

SKETCHES



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Sketches **rebooted**

JULY / AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2007

2 Sketches Rebooted

3 The Future of Ministry in Southeastern

5 Perrine School Conducts Community Health Fair

6 The Gospel Commission Fulfilled

7 Miami Union Academy Week of Prayer

7 MITHS 2007 Summer Program



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Editor

Sketches Rebooted



The first issue of Sketches was published in the Winter of 1987 by Elder Roy Brown, the first Communication Director of Southeastern. Since then it has changed forms many times. In this era of digital convergence it has been changed once again.

I have redesigned Sketches from the ground up to exploit current and emerging digital technologies to provide you with an interactive experience. Toward that end, Sketches will tell multi-content stories via multiple platforms.

Every story in Sketches will be enhanced by a suite of digital products and services that I collectively call Sketches Interactive. For starters, Sketches, the flagship of the Sketches brand, will be available in a digital version. On a weekly basis eSketches, an e-newsletter, will keep you up to date via e-mail with breaking news and events. Be sure to sign up for the those services.

Via the PodCenter, you will be able to download audio files of interviews and other events. SketchCast, a video news magazine, will deliver compelling visual stories via streaming video and DVD. And, inside the Photo Gallery you will be able to view photographs of conference events.

In the BlogCenter you will gain unique insights into the lives of our Pastors, teachers, conference workers and constituents as they share with you commentary on issues, events and other topics of interest.

Finally, you will also have the unique opportunity to comment on each story that appears in Sketches.

I hope that you will enjoy Sketches.



The FUTURE of Ministry in Southeastern



Bold leadership challenges complacency. It keeps a steady eye on the future opportunity clock and moves swiftly and appropriately

to provide growth and development through present challenges.

As early as August 30, 1974, Elder R.L. Woodfork was considering the bold step of dividing old South Atlantic Conference. Standing on the shoulders of his predecessors, men like W.S. Banfield, and H. Singleton along with their supporters, he led the commission in the division that created Southeastern Conference, still the newest Conference in the North American Division.

Southeastern quickly outpaced many Conferences in membership and with a strong return in tithes by its faithful membership, it soon became the 14th largest of 58 conferences.

A bold course was now set by our first president, Elder J.A. Edgecombe. He emphasized evangelism and hired workers who labored especially during the summers to increase the conference membership. He purchased our first office building in Altamonte Springs. That 6,700 sq. ft. headquarters swallowed our small office staff at the beginning. His congenial leadership style kept us focused on growth and development.

Jackson M. Doggette, Sr. boldly took the mantle as president next and

led Southeastern through some difficult days with a steady hand.

His stately eloquence brought calm and reassurance, much needed qualities at the time. His careful management style helped us to refocus and stay on course.

Hurricane Andrew hit Southeastern in South Florida during his administration. It was one of the costliest catastrophic natural disasters to occur on planet earth. As he led us through that amazing hurricane, he continued to add workers who would make a difference, as time would tell.

After calm winds returned, R.R. Brown began some of the boldest moves yet. This visionary president listened for years to the complaints of members about the June heat at Camp Meeting. He then envisioned and constructed a nearly 4,000 seat air-conditioned state-of-the-art pavilion in Hawthorne, Florida. Amazingly, members now wear sweaters in June in the pavilion at Camp Meeting.

R.R. Brown planned and coordinated with the local help of Evangelist T.A. McNealy, a major tent evangelism crusade in Miami and Orlando. The Miami meeting grossed over 800 baptisms while planting two churches. An important forward thinking addition during this administration was the creation of the Technology Department and the hiring of Mr. Robert Henley.

I, as current president, with many of the pieces in place, quietly challenged boldness by trying to take advantage of every opportunity for added service. Each president has had the benefit of having a talented field. This is a primary reason for the blessings of God in our short history.

My first act was to turn the Technology Department into a ministry. Prior to the creation of the Technology Department I was the chairman of the internal technology committee that handled conference technology issues. Mr. Henley successfully accomplished that and actually wrote the job descrip-

tion for this new North American Division Department. He later hosted the Division's annual Technology meeting where this new ministry was voted into being. Awesome!

In 2003, I unfolded a new concept of leadership and operational management called "Joint Leadership Initiative."

Joint Leadership is a unified approach to Southeastern's Ministry Services. It is established in an effort to produce a more effective and efficient management of Departmental (Ministry) resources. Its goal is to partner Conference and church evangelizing (Outreach) and educating (In-Reach) ministry teams to encourage increased efficiencies through joint efforts resulting in enhanced services to local churches and communities.

Directors have begun to pool resources and work in cross-functional teams. It erases a detachment that so long existed between departmental directors. Local churches must also start using the joint effort. Investing in this collaborative design enhances the service opportunity and saves time and money.

Southeastern Conference has become a brand in its own right. Talented directors are always pushing the envelope to provide 21st Century resource services.

From a 25th Anniversary Banquet in our Adult Pavilion to a Family Life couples' romantic dinner cruise on the St. John's River; from a Technology create-your-own Film Festival to a bring-a-friend Women's Ministry Convention; from a simple Spelling Bee that goes down to the wire to a Survival Training Campout; and from Joint Leadership Summit Training opportunities to Satellite Camp Meetings for community outreach, Southeastern Conference has continued to boldly make its mark in "creating unique, innovative and above all, more effective ways to spread the gospel in the 21st Century."



—BY W.L. Taylor
President - SEC

Sketches Interactive

CONTENT ONLINE

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SketchesOnline

New Ministries Emerge in Southeastern

NAD Adopts Southeastern's Technology Ministries

Pure Reality

Miami Union Academy Mission Trip

SketchCast

Sherri Grace on a mission

The Student Colporter



The Regional Conference A History

First Hispanic Men's & Women's Ministries Conference

Mid Session Reports

MC Strachan Federation

MUA Graduation



BLOG Center

Share your comments in the blog center



POD Center

Content On-The-Go

The following Icons indicate additional on-line content.

Comment on story Full Story On-Line Video Audio Content Photo Gallery

Calendar of Events

DATE	DESCRIPTION
Jul 7	NAD Single Ministries, Convention, Lake Buena Vista, Florida
Jul 12-15	SEC Women's Ministries Retreat
Jul 9-20	Oakwood College/SEC Summer Institute
Jul 8- 28	SEC Junior Camp, Hawthorne, Florida
Aug 1-4	ASI National Convention, Louisville, Kentucky
Aug 13	First Day of School
Aug 18-19	Sabbath School Teachers' Training District One
Sep 1	NAD Men's Day of Prayer
Sep 9-15	NAD Family Togetherness Week
Sep 9-13	Adventist Risk Management Conference
Sep 14-16	South Florida Youth Federation
Sep 24-26	SEC Workers Meeting
Sep 26-30	Southern Union Pathfinder Camporee, Camp Kulaqua, Florida
Sep 26-29	NAD Festival of the Laity
Oct 1-31	Women's Ministries Evangelism Explosion
Oct 7-13	Health Education Week
Oct 26-28	National Bible Bowl
Nov 2-4	SEC Men's Convention, Orlando, Florida
Nov 1-5	Youth Specialties Convention, San Diego, CA
Nov 11-17	Southern Union Administrative and Departmental Council
Dec 2-5	Oakwood and Southern Union Evangelism Council, Huntsville, Alabama
Dec 26-30	FHES Convention

Perrine School *Conducts* Community Health Fair

The Perrine SDA Elementary School hosted its annual Community Safety Day on Sunday March 11, 2007.

On this day the school teamed up with Officer Angela Berry to bring in a team of police officers from the Miami-Dade police department. They demonstrated important car seat safety rules for babies and infants as well as finger printing for young children. Many people were given locations for reporting if they were physically or sexually abused, threatened, or if they believed they were in danger. Others were informed about Miami-Dade Park Watch concerning how they can better protect themselves when jogging in the park.

Nurse Giselle Holness, ARNP, hosted a booth which gave useful information about HIV/AIDS focusing mainly on abstinence and self-esteem and abstinence and HIV. Additionally she performed Hepatitis C screening and gave information about Colon Cancer screening.

Blood pressure checks were done by Nurses Gloria Edwards and Joan Nicholson. Joining the group were nurses from the West Perrine Health Center, they included Nurse Hugenna Outar ARNP and Nurse Gillian Scott ARNP. They presented facts on women's health as well as shared information on preventative services.



Nurse Giselle Holness ARNP speaks with Mrs. C. Bird (second right) Southeastern Associate Superintendent of schools.

Women over 50 years of age were given breast and cervical cancer screen-

ing. On the other hand many attending the fair were eager to participate in the community blood drive.

The Adventist Center Book store had a display of religious books as well as canned vegetarian food on sale. A steady stream of customers could be heard bargaining until there was an agreed price.

One of the greatest attractions was the first booth which housed the food. Here one could purchase an array of victuals including cakes, chips, cold drinks, and dinner which included fried fish and bakes. These were provided by the Home and School Association.

This was a productive day. Everyone left very satisfied and more educated about their health and safety. Thanks to the teachers, staff and students of the Perrine school and all those who contributed to make this day a success.



—BY Millicent Taylor

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Vice President, General Conference
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PASTOR RANDY STAFFORD
Pastor, South Central Conference
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The Gospel Commission Fulfilled

A Historical Reflection of Southeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

During the 1970's ideas and conversations were had about dividing the vast territory of the South Atlantic Conference so that the gospel commission could be fulfilled. At that time the Conference territory reached as far north as the Virginia border and as far south as Key West, Florida. It was bounded on the east by the Atlantic Ocean and its western borders touched such states as Alabama and Tennessee. This land mass represented approximately half of the Southern Union Conference territory.

In a letter dated August 30, 1974, Elder R. L. Woodfork, President of the South Atlantic Conference, wrote Elder H. H. Schmidt, President of the Southern Union, inquiring about the possibility of dividing the South Atlantic Conference.

On September 3, 1974 Elder Schmidt replied to Elder Woodfork with the suggestion that a Commission of thirteen people be set in place to give formal study to the idea of dividing the South Atlantic Conference. This commission would include the Union Officers, the South Atlantic Officers, Elder W.S. Banfield of the North American Division, three pastors and three lay persons.

Representatives for both committees included Marvin Brown, K.A. Dennis, Kenneth Moore, R.A. Sloan, J.W. Dorsett, Mrs. Julia Jackson, Mrs. W. Waldon, Alpheus Forbes, O.H. Paul, William Winston, R. Patterson, R.B. Hairston, and R.L. Woodfork from the South Atlantic Conference. The Southern Union Conference representatives were: H.H. Schmidt, H.F. Roll, T.W. Cantrell, and J.H. Whitehead. The General Conference representative was F.L. Jones.

At the 1978 Annual Council meeting of the General Conference, approval was given to divide the South Atlantic Conference.

On August 9, 1979 the Study Commission voted the plan it would recommend for the division of the South Atlantic Conference. The Northern territory would be North Carolina, South Carolina and all of Georgia north of and including Early, Calhoun, Dougherty, Lee, Crisp, Wilcox, Dodge, Wheeler, Montgomery, Toombs, Tattnall, Long, and Liberty counties.

The Southern territory would be all of Florida (except that portion of Florida west of the Apalachicola River) and that portion of Georgia south of and including the counties of Seminole, Miller, Baker, Mitchell, Worth, Turner, Ben Hill, Telfair, Jeff Davis, Appling, Wayne, and McIntosh.

On June 8, 1980, at Hawthorne, Florida, the South Atlantic Conference Constituency voted to formally divide the South Atlantic Conference and to authorize a session of delegates from the new territory to meet and formally organize a new Conference. At that time votes were taken on recommended budgets, Office locations in the north and the south, disposition and division of assets, workers and other pertinent matters related to start up.

The first session of the new Conference convened at 10am on June 22, 1980 in the Music Building of Forest Lake Academy in Forest City, Florida. There were 169 regular delegates and 28 delegates at-large making a total of 197 official delegates.

At this session the following officials were elected: J.A. Edgcombe, President, D.A. Walker, Secretary Treasurer,

O.J. McKinney, Departmental Director, G.W. Timpson, Departmental Director.

Southeastern Conference officially opened for business on January 1, 1981 with approximately 8,511 members; 51 churches; 20 pastors; 5 church schools with 24 teachers; 12 literature evangelists; 2 associate publishing secretaries; and one Bible worker.

Pastor-Evangelist like R.R. Brown, K. Dennis, W.L. Taylor, D. Ross, H.L. Davis, T. Fraser, E. Young, G. Nosea, W.C. Byrd, and J. Harris were consistently under tents summer after summer winning and baptizing souls. Add to these countless church and lay evangelism rallies to increase the harvest of souls and the establishment of new congregations. Julio Astacio was our first Hispanic worker. Gerard Nosea was our first Haitian pastor. At the close of 2005 Southeastern Conference employed seventy-four English language Pastors, nine Spanish language Pastors, One Filipino Pastor and twenty-two Creole/French language Pastors.

By December 31, 2005 there were 32,782 members in 137 congregations; 86-English (63%), one Filipino (1 %), 35-Creole/French (25%) and 15 Hispanic (11%). There were 74 ordained ministers, 12 licensed and 4 part ministers for a total of 90. Also employed were two Bible Instructors, 20 staff persons, 46 full time and/or part time Literature Evangelists, and 61 teaching personnel. Southeastern operates 13 schools with Miami Union also offering 12 grades. Tithe for 2005 was approximately 18 million dollars compared with approximately 2 million dollars in 1981.



—BY Herman L. Davis

Miami Union Academy Week of Prayer

It is common that childhood memories should revolve around school life; however the essence of Christian Education rests in the fact that these memories should be enhanced by the development of a relationship with Christ. The awesome memories of the week of September 18–22 will always remain with the faculty, staff and students of Miami Union Academy. But that week will be especially dear to the seven students who accepted God's "Amazing Grace" according to the theme for the week, and were baptized and formally added to the membership of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Sherwin Callwood, Youth director of Southeastern Conference, spoke to the high school students and Pastor

Carl Ricketts spoke to the elementary students.

It was not only the inspiring sermons that kept the listeners motivated. Both departments enjoyed praise teams, led by Ms. Buisson and Mrs. Morris, respectively, who set the pace for true worship. Featured video clips, personal testimonies, and a variety of prayer activities created the opportunity for all to have a unique experience with God's Amazing Grace.

Pr. Callwood brought daily personal insights and lessons to the students, reminding them God would deliver them just as He had delivered so many before them, if they would only accept His Grace. And in the elementary, one of the most impressive sermons was on Wednesday when Pr. Ricketts

dressed in full white and described the sinner's need to put on "Christ's robe of righteousness". This was the turning point for decisions to accept Jesus as our Savior.

At last, on Friday, there was a public demonstration of the effectiveness of the work of the Holy Spirit. Pastors Garcia and Ricketts baptized the following students Lawrence Karr and Terry Timothe (Grade 9), Jevanni Millien (Grade 7), Bradley Mirbon and Shantal Bryan (Grade 6), and two brothers Billy Germeil (Grade 5) and Jedlee Germeil (Grade 2).



—BY Shelley Garner

MITHS 2007 Summer Program

Brandon Dixon of the Palm Bay SDA Church, Florida has been selected from a large pool of students nationwide and overseas as 1 of 20 students for MITHS 2007. MITHS (Minority Introduction To the Health Sciences) is a challenging three-week summer program designed to introduce high school students to careers in the health sciences, while totally immersed in campus life.

The MITHS program is FREE to the participants. The room, board, and educational expenses will be covered by the Black Alumni of Loma Linda



University, the Loma Linda University School of Medicine, and the Loma Linda University School of Dentistry. The transportation to and from Loma Linda University will be his responsibility and only major expense.

Brandon will have the first-hand opportunity to experience what happens on a health sciences university campus—basic sciences (anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, pathology, pharmacology), clinical courses (nursing, medicine, medical technology, dentistry, dental hygiene, physical therapy, public health) and research. He will also develop time man-

agement and study skills in a workshop program specifically designed for him. The MITHS experience will prepare Brandon for his senior year and show him what to expect in college. In addition, there will be an opportunity to make new friends, meet with the Loma Linda faculty and alumni, and participate in social and spiritual events.

Brandon is the son of Roy Dixon, Palm Bay SDA Church Treasurer and his wife Ada.




—BY B.K. Waite,
Palm Bay SDA Education Director

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