

SAVE THE DATE – December 11-12, 2015

Are **YOU** fired up about spreading literature like the leaves of autumn? You are invited to attend the first annual **BLAST** Convention. You'll find encouragement and excitement, and the opportunity to exchange ideas to enhance your lay-driven literature ministry goals. Call 770-408-1800, extension 124 for more information. Details for registration will be announced soon. Visit our website: www.blastofhope.com

MASS DISTRIBUTION EVENTS

October 10, 2015 – Columbia, SC
College Football Gamecocks
Williams-Brice Stadium

October 24, 2015 – Starkville, MS
College Football Bulldogs
Davis Wade Stadium at Scott Field



ALL ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS OUTREACH MINISTRY.

For more information, contact
William Smith, 256-698-0512
or call 770-408-1800, extension 124

TRANSITIONS

- ✓ Peter Marzano, GCC District Leader, moved to Tennessee District
- ✓ Brandon Tygret, GCC District Leader, moved to North Georgia District
- ✓ Bruce Germsheid, District Leader, Tennessee District, retires after 30 years of service



OBITUARY

Lionel Clay Grice - November 7, 1942 – July 8, 2015. Elder "Clay" Grice served as a minister/literature evangelist for more than 40 years, teaching others how to spread the Gospel through Christian books and literature.

Dale Thomas passed away on August 30, 2015 after a brief illness. A memorial service was held at the Hendersonville SDA Church, in Hendersonville, NC.

MORE General Conference HIGHLIGHTS

Several Southern Union departments were involved in selling and giving away literature to the thousands of attendees at the 60th General Conference Session in San Antonio, Texas.

- Publishing leaders hosted the NAD Publishing booth, distributing 1,250 copies each of the *NAD Publishing Report* and *Impediments to Power*.
- The Family Home Christian Books booth distributed 3,000 copies each of *Christian Service* and *Impediments to Power*. Several people signed up to become Family Home Christian Book representatives. Preorders for *The Children's Century Classics Set* were taken.
- Elder Ralph Ringer, Jewish Ministries Coordinator, distributed 1,500 copies of *Twice Chosen*.
- Amireh Al-Haddad assisted at the NAD Public Affairs and Religious Liberty booth, sharing *Liberty Magazine* and *What is Patriotism in the United States?*
- In the Hispanic Ministries booth, Elder Jorge Mayer, Ivette Figueroa, Aile Yero and team, sold more than 800 DVDs of various evangelistic movie productions, and gave away 1,500 armbands.
- Although the GLOW booth was not run by a Southern Union representative, this ministry is very much a part of the Publishing work in the Southern Union. Nelson Ernst, GLOW Director for Pacific Union, reported that 65,000 tracts were sold.

Recently, an elderly Adventist woman visited the mall. She asked a worker in a clothing store if she could put a GLOW tract in all the jeans pockets. Surprisingly, they said "yes!"



Nelson Ernst at GLOW booth

The Southern Union conferences believe in providing tools for its members to be more effective in spreading the life-changing message to a dying world. Why not take advantage of these life changing resources and begin sharing them today?

Our purpose: To expand our reach to the Southern Union territory utilizing total church involvement through one-on-one evangelism and personalized mass distribution.

BLAST

A Ministry of SOUTHERN UNION PUBLISHING

BOOKS & TRACTS | LINKING DEPARTMENTS | ALL INVOLVED | SCHOOL FUNDRAISERS | TECHNOLOGY

Newsletter

2015 General Conference Session

Publishing Highlights

Almir Marroni Elected as World Publishing Director

A native of Brazil, Elder Marroni has served the Church for 33 years, 29 of which have been in Publishing. He has served as Publishing associate director and director at all levels of the church: mission, conference, union, and division. He most recently served as Publishing director of the South American Division for 11 years, and as vice president of the South American Division for four years.



Marroni has ambitious dreams for the department:

- To preserve training programs for LEs and leaders
- To work to strengthen the production and distribution of missionary books
- To give special attention to developing strategies that will reach the most challenging areas of the world
- To advance the student LE work which is crucial for developing new leaders

"I feel honored to be returning to this work, because my heart always remained with Publishing," says Elder Marroni.

Howard F. Faigao

Elder Faigao, a 40+ year servant in the Adventist church, continues to be a dynamic leader, nurturing all areas of the Publishing work. He is especially devoted to the training of literature evangelists and leaders. Elder Faigao served as World Publishing Director for the past 15 years.

Wilmar Hirle

Having completed 36 years in the Publishing ministry, Elder Hirle looks forward to serving another term. "My dream... is to have our publications printed in every language and scattered as leaves to every person in the world," says Elder Hirle.

Volume 2, Issue 4

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BLAST Report

Southern Union Territory

	Month to Date	Year to Date
Books & Tracts Distributed	160,483	354,354
Bible Studies & Course Enrollment	1,896	3,962
Prayers Offered	21,220	25,934
Baptisms (resulting from LE contact)	36	63

Southern Union Publishing Ministries
BLAST
Newsletter

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(770) 408-1800 | www.blastofhope.com

Director William Smith | Associate Director Keith Reid | Administrative Assistant Beverly Perry

2015 Summer Magabook Experiences

Visit www.blastofhope.com

New Resources

FLORIDA CONFERENCE

(Seventy-five students made contact with over 300,000 people, distributed more than 40,000 books and received \$300,000 in donations.)

I went into a barber shop and attempted to canvass several people, but no one seemed interested. Finally, one tough-looking man started listening. He decided to give a small donation, but did not want the book. I insisted, and he finally took the book.

A few weeks later, I was canvassing in a completely different area. I poked my head through a door and found two men there. One of them recognized me. He was the tough-looking man I had canvassed at the barber shop. He began to rejoice at seeing me, even weeping. He explained that the book had changed his life. The book was *Peace Above the Storm*.

Andrea

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND CONFERENCE

Canvassing is a witnessing work. It's about how much we show Christ to everyone with whom we come in contact.

I noticed a lady sitting on a bench, smoking. I saw tears in her eyes. She quickly told me she wanted to be left alone, but I put my canvassing bag to the side, sat down next to her, and asked what was wrong. She told me all the struggles she was facing with her family, health, and finances. I told her how much God loved her, and didn't want her to suffer. I offered to pray with her. When I finished, she was in tears. She expressed how thankful she was that I had talked to her and how she appreciated my prayer. I gave her a copy of *Steps to Christ*. I hugged her and told her she would continue to be in my prayers.

I know that lady got a glimpse of the love of Christ because a complete stranger truly cared for her. I hope and pray that she will come to understand her need for a Savior and that I will see her in Heaven!

Stephany

I knocked on the door of a house. A young man answered. As we talked, he told me he had been to jail and it was there that he had met the Savior. He invited me in to meet his father, who is the bishop of a Georgia district in a major denomination. The bishop asked what books I was holding in my hand. I handed him *The Great Controversy*. "This book was written by Ellen White? That must mean you are a Seventh-day Adventist. I have a very good friend who is a Seventh-day Adventist who gave me this book. I was very impressed with this book." He gave a generous donation and got another copy for himself.

Romone

CAROLINA CONFERENCE



(Fourteen students participated in the Raleigh, NC program, including students from Fletcher and Mount Pisgah Academies.)

Following is a letter from a customer:

"I met some of your young people at a shopping mall in Cary, NC yesterday. I want to thank you as an organization, first, for distributing *The Bible Story* books, which were my first introduction to Christ as part of a non-believing family. I spent part of my life in dedicated service through the Evangelistic Association of New England (now Vision New England). Yesterday happened to be part of a crisis time in my life, and I am thankful for the prayer the young people offered on my behalf. I have suffered depression, but today I have awakened, feeling human and competent again. Thank you for your publishing service and for your prayerful young evangelists." C. Byron

SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE



Eighty young people participated in the Youth Excel Scholarship Program. They distributed over \$300,000 in literature. Bible studies were taken; baptisms followed. Eight student LEs decided to give their life to Jesus through baptism and rededication.

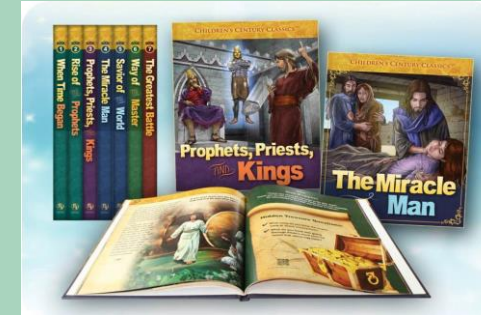
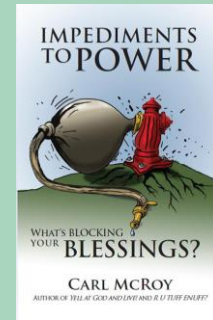
KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE CONFERENCE

Six vans were used to transport 40 student literature evangelists in 10 cities including Nashville, White House, Portland, Franklin, Murfreesboro, Tullahoma, and Paducah. Total donations exceeded \$81,000.

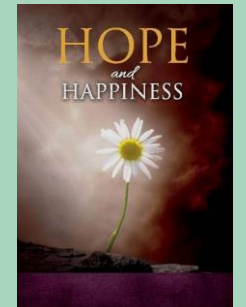


SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE

More than 5,500 books, tracts and free literature were distributed this summer by 17 students canvassing in Orlando, Ft. Lauderdale and Tampa. Donations exceeded \$52,000.



Children's Century Classics Set



All Involved

ATHENS, GA CHURCH



Temperatures in the mid 90's did not discourage the faithful band of missionaries of the Athens Church. The afternoon outreach activity was organized by

Head Elder Eyoel Tolera. The members were encouraged to work in pairs and carry a variety of GLOW tract titles with them to the homes close to the church. In spite of the heat, it was an enjoyable time of fellowship and sharing the good news.

ADVENT HOPE CHURCH, ATLANTA, GA

It was a hot Sabbath afternoon, but 16 volunteers and members of Advent Hope organized into pairs. Within 30 minutes they covered an entire apartment complex to distribute approximately 300 GLOW tracts. Afterwards, the enthused members met to share testimonies and have prayer. Keith Reid spoke for Divine worship on the power of

the printed page to change lives. Dr. Bush, lay pastor, and Elder Sykes, personal ministries director, reinforced the message by encouraging members



to make literature distribution a priority. Information was shared about the GLOW, BLAST and Family Home Christian Books programs.

HHS DISTRICT MEETING



North Georgia LEs gathered for devotion and training in Decatur, GA.

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE FALL RALLY

Full time LEs and their families, as well as student LEs, enjoyed a weekend of fellowship and relaxation at Pennyrile State Park in Dawson Springs, KY.



MONROE, NC RALLY

Following an inspiring Sabbath School, Divine service, and evening social, Carolina conference's full-time LEs spent a Sunday together for training and encouragement. Lance Morrison, Publishing director, Louise Venables, district leader, and Keith Reid led out in the weekend events.

