

LLL UPDATE

59th Annual Florida-Georgia District Convention Recap

**LLL
NEWS**

Edward A. Wright
LLL Communicator

On April 11th delegates to the Florida-Georgia LLL District Convention found themselves gathering in the olde Florida city of Dunnellon to fulfill the International LLL League's theme "Let Your Light Shine." A foursome of golfers did get to hack away in the afternoon and then enjoyed dinner with other Conventioneers in town and later fellowship at Peace, the Host Congregation. A film was shown followed by a brief Board Meeting and a Vesper devotion led by the District Pastoral Advisor, Rev. Terry McKee of Peace.

On Saturday the 12th District LLL President Phil Larsen opened the Convention Sessions and Advisor McKee gave an opening devotion based on "Doubting" Thomas.

The Convention Chairman, Bud Koehlinger, gave a warm welcome and introduced his staff of ladies who prepared a continental breakfast and a nice lunch. The morning session included passing the minutes of the previous annual meeting, the treasurer's report and the delegates passed a budget for the 2008/2009 League year.

Pastor Herman Glienke, in charge of the Nominating committee, presented a ballot and the following people were elected: Randy Wendt as Vice-President; Larry Spinks as Zones 3 & 4 President; Tim Paster as Zones 5 & 6 President; Alan Kreps, Zones 9 & 10 President; and Mel Johnson Zones 11 & 12 President. There were also appointments to fill the following offices: Carolyn Johnson as

Treasurer; Frank Crook as Zones 18 & 19 President; and Rev. Herman Glienke as Zones 21 & 22 President. We sincerely thank Carl Behring for his many years as District Vice President.

Information Speakers

Our District is fortunate to now have the International LLL Treasurer, Al Etzler of The Villages, in our midst. Al gave us a rundown of the League's financial situation and its aim to establish a balanced budget for fiscal year '08-'09.

Also a new employee, Joe Regnier of Ocala, who works in the Ministry Advancement Department, encouraged us to inform him of any potential interested donors that he can apprise of LHM's many investment opportunities. Joe mentioned a new project, Project 12, that allows donated electrical machinery to be placed on ebay, resulting in funds for LHM Programs.

The convention's special guest, was Larry Lumpe, who recently became the Executive Director of Lutheran Hour Ministries. Larry informed us of a new Men's Network Ministry which is being put together by Lutheran Hour Speaker Ken

projects and mission opportunities of the District and its goal to share the Gospel with two million people by 2017 and to start 200 missions by that year. A wish was voiced that at least 10% of people in the congregations will become involved with these goals.

We also heard from the Region 2 Governor, Ed Reich of Charlotte, NC, regarding actions of the International LLL Board. Ministry Chairman Ed Wright reviewed the Ambassador program and his position as Communication Coordinator. Ed also noted the importance of LLL Clubs and their aid to the churches. Pastor Arnold Kromphardt, Development Chairman reported on finding some new Zone presidents and the League's promotional materials.

Special Recognition

The District recognized the volunteer efforts of Lyle Hermann of Bethel-Clearwater over the many years of his Ambassador successes and his being chosen as the Florida-Georgia LLL District "Ambassador of the Year." That distinction will be celebrated at the 91st LLL Convention in Lexington, Ky.

Congregation Grant Proposals to Be Accepted Beginning September 1st

Wheat Ridge Ministries will accept applications from September 1 through October 31 for its Congregation Health and Hope Grant program.

The purpose of the Congregation Health and Hope Grants is to facilitate the initial development of congregation-based health and wellness ministries. In 2007, 19 grants were awarded totaling \$35,119.

All Lutheran congregations — individually or in partnership with other congregations — are eligible for these grants. The maximum amount per grant is \$2,000 for a single congregation and \$6,000 for collaborative efforts involving two or more congregations.

The amount granted by Wheat Ridge must be matched dollar for dollar by the congregation. Approximately 20 grants will be awarded to congregational projects in December.

The focus of the Health and Hope Grant is on new congregation-based health ministries developed under the auspices of a congregation health committee or cabinet. Projects must support and promote the health and well-being of people in the congregation and local community.

Grant funds may be invested in health-related events and leadership development; staff training; planning; materials, resources or equipment directly

related to program development; or contract services or new staff essential for program development. The grant is not to be used for existing staff salaries; congregation or school building programs; or general church or school expenses.

Congregations interested in applying for a Wheat Ridge Congregation Health and Hope Grant can visit the Wheat Ridge website (www.wheatridge.org) to download a complete list of guidelines as well as the proposal format. Any questions may be referred to the Wheat Ridge office at 800.762.6748. The deadline for submitting applications is October 31, 2008. □



Ministry Chairman Ed Wright presented Carolyn Johnson with the Florida-Georgia LLL Distinguished Service Award at this year's convention.

Pastors — and Wives, if able to attend — Retreat Camp Linn Haven

Dates: Monday, August 25 at Noon - Wednesday, August 27 at Noon

Presenter: Rev. Art Umbach, one of the Southeastern District's Regional Mission & Ministry facilitators. He is chairman of the SED's Spiritual Life Team and Board for Professional Care Services. He has also served as a member of Synod's Church Worker Health and Wellness Task Force.

Topic: "Growing in Our Prayer"

Topic purposes: To enrich and nourish one's spiritual journey toward a greater awareness of God's presence and love in one's life; To nurture a passion for Jesus and a life of service; To build up the community of believers — the congregation.

Time for sabbath rest (determined by the individual retreatant and his/her need and desire) and fellowship will be built into the retreat.

For more information and/or registration form, contact Dennis Quackenboss at pastordq@bellsouth.net or 828-733-4404.

Klaus. The program will emphasize men's Bible studies as a tool to get more young men involved in the church and other social activities. It is hoped that the male leadership can be reinvigorated in the churches in a couple of years and that an increase of funding for LHM will be an outcome. This program is scheduled to begin in January of 2009.

Larry was also proud to have enticed Phyllis Wallace to return to the airways with her "Woman to Woman" radio show that began again this May.

In the absence of LWML President Lois Ford, Carolyn Johnson gave the audience info about the successes of our sister auxiliary. Pastor Pat O'Brien, secretary of the Florida-Georgia LCMS District, filled us in on the

We couldn't find a better choice to represent our District than Lyle.

Over most of the 59 years of our existence as the Florida-Georgia LLL District, we have honored deserving volunteer workers for the Kingdom with a Distinguished Service Award. It was an honor to bestow this year's award to Ms. Carolyn Johnson, our Treasurer and LHM supporter along with her time and talents involving her church, St. Paul-Miami and with the LWML. Congratulations Carolyn!

We also want to thank the host church, Peace Lutheran, and spiritual leader, Terry, for a wonderful time which ended with a Saturday night catered banquet and a Sunday communion worship service. □