

Harvesting In Jacksonville



**LLL
NEWS**

Edward A. Write
LLL Communicator

Volunteers, officers and friends of LHM met in convention April 21-23 at the Wyndam Resort on the Riverwalk in Jacksonville. The convention theme — "Enlarge The Harvest" — was adopted for the July 2005 Int'l. LLL Convention in Topeka and runs through the League year, June 1-May 31.

The April event was hosted by Our Redeemer congregation; Our Redeemer Pastor Bill Reister served as chairman.

Friday was designated as a fun and fellowship day starting with a luncheon cruise on the historic St. John river. After a free evening, a short board meeting was followed by a Vesper service.

Our formal Convention sessions were held on Saturday with opening devotions and Bible study by Pastoral Advisor Earl Steffens. A 2006/07 budget was approved. Elections were held, with these results: Carl Behring, vice president; Carolyn Johnson, treasurer; Larry Spinks, Zone president; Raymond Tienter, zone president; Frank Crook, zone president; and Pastor Herman Glienke, zone president. After long committee discussions and study, the revised constitution was ratified by the convention

The format changed to information sessions. Pastor Pat O'Brien, Florida-Georgia/LCMS District Secretary, eagerly told us about the aspirations of the District and its goals. Our Int'l. Staffer, Mrs. Jane Wilke, LHM Assistant Director of Creative Services, informed us, via power point presentations, about the affirmative programs of the ministries and some of their results. Lois Ford, Florida-Georgia

LWML president greeted the audience and was positive about our Women in Mission. Ed Reich, LHM Governor of Region 2 and Ed Wright, Florida-Georgia LHM District Manager, informed the members about national and local programs. A presenter from Thrivent Financial with a display greeted the convention and helped to defray some of the cost of the cruise luncheon.

A Saturday evening banquet held at the hotel was emceed by your reporter and featured Pastor Bill and Susan Reister demonstrated their expertise on piano, keyboard and harp along with vocal skill by performing a medley of songs about rivers. Jane Wilke was the evening's eloquent speaker.

Since 1971 the District has presented worthy recipients with a Distinguished Service Award and this year was no exception. Carl Behring presented Pastor Herman Glienke with this award for his works as a missionary in Cuba, his pastoring in the Florida-Georgia District and his continual work as a Lutheran Hour Ministry Zone President in the Miami and Keys areas. His selection was welcomed by all in attendance.

The convention concluded on Sunday with a Bible study by Pastor O'Brien and a worship service at Our Redeemer.

Following the service the District board met and some future plans were made. During the meeting the board approved the nomination of Ray Tienter as the Florida-Georgia Ambassador of the Year,

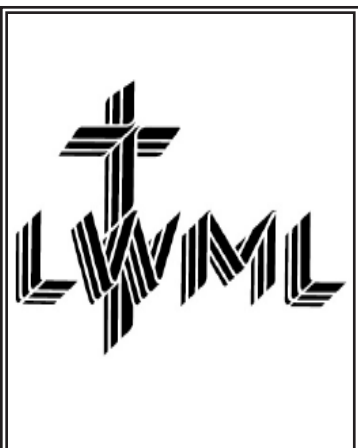
which will reward him with an expense-paid trip to the LLL Int'l. Convention in Billings, MT. The League has adopted this program as an annual event. The board is also open to any invitations that may be presented as to the location and hosting of the 2007 District Convention. □

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN-Gainesville, GA, members actively observed Earth Day this year. Gathering on April 22 were 17 enthusiastic Good Shepherd adult and youth volunteers who joined in beautifying the grounds at the North Georgia church campus. The event was sponsored by Thrivent North Georgia Chapter 31279 and spearheaded by youth counselors Justin and Danielle Holland. They were helped by volunteers Vance Livingston, Ralph Berliner, Don Stone, Bobby Aikens, Derek Philcox, Pastor Bob Maltzahn, Doug and Sally Fuge, Pam Jovaag, Denise Davis, Branden and John Aaron Jovaag, Olivia Schlabra, Jen Davis and Courtney Entekin.

Shown here working on site are (left to right) John Aaron and Branden Jovaag, Don Stone, Sally and Doug Fuge. □



Convention Set for September



**LWML
NEWS**

Margie Smith
LWML Communicator

Put September 22-24 on your calendar and reserve a room for an exciting convention,

celebrating 50 years of LWML scholarships to pastors and other full-time church workers. Many past recipients will attend, including our very first scholarship recipient, Rev. Donald Muchow. Remember to send in your registration by July 1 to get the discounted fee.

Speakers will include Rev. Victor Belton, the proclaimer for the Friday celebratory worship service which will open the convention; Marilyn McClure from the LWML Heart to Heart program; and Marguerite Christman, LWML Vice President of Servant Resources.

Delegates will vote for new mission grants and new officers. There will be singing — and lots of praising, laughter and fun. Other activities are a Mission Pledge Walk on Sunday morning, Servant Events on Friday, special luncheons with

featured speakers on Saturday and plenty of fellowship.

The convention will be held at the PGA National Resort and Spa, with beautiful surroundings including five championship golf courses. Special rates for the convention are \$99 per room plus a \$10 resort fee (total of \$110). This includes unlimited admission to the Health and Racquet Club facilities. Hotel reservation deadline is August 22.

Detailed information, including registration forms, were printed in the last issue of *Lutheran Life*. That information was mailed to all District congregations, and is available in the summer issue of the *Evangel* and on our website: www.flgalwml.com.

We look forward to seeing all of you in September! □

Internet Searches Help Fund Missions

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League has a reputation for raising big money through little donations — more than \$80 million in its 60-year history, raised primarily by members who fed cardboard "mite boxes" with spare change. Now, the Synod women's organization is using a similar approach to raise money through the Internet.

Working with "GoodSearch," a Yahoo-powered Internet search engine that donates 50% of its revenue (about a penny per search) to designated charities, LWML leaders are hoping their members' computer "clicks" will add up to serious mission money.

Since January, when the LWML Board of Directors approved the organization's listing as a GoodSearch charity, the number of "searches" benefiting the LWML has steadily climbed, from 74 that first month, to 7,224 in February, to a whopping 17,948 in March.

Those 25,246 Internet searches have earned approximately \$252.46 for missions, and that's just a start, according to LWML President Linda Reiser.

If 1,000 people searched twice a day, for example, the LWML could receive more than \$7,000, she noted. The LWML

estimates its membership at about 250,000.

Those who use "GoodSearch" to find information on the Internet can designate their favorite charity, which will receive a check from GoodSearch once a year. To receive a check, the amount raised must be at least \$100. There is no limit to how much a charity can earn, according to GoodSearch President and co-founder Ken Ramberg.

Supporters have submitted hundreds of Lutheran schools and such national Lutheran organizations as the Lutheran Hour Ministries Foundation, Lutheran World Relief, and Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service into the database, Ramberg said.

"GoodSearch gives LWML women another opportunity to raise mission dollars in a very unique way," said Reiser. "Since many of us are using search engines on a daily basis anyway, it was easy to sign up with GoodSearch in order to generate some money toward the cause of LWML mission support."

"The potential is huge, the possibilities are exciting."

For information about GoodSearch, visit its Web site at www.goodsearch.com. □

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