many of you do not. Often, you take the prelude as a signal to raise your voices and try to out-talk my efforts to make a spiritual setting, musically speaking, for the upcoming sacrament service and speakers.

Please, let us join together to solve this problem. I have worked for years to be able to make a small offering to the Lord through music. I only ask a few minutes of your time each Sunday to help set the proper quiet reverence that can genuinely invite the spirit into our meetings. Won't you please help me? We will all benefit by a united effort to increase the reverence in our meetings by silently listening to the preludes and partaking of the spirit there ensuing.

The Stake Activities Committee Presents

"Mom and Dad's Night Out"

a casual dance for adults only
featuring the music of the 30's-50's
the last Friday of each month
at the Stake Center

Aug. 30, Sep. 27, Oct. 25
7:30-11:30 p.m.

Children not invited - no nursery

Geneology Library

by Laura Byington
Stake Genealogy Librarian

WHAT'S IN A LANGUAGE?

What's in a language? Nothing -- if you can't read it!

The Genealogical Library is in need of translators of microfilm and microfiche records and documents in the possession of researchers.

If you have a knowledge of any "foreign" language or are able to read the Old English records, the library would appreciate your help. Would you be willing to share your talent on an "as needed" basis to help others fulfill their genealogical responsibilities?

Please contact the library and advise us of the language and hours you might be able to help.

Spotlight



by Anne Walker

The year was 1936, and the small branch of the Church in Tallahassee was eagerly awaiting the arrival of the new family which had just moved from Jacksonville. It was even said "she can play the piano." The family was the Ewing family consisting of husband Bill, wife Florence, and 5-year-old Joe.

And Florence Ewing was no ordinary piano player; she was an accomplished musician as untold hundreds have testified over the years.

Florence Ewing was baptized in Jacksonville on July 9, 1935, and for the next 50 years she was to be found seated at the piano or organ. During that time she also served for 14 years as a Relief Society president and was the first District Relief Society president of the West Florida District. Even her recent painful operation in which her right shoulder bone was replaced by a metal shoulder bone has not been allowed to interfere with her musical church service and she is back playing for Sacrament meeting at the Cairo Branch.

Sister Ewing said what she has most appreciated over the years is the opportunity of playing at funerals for members and she deemed it a great privilege that anyone would invite her to play on such occasions. When Tallahassee was still a district, she played for funerals between Bristol and Chiefland.

"I just want to do what I can for as long as I can" sums up the sweet testimony of this dear Sister who is loved not only by the Saints in Cairo but by all who have known her over the years.

CRAWFORDVILLE

by Frances Council
Crawfordville Branch Public Communications Director

Somehow there is nothing more special than the blessing of being able to go to the temple to be sealed together as a forever family. This privilege was enjoyed by the Morris family as they went recently to the Atlanta Temple to be sealed. They were accompanied by Branch members Bob Little, Leland and Glenna Sasser, Ginny Fish, Eiko Kerns, Stan Tucker, and Bill Wasdin. The Branch was also blessed by the large proportion of our youth who went on the Youth Temple Trip. It was so special that the Branch hopes to have a Branch trip soon that will include some of the youth.

On Mother's Day, the Branch gave long stem roses to the mothers present. Later in the day the Young Women took flowers to women at the Wakulla Manor nursing home. They came away with more blessings than they took, as the appreciation of the people showed how much their thoughtfulness meant. For both Mother's Day and Father's Day the Primary sang special numbers and gave talks about their parents.

The scouting program has been active. In Cub Scouts the following awards were earned and presented at the recent Pack meeting. Brent Tucker, 2 yellow beads and a patch; Brad Tucker, 1 red bead; Spencer Hunter, 4 yellow beads, a patch and a gold arrow for wolf; Kenji Kerns, 1 red bead; 4 silver arrows for Bear by James Sasser. James was also the first, in Crawfordville, to earn the Church's "Faith in God" award. A really warm moment came as Brent and Brad Tucker, presented their mother, Marsha Tucker with a Bobcat pin; and Spencer Hunter, presented his mother, Betty Hunter with a Wolf pin.

The Boy Scouts held a Court of Honor. Butch Goodman, received his first aid, camping and hiking skills awards and second class arrow. Jyo Kerns earned his physical fitness award and scout badge. Brian Daniels, a non-member, received the Church's "On My Honor" award.

The Branch had a special time at their recent pot luck social. It was decided that they would surprise their Branch President, Bob Little, by making it a surprise birthday party for him. His wife Ann used every possible delaying tactic to make him be late including not getting dressed and losing her purse with the keys. Bob made a public apology to her for the way he had reacted. What made it so humorous to the Branch was President Little's recent campaign to get everything to start on time. Peggy McCabe baked a beautiful birthday cake and ice cream was served. A family photo album was presented to President Little. Games were played and a really warm sharing time was had by all.



L to R: Brian Daniels, Pres. Robert Little, Joe Lewis

Bishop's Corner

by Jack H. Hall
Tallahassee First Ward Bishop



We Are a Covenant People

Brothers and sisters, as a leader in the Tallahassee Florida Stake I have had the opportunity to interview many people for many reasons. Many of us complain that we are doing more than we can bear; the weight of responsibility is too much. Knowing some people's circumstances I can relate with them, but most would feel pressured with any sort of responsibility.

Now I think it is perfectly clear that the Lord expects far more of us than we sometimes render in response. We are not as other men. We are the saints of God and have the revelations of heaven. Where much is given much is expected. We are to put first in our lives the things of the Kingdom.

We are commanded to live in harmony with the Lord's Law, to keep all His commandments, to sacrifice all things if need be for His name's sake, to conform to the terms and conditions of the Law of Consecration.

We have made covenants so to do, sacred, holy covenants, pledging ourselves before gods and angels.

We are under covenant to live the Law of Obedience.

We are under covenant to live the Law of Sacrifice.

We are under covenant to live the Law of Consecration.

With this in mind, hear this word from the Lord: "If you will that I give unto you a place in the celestial world, you must prepare yourselves by doing the things which I have commanded you and require of you." (D&C 78:7)

It is our privilege to consecrate our time, talents, and means to build up His Kingdom. We are called upon to sacrifice, in one degree or another, for the furtherance of His work. Obedience is essential to salvation, so also is service, and so, also, are consecration and sacrifice.

It is our privilege to raise the warning voice to our neighbors and to go on missions, and offer the truths of salvation to our Father's other children everywhere. We can respond to calls to serve as Bishops, Relief Society presidents, as home teachers and in any of hundreds of positions. We can labor on welfare projects, do genealogical research, and do great work in the temple.

We can pay an honest tithing and contribute to a generous fast offering and building funds.

We can consecrate a portion of our time to systematic study, to becoming gospel scholars, to treasuring up the revealed truths which guide us in paths of truth and righteousness.

If we love the gospel there is plenty for us to do to build up His Kingdom.

May the Lord continue to bless us all - Amen.

Scouting News



by Patrick E. Lightcap
Madison Branch President

In this 75th Anniversary year of Boy Scouting in this country it is significant that the Madison Branch is establishing a Boy Scout Troop. As many Church members know, it is difficult to establish and maintain all the programs of the Church in small units. Because of this it might be interesting to look at the conditions which were necessary for the scouting program to be a reality in Madison.

First, it took a stake presidency that views Boy Scouting as a priority for the Young Men in each Church unit. They gave information, encouragement, and support. Second, prayer by the Branch Presidency to know what the Lord would have in Madison, Florida. Third, utilizing the resources that our Heavenly Father provided. This included the Young Men already in the Branch and an Eagle Scout non-member interested in assisting the program. This turned out to be William Greene who is the son of a new member, Tommy Greene. Finally, it took the commitment to "do it."

In April of 1985, the Scouts began meeting on Wednesday nights while the branch president, his counselors, and the two clerks have their meetings. During that month they completed two service projects. First, they shoveled dirt for a young man who was in the middle of housing construction and suffered a heart attack. Then they acted as ushers for the Johnny Whittaker - Marvin Goldstein concert at North Florida Junior College. Also, in April they set up a Scouting display for the Madison Branch Open House.

In the month of May, the troop had their first campout. William Greene, assisted by his father and Frank Williamson and Joe Robinson made this a father and son outing. Eight young men spent the night in the wilds of Madison County on the edge of San Pedro Bay. Four were members and four were non-members. What a missionary tool!

In June, Tony, Richard, and David Floyd made themselves available to help members evacuate when homes were threatened by a 28,000 acre forest fire. Through the efforts of fire fighting equipment from 30 miles around no homes were lost. But these scouts were ready to help on short notice.

Still in the organizational stages this scouting program has slowed somewhat in the month of July. The three most active scouts are working on their progression in scouting. The continuing greatest need is an enthusiastic adult church member who can meet regularly with the troop to give guidance and encouragement. This remains a matter of sincere prayer. But at least there is a program to pray about.



MISSIONARY (cont'd from pg. 2)

He reminded us of the words of the Lord to Abraham, "Is any thing too hard for the Lord (Gen. 18:4)?"

Then he declared, "I am under no delusion, to think that this will be an easy matter without strain or that it can be done overnight, but I do have this faith that we can move forward and expand much faster than we now are."

President Kimball, as we all know, is a man of tremendous faith. He urges us . . . to develop this same faith. He reminds us of George Bernard Shaw's classic statement, "Other people see things and say why, but I dream things that never were, and I say, why not?"

Then President Kimball added:

"The problems of the world cannot possibly be solved by skeptics or cynics whose horizons are limited by the obvious realities. We need men who can dream of things that never were, and ask, Why not?"

"We do not worry about HOW and WHEN and WHY. We ask, WHY NOT?"

"I repeat my witness that He will unlock doors and His promises may be relied upon. I know He will stay the opposition. He will mellow hearts and He will pave the way if we have faith to pursue." (Regional Representatives' Seminar, Oct. 1974.)

I now move on to President Kimball's third point regarding how to effectively do missionary work today.

Never has a prophet emphasized more the importance of setting personal goals to bring souls unto God.

In October 1974 President Kimball declared:

"Brethren, I feel that we must use a goal program and let every missionary make his own goal. In the past it seems visitors have set goals for people and that isn't quite right. Let everyone have the privilege and the responsibility." (Regional Representatives' Seminar, Oct. 1974.)

"We must set personal goals to share the gospel.

"We do believe in setting goals. We live by goals. In athletics, we always have a goal. When we go to school, we have the goal of graduation and degrees. Our total existence is goal-oriented. Our most important goal is to bring the gospel to all people. We must find ways and means.

"Our goal is to achieve eternal life. That is the greatest goal in the world. We are not opposed to goals. We do not want stake presidents to establish quotas. Rather, we expect members to set their own goals, and make them high enough to challenge their very best efforts, and work to achieve them. . . ." (Regional Representatives' Seminar, Apr. 1975.)

Now for the fourth and final point of emphasis, which is laced throughout all of President Kimball's talks on missionary work. It is this: Members of the Church must greatly accelerate their personal missionary activity if the Lord's harvest is to be accomplished.

In addition, we have the responsibility to teach our sons that a living prophet has called all young men to become or stay worthy and fulfill a full-time mission and prepare ourselves to serve when able (the Church presently has only 50% of the couples they need and could use ten times that amount). We also need to support missionary efforts with time and money.

Let us listen to our prophet and reap the great joy of this effort. We testify of the joy, contentment and peace which fills our souls when we watch those we have helped to convert grow in the gospel. We dedicate ourselves to continued and unrelenting effort to further our Heavenly Father's Kingdom.

President Kimball declared:

"Do we really believe in revelation? Then why cannot we accept fully as the revealed word of God the revelation of the prophet-president, David O. McKay, wherein he brought to the Church and to the world this valuable Church slogan, 'Every member a missionary.'"

President Kimball continued:

"How else could the Lord expect to perform His work except through the Saints who have covenanted to serve Him? You and I have made such a covenant. Will we honor our sacred covenant?" (Regional Representatives' Seminar, Sept. 1977.)

Again President Kimball declared:

"It is impractical for us to expect that [full-time] missionaries alone can warn the millions in the world. Members must be finders. The valuable time for our teaching missionaries is too often spent in 'finding.'"

"Members should shoulder this responsibility. Every member knows of nonmembers he or she can refer to the missionaries. Every father, mother, and youth in this church should share the gospel by giving a Book of Mormon, telling the account of the Prophet Joseph Smith, or inviting our acquaintances to a special meeting. If we are in tune, the Spirit of the Lord will speak to us and guide us to those with whom we should share the gospel. The Lord will help us if we will but listen.

"It is the responsibility of the members to provide the stake and full-time missionaries with the names of individuals and families to teach. Sometimes we forget that it is better to risk a little ruffling in the relationship of a friend than it is to deprive him of eternal life by keeping silent." (Regional Representatives' Seminar, Apr. 1975.)

President Kimball went on:

"It should be clear to us that usually we must warn our neighbors before we can warn them properly. Our neighbors must experience our genuine friendship and fellowship. We want members to entreat neighbors, not to scold them or scare them." (Regional Representatives' Seminar, Sept. 1976.)

In 1980, he concluded:

"All of this means, . . . that we cannot share the gospel with every nation, kindred, tongue, and people [using only full-time] missionaries (as wonderful as they are), but we must have several million more to help them. We must, therefore, involve the members of the Church more effectively in missionary work. Member-missionary work is the key to the future growth of the Church." (Regional Representatives' Seminar, Oct. 1980.)

"We exhort the members of [this Stake of] Zion to fulfill their missionary responsibility. We do it with love--not criticism; with understanding--not berating. But do it, and do it with urgency. We want you to catch the vision and the inspiration of President Kimball and to understand that member-missionary work is literally the key to the future growth of the Church and that we all have covenanted with our Father in heaven to do this work."

Book Review



by Suzanne Meik
Seventies Bookstore Representative

Our friend, Bob Millet, has two new books in the 70's Bookstore.

The first one is The Joseph Smith Translation, edited by Brother Millet and Monte Nyman, who also teaches at BYU. This book compiles 14 discourses by LDS scholars at a BYU symposium. The truths restored by Joseph Smith's translation of the Bible are pointed out so that every Bible reader will profit from this interesting book.

Volume II of Studies in Scripture, Pearl of Great Price, has also just been released. This is a collection of essays written to give deeper insight into the historical and doctrinal aspects of this book of scripture.

Dr. Paul R. Cheesman has a new book out: Ancient Writing on Metal Plates which is the culmination of years of research and travel to actual sites, thousands of photographs and hundreds of books studied. Dr. Cheesman explores the many similarities in Old and New World writings, and compiles extensive information from modern research that demonstrates that ancient cultures throughout the world commonly wrote and protected records on metal plates.

The last new book in the Bookstore concerning scriptures is John Sorenson's An Ancient American Setting for the Book of Mormon. Dr. Sorenson, chairman of the Department of Anthropology at BYU, presents a credible model for an ancient American background of the Book of Mormon. He answers questions like "Who were these people?" "What might they have looked like?" and more. This is a thorough work of scholarship, a book that must be read by every serious student of the Book of Mormon.

New Members We Wish To Welcome

We welcome the following new members who were baptized in our stake during June and July:

Apalachicola: Melinda Reeder

Bainbridge: Adam Elwell, Adam Wayne

Cairo: Jessie and Lois Ezell, Shannon Phillips, Elizabeth Whiddon

Crawfordville: Marjorie Palmer

Madison: Elizabeth Brinson

Monticello: Sandra Witschy

Quitman: Gwendolyn Crews

Tallahassee I: Robert Cutchin

Tallahassee II: Teresea James, Shirley Larry, Rodney and Stephanie Morre, Ronny Nix, Linda Pessarar, Robert Stedman, Martha Valencia

Tallahassee III: Marvin Goldstein, Christopher Mallory

Tallahassee Student: Jack Ramwatthanakul

Missionaries Called....

Best wishes to Richard Tucker (Tallahassee III), who has been called to serve a full-time mission in the Arkansas Little Rock Mission.

....and Released

The following young men recently returned home after faithfully serving full-time missions:

Ken Futch (Tallahassee II)
South Dakota Rapid City Mission

Richard Martin (Tallahassee III)
Utah Salt Lake City South Mission

David Taylor (Cairo)
Utah Salt Lake City South Mission

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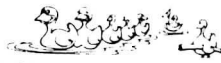
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