



**(BP)**

**-- BAPTIST PRESS**  
News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

**NATIONAL OFFICE**  
SBC Executive Committee  
901 Commerce #750  
Nashville, Tennessee 37203  
(615) 244-2355  
Herb Hollinger, Vice President  
Fax (615) 742-8915  
CompuServe ID# 70420,17

**BUREAUS**

**ATLANTA** Jim Newton, Chief, 1350 Spring St., N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30367, Telephone (404) 898-7522  
**DALLAS** Thomas J. Brannon, Chief, 333 N. Washington, Dallas, Texas 75246-1798, Telephone (214) 828-5232  
**NASHVILLE** Lloyd T. Householder, Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37234, Telephone (615) 251-2300  
**RICHMOND** Robert L. Stanley, Chief, 3806 Monument Ave., Richmond, Va., 23230, Telephone (804) 353-0151  
**WASHINGTON** Tom Strode, Chief, 400 North Capitol St., #594, Washington, D.C. 20001, Telephone (202) 638-3223

August 4, 1992

92-123

**EDITORS' NOTE:** Baptist Press index of its daily releases:

**ORLANDO** -- Hispanics mark 5 centuries of influence in America, with photos.  
**ORLANDO** -- Draper calls Baptists to focus on ethnic work to reach nation.  
**KENTUCKY** -- Woman's witness became town's ministry project.  
**LOUISIANA** -- Evangelist preaches 'flying by the seat of his pants,' with photo.  
**LOUISIANA** -- Clancy's music ministry may return to the kids, with photo.  
**HONDURAS** -- Rural Kentucky volunteer team tackles big jobs in Honduras.  
**GLORIETA, N.M.** -- Service awards presented during home missions week.

Hispanics mark 5 centuries  
of influence in America

By Barbara Denman & Rosa Martinez

Baptist Press  
8/4/92

**ORLANDO (BP)**--More than 1,700 people from Southern Baptist's largest ethnic community traveled from California, New York and several Latin American countries to celebrate 500 years of Spanish influence in America.

The "Celebration of the 500," sponsored by the Southern Baptist Hispanic Pastors' Conference Aug. 1-2 in Orlando, highlighted the discovery of America as well as the heritage and future of Hispanic Southern Baptist work.

The cultures of the 20 Hispanic nationalities were represented by flags, dress and displays. Musicians included Mariachi singers, a South American band playing the bombo, rain stick, kir and charango, internationally known opera star Blanca Varela and singer Cathy Guajardo.

"The only thing that binds us together is the our Spanish language," said Bob Sena, coordinator of the event. "This meeting dispels the myth that Hispanics cannot work together."

Sena, assistant director of the Home Mission Board's language church extension division, said the event was designed to highlight "the Hispanic culture, language, heritage, voting power and presence in the United States."

But, he added, the purpose of the meeting can be found in the future, rather than the past. "We want to use this as an launching pad for a strategy of evangelism, church growth and church planting for the next decade in the SBC.

"This is a coming out party," Sena said. "Everyone has said we have been asleep. We are a waking giant. We're here, we have an influence and we are contributing to the SBC. We're not asking for a handout -- we're giving a hand.

"We're doing target evangelism, focusing on the largest ethnic group in America."

The history of Spanish influence in America was recounted by Antonio Ramos, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Miami, who highlighted the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus and the development of Southern Baptist work among Hispanics.

--more--

Southern Baptists first reached out to the Hispanics in 1821 through the work of the First Baptist Church of San Antonio which began a Sunday school class for Mexicans in the community. The class organized in 1861 as La Primera Iglesia Bautista.

The work among the Spanish people began in 1884 when Alberto Diaz began an effort to minister to the Spanish in Key West, Fla. Diaz also was the founder of Baptist work in Cuba.

Ramos said Southern Baptists have remained true to Scripture. "A fundamental fact is that we never lied to the Hispanics. We have told them that the Bible is infallible and that the Savior is sufficient -- the only mediator between God and man. That is a good reason for a big celebration."

According to James T. Draper Jr., president of the Baptist Sunday School Board, 1992 has been the year of new Spanish products. In October, the board will release Quietud, a daily devotional periodical and three new Sunday school teaching resource kits for adult/youth children and preschool kits. Other Spanish products include "The 24-hour Counselor," which was prepared in Spanish by Hispanic counselors, and translated materials "Step by Step Through the Old Testament," "Disciple Youths," "Covenant Marriage" and "Parenting by Grace."

Draper added every year through a series of field service events, the board trains approximately 5,000 Hispanic church leaders in reaching, teaching and discipling people in the local church. "We have said that the ethnic work and the Hispanic work will be a priority in the budget for the next year."

During the two-day event the group recognized three of their own for their contributions to Southern Baptist Hispanic life. Named as "heros of the faith" were Antonio Ramos; Doris Diaz, language specialist for the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union; and Oscar Romo, director of the Home Mission Board's language church extension division.

Diaz, who is taking early retirement from the WMU, was recognized for her "selfless, devoted service," according to Barbara Curnutt, director of the Florida WMU. "It would be difficult to measure the impact of her life and ministry for the cause of missions in our convention. She literally has spent her life telling the mission story to thousands who speak English as a second language."

Hugo Ruiz, pastor of the Tamiami Baptist Church in Miami, honored Ramos as a pastor, writer, historian, thinker and friend of everyone. Ramos, a prolific writer and historian, was recently named as a lifetime member of The Royal Academy of Spanish Languages. He also is a columnist for the Miami Herald newspaper and the author of "El Pastor en la Iglesia de Hoy."

But the highlight of the two-day event was the recognition of Romo, who was called the Southern Baptist "Hispanic Statesmen of the Century" and praised by a parade of SBC agency representatives.

According to Fermin Whittaker, HMB regional coordinator, the Mexican-American Romo served as a pastor in Texas and worked at the Baptist General Convention of Texas before he went to the HMB in 1965 as the first Hispanic or ethnic to be employed by an SBC agency.

When he was named director of language missions in 1970, 674 ethnic congregations were affiliated with the SBC. In 1992, Southern Baptist ethnic work touches every state and encompasses 6,000 congregations and 2,600 Hispanic congregations.

"From the political power of the White House to the more humble farm laborers, Oscar Romo is known as the man of faith, a friend of the one who suffers, friend of the pastors and a faithful servant of God," Whittaker said.

--more--

Closing the two-day conference was internationally-known Hispanic evangelist Luis Palau who told the group "this is the hour of your decision." He shared with the Hispanics their self-image is related to the power of the Holy Spirit and the Lord has a special purpose for them in the United States. He encouraged them to remain true to their love of God and love of family and admonished them to evangelize all people.

The meeting was held in conjunction with the National Language Church Development Conference, sponsored by Baptist Sunday School Board's special ministries department, which is expected to draw more than 1,000 ethnics from 11 language groups.

Yamile Fernandez of Santa Ana, Calif., is president of the Southern Baptist Hispanic Pastors' Conference.

--30--

Denman is director of communications for the Florida Baptist Convention; Martinez is a Jacksonville-based writer. Baptist Press will post a Spanish-language version of this story later this week. (BP) photos available upon request from the Florida Baptist communications department.

Draper calls Baptists to focus  
on ethnic work to reach nation

By Frank Wm. White

Baptist Press  
8/4/92

ORLANDO (BP)--In its efforts to reach ethnic groups throughout the United States, the Southern Baptist Convention must focus on the people, build churches and tie those churches to the denomination, James T. Draper Jr. said in the opening session of the first SBC national multi-ethnic language conference.

Draper, president of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, said although the SBC is the most ethnically diverse denomination in the nation, there is much progress to be made.

"The gospel is preached in 180 languages in the convention. We publish literature in nine of those languages," Draper said. "We have much to do, but we are working on it.

"We will assist local churches. We will help you. Let us do that," he said. "The Southern Baptist Convention must involve ethnics, not absorb them."

More than 700 people representing as many as 11 different ethnic groups participated in the opening session of the National Language Church Development Conference at the Hyatt Orlando Convention Center in Orlando Aug. 3.

The conference is sponsored by the board's special ministries department and is the largest Southern Baptist multi-ethnic national meeting to date, John Gardner, Sunday School Board coordinator and producer for the conference, said in the opening session.

"History is in the making here," Gardner said. "This is only the beginning. We hope to do more training for language churches around the nation."

Draper, who worked with language groups through his church before becoming president of the board in August 1991, said ethnic work in the convention must be done with integrity and dignity.

He pointed out 53 percent of the U.S. population is considered ethnic with another 17 percent black. In order to reach the nation, the largest Protestant denomination in the nation must target those groups.

"We must have a vision for working in the spheres God has given us," he said. "We must define our target and focus on that target."

--more--

Draper said it is important the Sunday School Board provide materials that are not written for ethnics but by ethnics.

He said supporting local churches is "very much a part of our strategy. We must plant our lives in local churches."

There is not enough time to reach ethnics using cross-culture ministry as the only tool, he said. "We must assist ethnic leaders to build up the work. We must be wise in our use of funds and resources to assist churches."

As ethnic congregations are developed and supported, those churches should be tied to the SBC, Draper said.

"Through the Cooperative Program, we are able to do many of the things God has put us here to do. With the Cooperative Program, we are a national denomination with international reach," he said.

Bill Banks, director of the special ministries department, said Draper's leadership at the Sunday School Board has provided a new emphasis on language work.

"It is not by chance that he (Draper) has come to the leadership of the board. It is by the purpose of God that we have a stronger emphasis for this work," Banks said.

The four-day conference will provide leadership training for leaders in Hispanic, Korean, Vietnamese, Chinese, multiethnic English, Filipino, Greek, Cambodian, deaf, American Indian and Haitian congregations.

--30--

Woman's witness became  
town's ministry project

By Pauline Stegall

Baptist Press  
8/4/92

LA CENTER, Ky. (BP)--Members of one Kentucky Baptist Church fulfilled the biblical commands to feed the hungry, minister to the sick, clothe the naked and visit prisoners all in one giant mission project.

In the process, they led their entire community to assist in the effort.

It began when Fannie Barnette, with two other women, volunteered to witness to every home in the small western Kentucky town. They completed the visitation in three weeks and found about 50 prospects.

In the process, they found Angela Ringstaff living in a run-down house with five children. Les, 13, was her own. The other four were nieces and nephews left in her care: Michael, 11; Craig, 6; Tina, 5; and Mary Lou, 4.

The church provided clothing for the children and Ringstaff allowed them to ride the bus to Sunday school even though she would not attend herself.

Then on Dec. 13, police officers entered the home and found 30 pounds of marijuana in the attic. Ringstaff insisted it was not hers but was arrested.

After serving six days, she was released on bail. The church then provided a bountiful Christmas, including new clothes, toys and food for the family.

Larry York, pastor of the LaCenter church, went to court with Ringstaff nearly a dozen times. He was holding little Mary Lou in his arms as Ringstaff was sentenced to three years in prison.

--more--

Then as Ringstaff was taken from the courtroom, she turned to York and asked him if he would take the children. He said he would.

And so York and his wife, Vicki, became legal guardians of four children in addition to two of their own. (One of the children originally staying with Ringstaff had been sent to a relative.)

Rooms were reorganized. Furniture was moved. People loaned bunkbeds, brought clothing and supplied food. Local restaurants often sent food for the evening meal.

The Yorks adjusted their work schedules to accommodate the change. She works full time as the church's minister of youth and education.

But every day brought its challenges, including early starts for getting everyone bathed and fed before school and work.

At one point, the entire family of eight got the flu and remained confined to the house for days.

Eventually, Ringstaff was released on "shock probation" and took the children back.

But the Yorks didn't want to see the children taken back to their inadequate house. So the church's Woman's Missionary Union and Brotherhood adopted a project to remodel the house.

At least \$10,000 worth of work was been done on the house for about \$1,000 in expenses, York said.

A lumber company donated lumber to replace the flooring; a cabinet company donated cabinets; and a supply company sent bath fixtures. Other items such as appliances, paint and furniture also were donated. Women of the church made curtains and bought mini-blinds.

Ringstaff, who had made a profession of faith in Jesus Christ as a child but fallen away, was drawn back into the church. She now attends three times a week with her reunited family.

During her time in jail, she led some Bible studies and on a recent Wednesday night she shared her testimony at church.

The two older boys also have professed faith in Jesus Christ.

Both the Yorks said they cannot take credit for the outcome of what they call their "71-day journey."

"When the Lord tells you to do something," Mrs. York said, "you do it out of obedience."

--30--

Pauline Stegall is a state correspondent for the Western Recorder, Kentucky Baptist newsjournal.

Evangelist preaches 'flying  
by the seat of his pants'

By Gary W. Griffith

Baptist Press  
8/4/92

CROWVILLE, La. (BP)--Evangelist Marion Collier is traveling by airplane to the more than 40 revivals this year. But he won't get a soda from the waitress, help with his luggage from an airline employee or reassuring words from the pilot.

--more--

And if he did speak to the pilot, some might call him crazy. Collier is the pilot.

The 50-year-old Louisiana Baptist has flown to most of his revival engagements since he purchased a flying service in 1972 and began cropdusting in his hometown of Crowville. As possibly the only "cropdusting evangelist" in the Southern Baptist Convention, Collier says the event marked the realization of his "boyhood dream."

"I had always wanted to be a cropduster," says Collier, who began learning to fly following his high school graduation in 1959. But at the time, Collier was not yet a Christian.

"I used to stand on the turnrow and watch them work agricultural airplanes. My dad was a teacher in an agriculture program and we were closely associated with the farming community. It looked like fun. But then it became a way to earn a living."

Collier became concerned about his "spiritual future" in 1965, while playing tenor saxophone at a nightclub in Baton Rouge, La. "I hadn't been in a church house in 10 years," he recalls.

He placed his faith and life in Jesus Christ on March 21, 1965, while reading a Gideon Bible in a Baton Rouge motel. He soon returned home and got involved in Temple Baptist Church in Winnsboro, La., where he sensed a call to preach. He also met his future wife, Mary Ann, and they were married in 1968.

Collier and his wife bought a trailer and moved to attend New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, where he received a master's degree in theology.

During his seminary years, Collier's only son, Clayton, was born. Collier also was pastor at Warsaw Baptist Church in Delhi, La., and supplemented his income as a flying instructor.

Collier attended seminary never intending to make the pastorate a career but only to prepare for a ministry in evangelism, he says. "I just always felt that my gift was in evangelism. And I always had a deep and strong conviction that I needed to make and earn my own living doing something else."

Today, Collier not only owns and operates a cropdusting business but he also farms 2,200 acres of cotton, soybean and corn in northeast Louisiana.

"I keep up my business and the Lord provides so I don't ever take any offering from a church," he says. "I strictly pay my own way and have for 21 years now. The Lord's been good to us that way."

Deer Creek Baptist Association director of missions Milton Williams says he and many others have come to appreciate Collier's "heart of gold" and "pay your own way" approach to ministry. Collier has been interim pastor in more than a dozen churches and in several situations where pastors were sick and unable to fulfill their duties, Williams says.

"He urged those churches to meet their pastor's needs financially, and he would not take a dime," Williams points out. "In one situation in particular, he preached more than two years for a pastor who had a stroke and the church was able to continue paying their pastor."

Collier also offers another benefit for not accepting pay for interim pastorates and revivals. "This way we can go and don't have to worry about the size of the church or where we go or how long we'll be there. And I've never been run off yet," he says with a chuckle. "They can't fire you if they haven't hired you."

--more--

Owning a small passenger plane also allows Collier to meet the demands of his hectic business and revival schedule, he says. He is able to fly home after most evening services and work part of the next day before flying out for the next night's service. And that's important when one month of revivals takes him to Alabama, North Carolina and Texas, he says.

"With all my flying time, I can't tell you I still love cropdusting. I shared with the folks at a church the other night that sometimes it's a labor of love," Collier says.

"Oh, I love to fly 200 or 300 hours a year. But when it gets to where you're flying from 1,000 to 1,200 hours a year, that gets a little boring going up and down cotton rows from daylight to dark."

Sometimes, however, the monotony is broken by engine failure or some other situation that sends his adrenaline flowing, Collier notes.

"I've had my share of engine failures and I've even been bottomsided up in them with engine failure. I've tore up two airplanes -- one after the engine quit and I had to land in a wet field and the other one involved a guy in a wheat truck. He pulled out in front of me at the last minute when I was making a low cropdusting pass. It was either kill him or tear up the airplane.

"But I've never been injured flying," Collier says.

Yet Collier's wings almost were clipped three years ago when doctors told him he would be grounded from a brain tumor that supposedly would destroy his equilibrium and even make walking difficult.

He was diagnosed with cancer in January 1989 and had surgery to remove the tumor the next month. He canceled only one revival during the ordeal, he says.

"They operated on me on a Tuesday. The next Tuesday I preached a funeral and the next Thursday I preached a revival. A week is not long for recovery on the kind of surgery I had," Collier notes, adding he feels God's hand was on him.

The tumor and surgery caused paralysis on the right side of Collier's face, destroyed his hearing in his left ear and slightly effected his equilibrium, he says.

"With my equilibrium a little off and my hearing loss, I had to go through a process called a demonstration waiver to be able to fly again. If you can demonstrate ability, they can't deny you. And with the Lord's help I was and am able."

But Collier has not played the saxophone since the surgery. "I can't play the sax because of paralysis on my right side. I can't hold any air in the embouchure (mouthpiece) on that side (of my face). The paralysis also kept me from closing my eye so it had to be surgically closed for six months. But we're getting along fine now," he says with a wink.

Although his sax playing "crashed and burned," Collier says, "I plan to keep flying 'til I can't. And the same goes for telling people about Jesus Christ."

--30--

(BP) photo available upon request from the Louisiana Baptist Message.

Clancy's music ministry  
may return to the kids

By Gary W. Griffith

Baptist Press  
8/4/92

SHREVEPORT, La. (BP)--Martha Moore Clancy has come full circle in her 50-plus years of Southern Baptist music ministry and is considering doing again what she did at the start.

--more--

Touted as a pioneer of the denomination's graded choir program, Clancy was honored with a two-day celebration of her contributions to music in the Southern Baptist Convention at Ingleside Baptist Church in Shreveport.

During a Sunday morning service on "Martha Clancy Day" July 26, Ingleside music minister Gary Melanson noted Clancy currently directs "The Gold Tones," the church's senior adult choir. He added, "She is taking under advisement working with the children's choir again. But we're talking some more about that."

Clancy responded with a shy grin. If the past is any indication, Clancy won't resist the invitation for long.

In July 1940, the church called the former public school and college music teacher as their adult choir director. Clancy accepted, with the stipulation that she could only give the church Thursday nights and Sundays because of her two preschoolers, Jane and Jim.

In no time, Clancy had gone back on her word, spending many hours each week building a music ministry that would serve as a model for Baptist churches for years to come.

"People always ask me, 'How did you do all that and raise your children?' I tell them, 'I did all that because of my children. I wanted my children and all the children I knew to have a strong background in music. Music was always a great part of my home,'" Clancy said.

Except for the occasional Christmas carol, hymnsing or congregational singing, there were not many opportunities, much less organized music programs, for children interested in singing at church prior to the late 1940s.

Clancy credits Ingleside's late pastor T.C. Pennell with the idea of a graded choir program at Ingleside. "He said, 'If we have graded Sunday school and graded Training Union, why can't we have graded music?' Isn't that sensible? So that's how we got started," she recalled.

With her diplomatic style, Clancy said Ingleside was "one of the first" to develop and use a graded choir program. "If someone started doing it in a little church somewhere, we didn't know about it and I had never heard of it. And if they didn't get recognition for it in the convention, that's not their fault. But if they had the idea first, they should get credit for it. So I just say we were one of the first."

In her first 10 years at Ingleside, Clancy built the church music program around eight choirs: adult, youth, boys, junior, primary (6, 7 and 8-year-olds), preschool (4 and 5-year-olds), Brotherhood and WMU.

She especially enjoyed her work with the Brotherhood and WMU choirs. "They had competitions to see which one was going to be the best. It was more fun than anything."

Clancy launched innovations such as piano, organ and voice classes sponsored by the church and encouraged through practice halls at Ingleside. She also trained music directors for every Sunday school department in the church.

In the fall of 1947, Clancy interrupted her years at Ingleside with a two-semester teaching stint at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. The post was to be permanent, she recounted, but her husband, Jack, a certified public accountant, was offered a promotion in Shreveport too good to refuse.

After commuting to Fort Worth to teach three days each week for the spring semester, Clancy gladly resumed her ministry at Ingleside in the summer of 1948 and stayed until she retired in 1967.

In the intervening years, she gave birth to her "surprise baby," Phillip, served as one of two women on the 35-member committee that prepared the 1956 edition of the Baptist Hymnal, wrote numerous articles for periodicals and worked as a clinician in church music ministry, receiving the affectionate nickname of "Mother Superior" among male music ministers in the state.

Despite Clancy's retirement from Ingleside, it wasn't long before she was leading music again at Parkview Baptist Church in Shreveport. Clancy was asked to fill in "for two or three weeks 'til we find somebody. Do you know how long I was there? Eighteen years."

After serving two years at Parkview, Clancy's husband died of a heart attack. With his death, she lost her favorite congregational song leader.

"Jack had been directing the congregational singing since I got back from Southwestern," she said. "I had decided I preferred a man's voice in the pulpit and he had a great speaking voice. He was very talented musically." Clancy added it freed her to focus more on supervising the expanding music ministry.

"Let me tell you one time that irked me, though. We were having a great big program with everybody coming in. Then after it was all over, people would come to Jack and tell him what a marvelous program he had and how well he did. Well that irritated me just a little bit," she said with a laugh.

Clancy concluded her service at Parkview in 1985 and returned her membership to Ingleside, where she soon began working with the senior adult choir.

Currently, Clancy also is activities director at the retirement center where she lives in Shreveport. In addition to special programs she schedules periodically for the center residents, she organizes Bible study and music for them once a week.

She faces the challenge of "making them sing whether they want to or not. I was mad at them because I couldn't make them sing. They said, 'Martha, we can't sing,' or 'Martha, not everybody likes to sing.'

"I said, 'Well, that's news to me. I thought they did.' I didn't know there were people like that. But they have gone there to grow old and rock."

But if Clancy has her way, they'll be rocking on the beat.

--30--

(BP) photo available upon request from the Louisiana Baptist Message.

Rural Kentucky volunteer team  
tackles big jobs in Honduras

By Mark Wingfield

Baptist Press  
8/4/92

BALLARDSVILLE, Ky. (BP)--In their 15th year to assist Southern Baptist missionaries in Honduras, members of a rural Kentucky volunteer team undertook their most difficult and dangerous assignment yet.

"A slight mistake, and any of us could have been crushed by the massive piers supporting the suspension cables," pastor Mark Waters of Ballardsville Baptist Church said of the team's bridge-building project for the remote Honduras village of Esquipulas del Norte.

"The proximity of drug lords and deadly yellow-beard snakes increased the risk," Waters said.

--more--

The volunteer team also built a chapel and delivered educational supplies to the village during its nine-day trip.

No one in the group had any experience in bridge-building, project coordinator Arnold Collins said. But that didn't stop them from taking plans drawn by a Georgia engineer and completing the task.

The team 12 men and three women included members from nearby Buckner Baptist Church and others with ties to the rural Ballardsville congregation. They pitched a large revival tent in the village of 3,200 people, slept on cots and cooked meals under the tent and bathed in the river.

The suspension bridge they built connects two parts of the village, which has access to the rest of the world via one bumpy road. Without the bridge, people who live on the isolated side of the river could be trapped for weeks, said volunteer Jeep Whitehouse. "In the dry season they can walk across, but in the rainy season the river can run for 24 hours and rise seven to eight feet."

Further, only 10 Christians were living on the isolated side of the village -- living sometimes a world away from the only other church in town, a Catholic chapel established in 1511.

"We hope the bridge might break down some barriers to Christianity," Collins said. The bridge now spans 78 feet across the river and is supported by a large pier at either end. Setting those piers with no equipment heavier than a Toyota pickup was the most difficult part of the work, Collins said. One of the piers weighs 3,100 pounds; the other, 2,400 pounds.

The bridge, constructed of wood and steel suspended from heavy cables, is suitable for foot traffic and perhaps could accommodate donkeys and similar forms of animal transportation.

The 25-foot-by-65-foot chapel was built on the isolated side of the village. It is made of cinder blocks, concrete and wood.

In previous years, the Kentuckians purchased Bibles to take with them to Honduras. But for the poor village they visited this year, the missionary asked them to bring school supplies and reading books instead.

"What good does it do to take Bibles if they can't read?" noted team member Bill Fischer of the Buckner congregation.

Dennis Mangum, also of Buckner and a teacher at South Oldham Middle School, gathered all kinds of additional school supplies such as calculators, globes, world maps and a used duplicating machine.

But as much as the people of Honduras are helped by the annual mission trips, the people of Ballardsville Baptist Church are strengthened as well, team members said.

"It makes a big difference in our church," Whitehouse said, explaining through the years at least 30 people have participated. "Out of those 30 people, we've touched nearly every family in this church."

Waters said he promotes the Honduras trips -- along with several Kentucky ministries -- as a means for every member to be involved in missions. "It's raised the self-esteem of the church," he said.

Both Ballardsville and Buckner are relatively small congregations, he noted, and "sometimes people feel like we're just a small church, what can we do?"

--more--

"But our churches working together have done something few large churches could do," Waters said.

And working in a Third World country "helps us realize that all people are created in the image of God ... to work with them and learn to care about them," the pastor added.

--30--

Service awards presented  
during home missions week

By Sarah Zimmerman

Baptist Press  
8/4/92

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)--Four people were recognized for their work in home missions and two groups elected new officers during home missions week at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center.

Herbert Martin, director of Carver Baptist Center in New Orleans, received the Clovis Brantley award for ministry.

Martin grew up in the neighborhood near the mission center and received his first Bible from Ruby Matejka, retired missionary and former director of the center. Martin said his first job at the center was as a janitor and he later served as a summer missionary there. He worked in public schools 10 years before becoming director of the center 14 years ago.

The award is named for Clovis Brantley who was instrumental in developing many of the mission centers across the country. Martin's award is for ministry in the western United States. The award for ministry in the eastern United States will be given later this year.

Charles Lee Williamson, missions leader for the Baptist General Convention of Texas, was given an award of appreciation for his work with urban churches. He pioneered a strategy to help churches in inner cities discover and meet needs in their communities.

Williamson also helped the Home Mission Board develop "PACT, Project: Assistance for Churches in Transition." At least two-thirds of the state Baptist conventions now participate in PACT.

David Beal, who retired two years ago from the Home Mission Board staff, was recognized for developing multihousing ministries. He is now working in multihousing ministries in Kansas City, Mo.

A 1971 article in The Christian Century magazine said multihousing ministry was dead, said David Bunch, HMB assistant vice president for strategy development, who presented the award.

"Everybody gave up except David Beal. He retired and began teaching us," Bunch said.

Tommy Goode, associate director of church and community ministries for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, was given an award for creating the Southern Baptist Multihousing Association. Goode served as the first president of that organization.

The multihousing association also elected officers during its Glorieta meeting. They include Mike Eller, multihousing coordinator for North Carolina, president; Barbara Oden, multihousing consultant, Union Baptist Association in Houston, Texas, president-elect; Emmett Powers of the Denver Baptist Association, secretary-treasurer; and Vivian Hite, multihousing coordinator for the St. Louis area, newsletter editor.

--more--

The Fellowship of State Evangelism Directors also elected officers while meeting at Glorieta. They include Larry Wood, West Virginia director of evangelism, president; Wayne Jenkins, Louisiana director of evangelism, vice president; Dan Agee, Virginia director of evangelism, secretary-treasurer; and Calvin Cantrell, Louisiana associate director of evangelism, historian.

The fellowship was created in 1979 to support the work of the HMB evangelism section.

--30--

---

Also available upon request:

-- Feature by Toby Druin on Texas Baptists' 25-year-old Rio Grande River ministry.

---