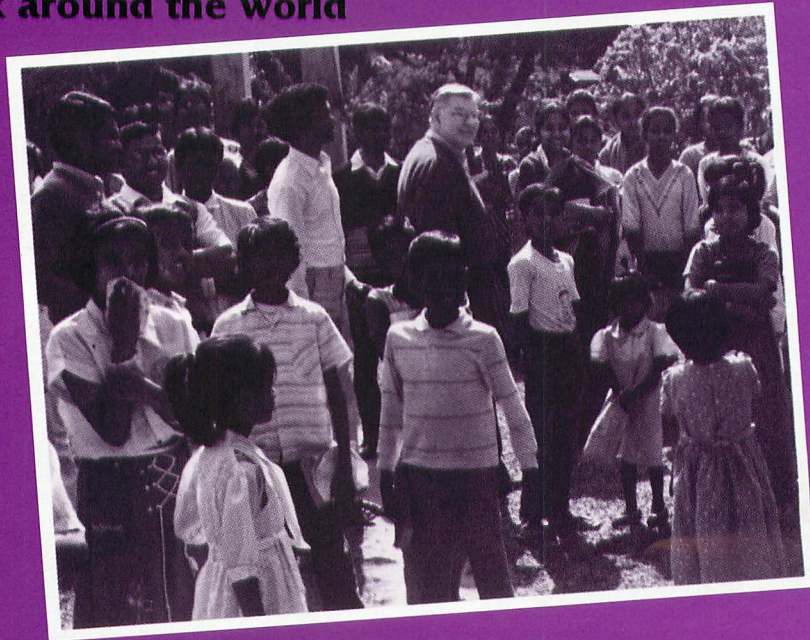


# HEARTBEAT

MARCH-APRIL 1997

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Showing God at work around the world

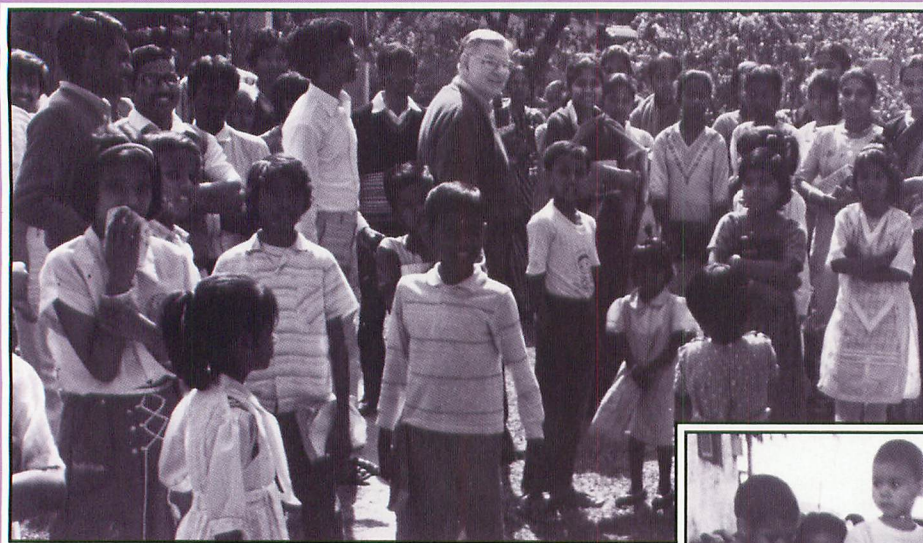


## Making a Difference!

*People  
Helping  
People*







*Carlisle Hanna (center of photo on left) and his wife continue to make a difference in hundreds of lives. They are the last FWB missionaries left in India.*

*Entire families are often changed as Uruguay's children are reached with the gospel of Jesus Christ.*



# Making a Difference

## *People Helping People*

*by R. Eugene Waddell,  
general director*

**O**n April 14, 1996, something happened to Mrs. Mizuyo Tochikura, a Japanese mother in Iriso, Japan.

All Mizuyo planned to do was learn English. She had heard that missionary Judy Bailey might be willing to teach her. But, without her realizing it, God was drawing Mrs. Tochikura to Himself! As a result of the English classes, she not only became friends with the Baileys, but also with God. She and her daughter, Saki, began attending the Iriso church. On April 14 both received Christ as their Savior.

Mrs. Tochikura's experience illustrates what Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions is all about . . .

people! People telling other people about Jesus. People leaving their homes and families and traveling to foreign lands in order to win souls and plant churches.

This Japanese woman is only one of thousands of people whose lives have been changed through the ministry of our Free Will Baptist missionaries. And the Baileys say she "has really been on fire for the Lord." Her testimony reminds us of the importance of the individual. We must never become so engrossed in plans, programs and budgets that we lose sight of the individual for whom Christ died.

George Barna writes, "Organizational development is

useful. Buildings serve a purpose. Programs are a means to an end. But the end itself is always related to changing the lives of people."<sup>\*</sup>

Our Lord, the model missionary, always focused on the individual. Even His metaphorical comparison of the unsaved masses to a field of ripened grain was given in the context of the conversion of the woman at the well.

Jesus even found time to cuddle little children on His lap and go home with Zaccheus at one of the busiest times of His life. Barna puts it this way: "God is the ultimate people-person."

Again let me emphasize, FWB Foreign Missions is about



people . . . people like Svetlana and Olga. These Russian widows were barely surviving on their government pensions which usually arrived late. They were living in Kopeysk, a city whose 80,000 inhabitants had no gospel-preaching church. Then a group of 10 Free Will Baptist witnesses teamed up with Arminian Baptists from Chelyabinsk to sow the seeds of the gospel in Kopeysk. Svetlana and Olga were two of the 60 people who repented during the campaign. Jimmy Aldridge and I met these dear sisters in Kopeysk in October. They showed a tremendous servant spirit, cooking meals and washing clothes for us.

***“Organizational development is useful. Buildings serve a purpose. Programs are a means to an end. But the end itself is always related to changing the lives of people.”\****

They told us, “Now, we have Christ. We are no longer afraid of growing old and being alone with no family; we have our Christian family now.”

Praise God! Because Free Will Baptists shared the gospel they were saved. And God is using Free Will Baptist missionaries and other workers to call people out from at least 12 nations around the world today. Yes, He is even building His Church through people trained in Free Will Baptist Bible institutes in six foreign countries.

Jean Pierre, trained at Bouna in Côte d'Ivoire, assumed the responsibility for evangelizing

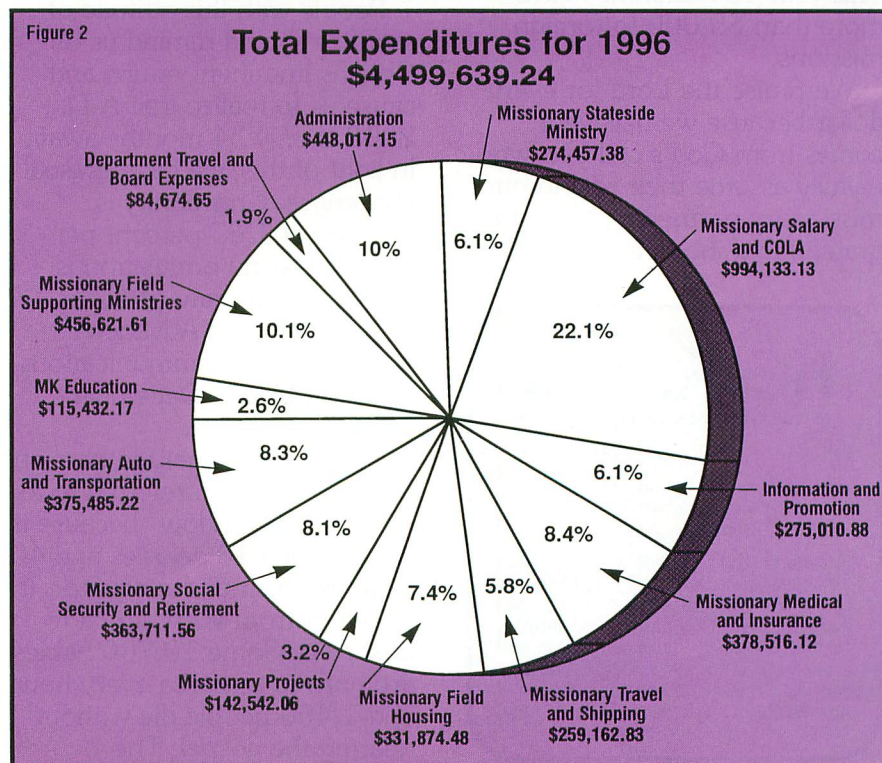
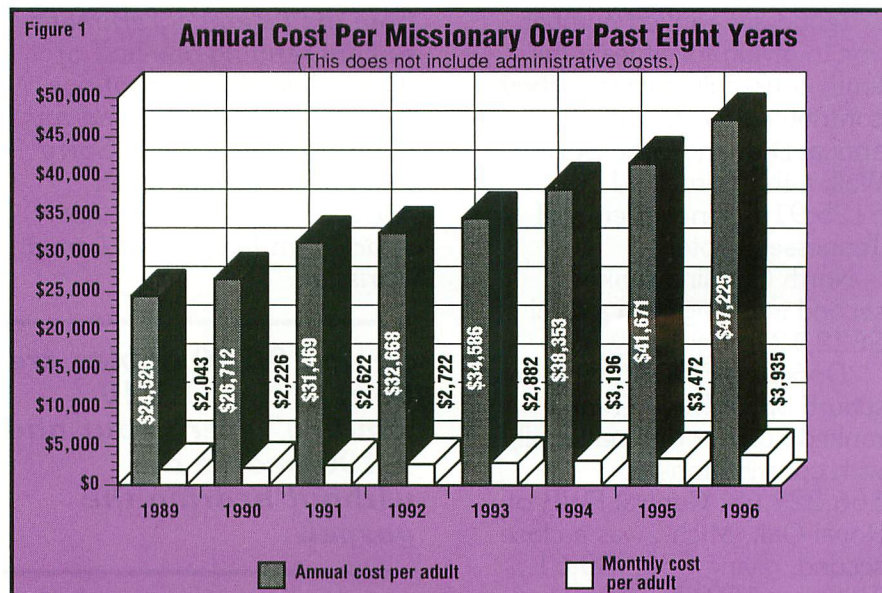
the Kofolo area. During the first year of his ministry, the church grew from 40 to 120.

That story could be repeated several times over. But it could not happen apart from the partnership designed by God: the churches, the missionaries, and the Holy Spirit—God's

people, working with Him and with each other.

The faithful prayers and generous gifts of thousands of individuals make it possible. In 1996 we received a total of \$4,574,421.23 from Free Will Baptists. Some 2,243 churches

*Continued on page 4* ➔





→Continued from page 3  
and organizations as well as  
1,959 individuals made  
contributions (see **Figure 4**).

Many state leaders took the  
initiative to assure missionaries  
of financial support. Fourteen  
states met or surpassed their  
goal for 1996 and another five  
came within 95 percent.

Tennessee ranked number  
one in giving for at least the  
tenth consecutive year as they  
contributed \$720,365. The  
annual Don and Billie Sexton  
Walk-a-thon provided  
\$125,910—one-seventh of  
Tennessee's total.

North Carolina ranked  
second in giving with a total of  
\$622,127 in gifts.

Donelson FWB Church, in a  
suburb of Nashville, Tenn.,  
ranked number one nationally  
with contributions of  
\$66,228.68. Central FWB of  
Royal Oak, Mich., was a close  
second, giving \$56,930.61.  
This year 159 churches gave  
more than \$5,000 to foreign  
missions.

We praise the Lord for every  
dollar because we believe it  
comes from God's children who  
joyfully assume their role in our  
missionary partnership. We are  
grateful that income exceeded

expenses by nearly \$75,000  
(see **Figures 2 and 3**) in spite  
of continued escalating costs to  
keep missionaries on the field  
(see **Figure 1**).

Hardly a week passes without  
a letter arriving from one of our  
faithful supporters. Last  
December a dear brother wrote,  
*"I received a sizeable amount  
from the federal government;  
so I am sending one-half of  
it . . . I am 85 years of age,  
and will continue to send my  
monthly gift . . . P.S. Sorry  
that I am late. Just been  
released from hospital; heart  
attack. Am happy that I am a  
Christian."*

---

***Some 10,700 babies are  
born in the "10/40  
window" every hour and  
1,400 people die  
without hearing the  
gospel.***

---

People with this attitude of  
sacrifice should remind us of  
Christ's imminent return and  
cause us to realize that A.D.  
2000 is only 34 months away.  
In light of this, we face unusual  
challenges. Christianity is  
growing at 1.65 percent per  
year, but world population is  
growing at the rate of 1.75  
percent (Mission Advanced  
Research and Communications  
Center [MARC], December  
1996).

The least-evangelized part of  
the world is often referred to as  
the "10/40 window" because it  
lies between 10 degrees and 40  
degrees north of the equator. It  
stretches from West Africa to  
East Asia. Some 10,700 babies  
are born in this area every hour  
and 1,400 people die without  
hearing the gospel. The

dominant forces of the region  
are Islam, Hinduism and  
Buddhism. But we are thankful  
that Free Will Baptists have  
English teachers sharing the  
Light in China and Mongolia  
today. We also rejoice in the  
outreach we sponsor to the  
three unreached groups—the  
Mansi, the Nenets and the  
Khantis—in northern Siberia.

I am particularly excited that  
our missionaries in Côte d'Ivoire  
have formally begun an  
aggressive church-planting  
effort in Abidjan, the nation's  
capital and principal city with  
3,250,000 people. Although  
this will be an expensive  
undertaking, the greatest need  
is prayer.

Prayer will change the lives of  
people—like Jean and Michelle,  
a dentist and his wife in St.  
Nazaire, France. They recently  
started attending church after  
meeting Jerome and Florence,  
faithful Christians in the St.  
Nazaire church. They seem to  
have a hunger to know what the  
Bible says.

Prayer also will win the  
victory for Lea and her family in  
Brazil. Lea has battled an  
addiction to cocaine for five  
years. Her unbelieving family  
tried various expensive  
programs to help her. Finally,  
her brother said, "Dad, why  
don't you seek a Baptist pastor?  
Baptists preach the Bible and it  
changes people's lives." Her  
mother called missionary Bobby  
Aycock. Now, Lea has begun  
Bible studies with the Aycocks  
and is attending church. Her  
whole family is showing an  
interest in the Word.

We believe 1997 is the year  
for Lea's salvation and  
deliverance from drugs. We also  
trust God for the salvation of

## HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Vol. 37, No. 2

March-April 1997

Editor: Don Robirds  
Editorial Assistant: Don Price  
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*Heartbeat* (USPS 239-020) is published  
bimonthly by the Board of Foreign Missions  
of the National Association of Free Will  
Baptists, 5233 Mt. View Road, Antioch,  
Tenn. 37013-2306. Periodical postage paid  
at Antioch, Tenn. and additional offices.  
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to  
*Heartbeat*, P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, Tenn.  
37011-5002.



her whole family.

I recall that prayer was a principle element in the conversion of Mrs. Tochikura, introduced in my first paragraph. A request to pray for her conversion was placed on Missions Hotline on April 10. Four days later she came to Christ. It pays to pray!

So, along with Lea, pray for Dr. Leonid in Russia. He heard the gospel in June of 1996 when our witnessing team visited the hospital where he works. He has begun reading his New Testament. I am looking for Lea and Dr. Leonid to be converted this year, as well as Marcos in Conselheiro Lafaiete, Brazil.

Marcos' mother, a spiritist, dedicated him to spirits as a baby. In 1991 he told Earnie Deeds he didn't want his children in spiritism. He takes them to Sunday school regularly and Raphael, his nine-year-old son, was saved at camp last summer. But Marcos faces the threats and retribution of his spiritist family if he gets saved. Earnie is burdened to see the man saved before he and Jean return to the United States this year. Please pray for his conversion.

Sometimes the information concerning the millions of lost

people in the world causes us to doubt the value of our little efforts. When you feel that way, remember the words of one saint: "I am one and only one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. What I can do, by the grace of God, I will do."

You can make a difference! Here are some things you can do in 1997:

1. Pray for the requests I have listed as well as those on Missions Hotline. You can get these requests by contacting the Hotline e-mail service at [carole@nafwb.org](mailto:carole@nafwb.org) (or you can dial Missions Hotline at 615/731-3839).

### ***Missionaries in Côte d'Ivoire have formally begun an aggressive church-planting effort in Abidjan, the nation's capital.***

2. Encourage your pastor to lead your church in emphasizing foreign missions, especially during April, and ask him to receive a special **Laura Belle Barnard World Missions Offering on April 27.**

3. Make your personal donation to the Laura Belle Barnard offering.

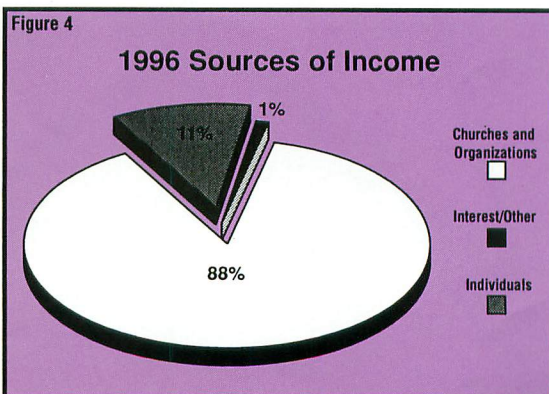
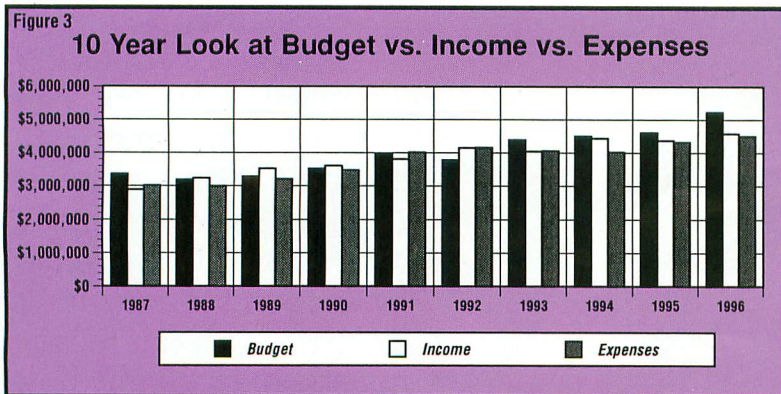
4. Pray for God to call those from your church and even from your family to go to the harvest field.

When I am overwhelmed by the needs around me, I remember the story of a Japanese doctor in Hiroshima who was standing on the opposite side of the city, shielded by a building, when the atomic bomb exploded. He was several miles from the blast. As he turned the corner, he looked in horror in the direction of the explosion he had heard. He saw the mushroom cloud ascending. Obviously, thousands of people were injured in every direction he looked. The task was much too great for him, just one doctor, all alone.

But he did the rational, obvious thing. He went to the man in the street nearest him who had been knocked down. He opened his black bag and started administering first aid to him. And then to another. And another. One person, helping another.

In 1997 will you be that one person, making it possible for another person and another and another to hear the gospel throughout the world? I hope so!

\*"The Power of Vision," by George Barna, © 1992, Regal Books, Ventura, Calif.





# THE MISSION FIELD IS HERE

by Jan Banks



*Jan Banks, left, works a puzzle with two international students.*

**N**aoko bravely left her familiar neighborhood and traveled across the vast Pacific to settle in a college dormitory in Wichita, Kans. Not long after her introduction to American college life she was invited to the home of a Christian woman who became a dear friend. This elderly woman joyfully shared her home and her friendship. This gradually opened a door for a positive Christian witness to this young lady from the traditional Japanese background of mixed Buddhist and Shinto belief and practice.

In time, the gospel message penetrated Naoko's heart and she sincerely repented, receiving Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior. As she grew close to God she began to see those without Christ as lost and without hope. Her thoughts were continually on her family back in Kita Hiroshima. She longed to share her newfound friend, Jesus Christ, with her family, but she didn't know how



they would respond. She prayed and waited for the Lord to send her on a "mission trip"—back home to her family.

Finally, her opportunity came and she traveled back to her old familiar neighborhood. She found things much like she had left them. Her parents were still working in the small market/restaurant. Her brother was still carousing with his rough friends. The change within Naoko's heart, however, caused her to see everything differently.

---

***Naoko began her Christian witness with her brother, Keiichi. He became a follower of Jesus!***

---

Naoko became interested in the American missionary family and the small Christian church which she had successfully avoided during her younger years. She made her way to the Sunday services and soon became an active participant with that small group of believers.

Naoko began her Christian witness with her brother, Keiichi. They bargained with each other. Naoko agreed to read Keiichi's book on Shinto belief and Keiichi agreed to read the Bible. The Shinto book had little effect on Naoko, but the message of the Bible made a strong impression on Keiichi. He found himself drawn through The Book, until finally, as he finished the stories about Jesus in the Gospels, he realized he believed what he was reading. Keiichi became a follower of Jesus! Naoko rejoiced and wrote about this

victory to her friends back in Kansas.

As a new Christian, Keiichi realized he had to leave his old "hoodlum" lifestyle. He immediately began to share his new friend, Jesus Christ, with his motorcycle gang. One by one they either retreated away from this crazy friend or they responded with interest. Sachiko, a young lady who was hospitalized after a serious motorcycle accident, listened intently to Keiichi's message. She too became a follower of Jesus. She then witnessed to her roommate in the hospital. This young lady also became a believer. Others followed!

Naoko, Keiichi, Sachiko and other friends attended the small church in Kita Hiroshima. Keiichi and Sachiko were married and later moved to Moore, Okla., where they studied at Hillsdale FWB College for two years. Naoko also returned to the United States where she completed a master's degree at Moody Bible Institute. Keiichi is presently completing seminary studies in Japan. In March of this year he will graduate. Then he will become the long-awaited pastor of Kita Hiroshima Free Will Baptist Church.

Every year over 500,000 young people (like Naoko) come to the United States to study in our colleges and universities. Many of these students will return to their countries as leaders of future governments, educational institutions, businesses, industries, etc. What a wonderful opportunity to share the love of Christ with them while they are here! If we become their friends we might have a chance to introduce

them to Jesus, just as the dear elderly woman did for Naoko.

Free Will Baptists have been actively doing missionary work for almost 60 years. We have been sending missionaries to various countries around the world and many Japanese, Africans, Europeans, Brazilians, Cubans, Panamanians, etc. have come to know Christ through these ministries. But now, we have an even greater opportunity to do cross-cultural evangelism. We can all join our foreign missionaries in this wonderful but challenging responsibility of reaching all nations for Christ. We can do it without learning a foreign language and without leaving our homes. We can do it through what comes naturally—becoming friends.

---

***Every year over 500,000 young people (like Naoko) come to the United States to study in our colleges and universities.***

---

Befriending an international may involve various activities, depending on the situations and needs of the individuals. Services such as meeting newcomers at the airport, delivering them to their dorms, helping them locate suitable apartments, taking them shopping and assisting them in opening bank accounts are some of the simple things that can be done to help the students adjust to their new world. This type of caring is the first step toward building a bridge for communicating the love of Christ.

*Continued on page 8* ➔



→Continued from page 7

The American Christian who becomes a friend to an international student has the potential of impacting not only a life, but even a whole nation. Research has revealed that 40 percent of the world's 220 heads of state studied in the States at some time. Additional research shows that 60 percent of international students come from countries in the 10/40 window, where the largest blocks of unreached peoples live.

Twenty-five percent of the international students in the United States today come from countries where traditional missionary activity is not allowed. While in the States these students are free from many cultural and religious pressures, making them more receptive to the gospel. And yet, only about 10 percent of all international students have any meaningful contact with any Christian! That is a sad statistic!

The opportunity to be a cross-cultural missionary is yours! The time is now! The field is the closest college or university campus hosting international students. Only eternity will reveal the results, but look what's happening in Japan as a result of one Kansas lady's willingness to share her home and life with an international student.

It can happen again!

Jan Banks is instructor and director of the missions department at Hillsdale FWB College. She and her husband, Jerry, are former missionaries to Japan. They are currently serving as ministry coordinators with International Students, Inc. (ISI) for Oklahoma City and Tulsa.

Statistics in this article were provided by ISI. Resources for international student ministry may be purchased from:

International Students, Inc. (ISI)  
P.O. Box C  
Colorado Springs, CO 80901  
e-mail: ISIteam@aol.com

**N**ew! Such a small word, yet it has many different implications. It speaks of something often unknown or of change.

Why is it so hard for the new to overshadow the old? Maybe part of the answer is that the new has to be proven. To change the "status quo," the "status" has to be modified. The new International Fellowship of Free Will Baptist Churches, Inc., does mean a change in the "status quo."

Born from a desire of Christians from different countries to have an official organ that could represent Free Will Baptist interests around the world, the new fellowship is already taking an important new role in our denomination. It is serving as a buffer and a coordinating link for Free Will Baptists around the globe.

---

***God drew us together in one spirit and mind to work on an organization which can benefit all.***

---

Melvin Worthington, executive secretary for the National Association of Free Will Baptists, noted that the International Fellowship "provides an opportunity for us to develop an appreciation as well as an acceptance of Free Will Baptist believers who live in other cultures and have different customs. It broadens our view of how God transforms lives of men and women around the world, regardless of culture and customs."

After 60 years, Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions has reached a new stage of development. The key factor

now will be partnership between the fields and the nation which mothered Free Will Baptist work in those countries. The idea and desire for this international organization gradually developed because the fields were growing and becoming better organized with national leadership.

That original idea grew into an international consultation held in Panama in 1992. Representatives from seven countries met to confirm the concept and determine the need of such an organization. At that meeting delegates concluded that plans should be laid to bring all 12 countries where we have Free Will Baptist churches under one "umbrella" of fellowship.

A second meeting was set to formally organize the fellowship, and Brazil was chosen to host the historical meeting. Representatives from nine countries gathered in Jaboticabal in October of 1995.

What an experience! I was privileged to be Brazil's representative, and I will never forget that meeting! Jerome of Côte d'Ivoire noted, "In spite of the different languages, the delegates were still able to communicate and have fellowship." Our bonding in Christ was wonderful despite language barriers.

Jose Manuel from Spain said, "The fellowship with Christians I had never met made an impact on my life. It seemed as though we had known one another all of our lives."

The experience of administering the Lord's Supper was precious as I watched my Panamanian, Spanish, Uruguayan and African brothers





*These delegates and visitors attended the organizational meeting of the International Fellowship in Jaboticabal, Brazil.*

# An Umbrella of Fellowship!

*by John Poole*

serve. Hearing people preach in French, Spanish, English and Japanese with the same fervor and love that we display in Portuguese amazed me.

God drew us together in one spirit and mind to work on an organization which can benefit all. I am grateful to faithful people and churches who contributed to get the delegates to the meeting. Thank God for men and women who made long trips to meet for a full week in order to see a dream come true.

Missionary Robert Bryan of Côte d'Ivoire was especially impressed with "the single-

mindedness of the delegates to form an organization which would be of service to all the churches and which would bring glory to God."

---

***"The fellowship with Christians I had never met made an impact on my life. It seemed as though we had known one another all of our lives."***

---

I am thankful for the confidence the delegates showed in electing me, a Brazilian MK and pastor, as

president of the new organization.

In March of 1996 the executive committee of the International Fellowship met in Miami to lay plans and put some things into action. As president I serve on the executive committee with the other two officers: Ramon Sanchez, vice president; and Melvin Worthington, secretary/treasurer. Ramon could not get out of Cuba for the meeting, but Dr. Worthington and I met.

As a result of that meeting, official International Fellowship materials were developed, including a logo, poster, official Handbook, newsletter, organizational chart and other materials. The committee also worked on developing International Fellowship by-laws and incorporating the organization.

In January of 1997 the executive committee met again to review and approve official documents. They also made plans for the 1998 meeting of the General Assembly, which is scheduled to be held October 12-16, 1998, in Montevideo, Uruguay.

As time approaches for the next meeting, remember the words of our Lord as recorded by the apostle John: "For God so loved the world." The WORLD! In Christ, we are all one. As Free Will Baptists, let us be one in making this organization a useful tool to serve all the countries where we have Free Will Baptist churches. And let's do it to the glory of God!

---

John Poole, an MK born in Brazil, is pastor of the First FWB Church in Ribeirão Preto, Brazil. He is also president of the International Fellowship of FWB Churches.



# News Update



Dale Bishop (center, left) and two members of Koinonia church sing during the first service at Miharashidai, a suburb of Sapporo, Japan.



A storefront building in Miharashidai serves as the meeting place for the new work started recently by Donnie and Ruth McDonald.

## McDonalds Report Good First Service Response

*Japan*—"Our opening service on December 23 was a success," writes Donnie McDonald from northern Japan. "Forty-one people attended our opening event. Of course, that number included Christians from our area churches but also reflected 15 from our immediate community. None of these were Christians."

McDonald noted that 11 of the 15 from the community were directly related to their English classes. Another unsaved family who had attended the Koinonia church was at the service.

Donnie expressed appreciation that people attended from the Ai No Sato, Koinonia and Kito Hiroshima churches.

## Eagletons Leave for Short Brazil Ministry

*Antioch, Tenn.*—Veteran missionaries Ken and Marvis Eagleton returned to Brazil on February 19 to resume a short extension Bible institute training ministry in Barbacena.

According to Ken, he will be teaching General Epistles and Old Testament Theology and will work with the Bobby Aycocks in Barbacena.

The Eagletons are scheduled to return to the States in early May.

Ken will continue to coordinate the TEAM (Teens Equipped and Active in Missions) ministry which will send



Donnie McDonald (back, center) visits with some of those who attended the first service of the new work being started in northern Japan.

two groups overseas this summer: one to Russia and another to Panama/Cuba.

## 17 Saved Through ICA Outreach Weekend Effort

*Côte d'Ivoire*—According to Kim Zegelian, short-term teacher at International Christian Academy in Bouake, Côte d'Ivoire, 17 people accepted the Lord as Savior through the outreach ministry of students during the weekend just prior to Christmas.

Youth from ICA usually travel out to neighboring villages twice a month and show the "Jesus" film. Just before Christmas vacation, over 1,000 people attended services on the Saturday and Sunday of the outreach effort.

"It is truly exciting to see teenagers anxious to serve the Lord and tell others of His love for them," says Kim.

Miss Zegelian has been teaching

some physical education classes and a biology class, as well as assisting in the intramural program for the school. She serves as dorm assistant in one of the high school girls' dorms.

## ELIC Announces New Assured Departure Plan

*San Dimas, Calif.*—English Language Institute/China (ELIC) in San Dimas, Calif., has announced an "assured departure plan" as a financial incentive in 1997 for anyone interested in strategic year and summer short-term opportunities overseas.

Scores of new teaching positions have opened in many university campuses in China, Mongolia, Vietnam and Laos. According to ELIC, the demand has never been greater to demonstrate Christian love among the searching university students of Asia. There is an urgency to fill these teaching positions now.

Officials from the ELIC office had this to say about the assured departure plan: "This year only—through the generosity of a special friend of the organization—we are able to cover each individual's remaining support needs after he or she has made a diligent effort to raise the necessary financial support."

This plan is available this year only and deadlines for applicants are fast approaching, according to ELIC leaders. All commitments must be



received by March 28 for summer programs and by April 30 for year programs. Those interested may call 1-800-366-3542.

## Crawford Reports One Saved in Bible Study

*France*—According to a December report from Miss Cathy Crawford, Andree, a 27-year-old lady, was saved in Cathy's home in St. Sebastien, France.

Crawford writes: "She called the church to ask about being baptized, however, she didn't know the Lord and had received no religious instruction of any kind. I met with her and we decided to study the Gospel of John together. By the time we finished the nineteenth chapter, Andree was ready to ask the Lord to come into her life."

## New Van Provided for New Life Home

*Brazil*—Employees of the Nestle (Chocolate) Company in Araras, Brazil, recently asked for suggestions for gifts for the New Life Children's Home sponsored by the First Free Will Baptist Church. When told they needed a van, the employees expressed regret. Later, the company decided to match its employees' efforts and purchased a new Volkswagon nine-passenger van for the home.

## Turnboughs Involved in Home Bible Studies

*Spain*—"We had our first Bible study with Yolanda since we've been back," writes Jeff Turnbough from Majadahonda, Spain. "I explained to her what I refer to when I talk of conversion, which of course is a decision to leave your old life of sin, place your faith in the person of Jesus Christ and then begin to walk and live for Him." Yolanda responded, "Oh, I've already done that!"

Jeff is holding Bible studies with several people from the area as well as some unsaved people sent to them from the Villalba church. The Turnboughs reported making friends with several people in the Majadahonda area. Yolanda has introduced them to her sister along with her three teenage children.



Visiting Cuba during the annual Cuban Free Will Baptist Convention in February are (left to right) Fred and Rachel Warner and Ronald and Linda Callaway. Fred and Ronald are to preach at the convention and in several churches.

The first meeting of believers in Las Rozas/Majadahonda included Alex, Marisol and Yolanda.

## Warner and Callaway to Preach in Cuba

*Cuba*—Fred Warner, director of missionary-church relations, and Ronald Callaway, missionary to Panama/Cuba; were scheduled to leave for Cuba on February 26. Both Fred and Ron were to preach several times at the Cuban FWB Convention and in FWB churches.

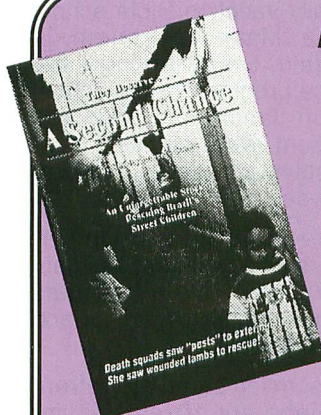
Accompanying their husbands were Rachel Warner and Linda Callaway. They are scheduled to return home on March 8. Randy Sawyer of Gastonia, N.C., had to cancel plans to go with the couples.

## Pooles Report Growth in Marincek Work

*Brazil*—According to missionaries Bobby and Geneva Poole, the work in Marincek, a suburb of Ribeirão Preto, Brazil, has made progress over the past year.

"We are averaging 36 in Sunday school and 50 for the worship service," writes Bobby. "We baptized 15 and have at least three more waiting to follow the Lord in baptism. We took 21 new members into the church at our annual business meeting."

Poole said the church's Christmas program was presented to approximately 100 people in December. A number of unsaved fathers were present for this special program.



Read about the rescue in Araras, Brazil!

## ABANDONED STREET CHILDREN!

Death squads saw "pests" to exterminate.  
She saw wounded lambs to rescue!

A true story by Missionary Shirley Roberts Combs

Shirley and the  
First Free Will Baptist Church in Araras  
gave them . . .

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# News Update

## Herseys Total Auto in Snowy Saturday Mishap

*Japan*—Missionaries Fred and June Hersey were involved in an automobile accident on Saturday, January 26, as they were en route to Bihoro from their home in Sapporo. It was snowing and ice was on the road as they were traveling in Asahigawa, a large city on their route.

According to Fred, the car slid sideways, crossing the road and broadsiding a telephone pole. The car landed in a ditch in soft snow.

A snowplow pulled the car out of the ditch, and they were able to drive it to a gas station about five minutes away. From there they took the train to Bihoro.

The Herseys expressed praise that no one was injured in the mishap but the car was totaled. Two ladies were riding with them.

## 12 from Second Church Baptized at Araras

*Brazil*—According to a newsletter from Jim and Shirley Combs, 12 new converts from the newly organized Second Free Will Baptist Church in Araras were baptized in November.

Combs noted that three were adults and the rest were young people. Some of these are the only Christians in their families.

The Second church was officially organized on November 30. The work started as a Bible study in 1994 in the home of a charter member, Sr. Joaquim.

## Mini Reports from Around the Globe

*Antioch, Tenn.*—Norman and Bessie Richards, former missionaries to Côte d'Ivoire, are scheduled to return to Africa in April for the dedication of the new church building in Agnibilekrou. The Richards, who founded the church, will leave the United States on April 7 and return on April 24. The dedication service is set for April 12.

*Antioch, Tenn.*—The Board of Foreign Missions meets in its annual session April 21-24 in the National Offices in Antioch, Tenn. Field chairmen from the various fields are to meet with the board during its session. A special missionary support



The automobile belonging to Fred and June Hersey in Japan was severely damaged when it went off the road during a snowstorm in northern Japan. No one was injured.

forum also is scheduled for April 24-25 with leaders from the states.

*Côte d'Ivoire*—A ground-breaking ceremony was held on January 26 at Bouna, Côte d'Ivoire, for the construction of the church parsonage and house for the future director of the Bible institute.

*Spain*—Jeff Turnbough began a Bible study, "Experiencing God," on Friday, February 14, in the Villalba church in a suburb of Madrid, Spain.

*Brazil*—Missionary Bobby Poole reported an average attendance of 102 in a daily vacation Bible school held in the Marincek church in Ribeirão Preto, Brazil, during early January. The program for the school was held on January 12 with 103 people present. At least three decisions for salvation were recorded during the week.

*Côte d'Ivoire*—The first worship service in the rented facility at Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, was held on January 19 with approximately 35 adults and 25 children attending.

*Brazil*—A special camping retreat was held February 10 and 11 for people from the Second Free Will Baptist Church in Uberlandia, Brazil. According to Tom and Nancy Hughes, the group set up three tents and two make-do shelters for the retreat. Some 48 people attended.

*Florence, Ala.*—Dana Thompson, mother of missionary Tammy Gentuso, underwent bypass surgery in Birmingham on December 23. Latest

reports indicated she was recovering well.

*Japan*—Ken and Judy Bailey in Japan expressed praise recently for the salvation of Mrs. Yabi, a young mother in their neighborhood. She and her two sons have been attending the Wednesday morning Bible study group for about six months. Mrs. Yabi became interested in Christianity through the witness of Mrs. Tochikura (see article, page 2).

*Cuba*—Foreign Missions Board member David Shores and his wife, Pat, spent from December 19 to January 2 in Cuba visiting old and new friends as well as several churches. David preached 12 times while he was in Cuba. The couple celebrated their fortieth wedding anniversary while on the island.

*Côte d'Ivoire*—Missionary Alice Smith says her Bible classes in the public schools around Agnibilekrou have started off well with 256 children registered for her classes.

*India*—According to missionaries Carlisle and Marie Hanna, pastors and evangelists in India were able to lead many people to the Lord in 1996. Over 200 people have followed the Lord in baptism since February of last year.

*Côte d'Ivoire*—Dr. Kenneth Eagleton recently held a community health seminar in the Doropo area of Côte d'Ivoire with 14 people attending. "We will soon be training a team that can go out into the villages and do evangelism hand-in-hand with pre-



vention of diseases, orientation in hygiene, nutrition and vaccination," says Dr. Kenneth.

## Aycock Reports Six Saved in Barbacena

*Brazil*—A series of four services were conducted in Barbacena, Brazil, during the week of October 1 by Jeff Manning, pastor of the Unity Free Will Baptist Church in Greenville, N.C., and youth minister Jim Weese. Jeff preached and Jim sang. Three people made decisions for salvation.

Aycock noted that three other people had received Christ during January. "We are having discipleship classes with Giselle, Roberto, Vera, Jose and Maria du Carmo in preparation for baptism in January," writes Bobby.

## Six Students Begin Third Institute Session

*Côte d'Ivoire*—Six students, including five married and one single, were enrolled to start a new three-year Bible institute session at Bouna, Côte d'Ivoire, on January 29. This is the third group of students since the institute program was launched in 1985.

According to Clint Morgan, this class is a mixture of ethnic groups: "We have a Lorhon; a Koulango; two Koulango/Abron; one with mixed parentage of Nigerian/Baoule and another of two ethnics, Beninois/Abron."

The new students are able to take advantage of the new student housing that was built this past year with the help of Master's Men teams who went to Côte d'Ivoire for that purpose.

Although Mike Cousineau and Clint are carrying the basic teaching load, Deleen Cousineau and Lynette Morgan also are teaching classes for pastors' wives.

## "Cross Country Witness" Results in Broken Rib

*Japan*—"Yesterday while involved in evangelism (cross country skiing with a seeker from one of my English classes), I had a bad fall," writes Mirial Gainer from Bihoro, Japan. "The end result was one broken rib and another either broken or



Jimmy Aldridge (top) and Sherwood Lee (bottom) went to India during February to visit and minister to Indian Christians.

cracked."

Miss Gainer hit her head as well, but no permanent damage was sustained. The doctor estimated a two-week recovery time.

## Aldridge, Lee Minister to Indian Christians

*India*—Jimmy Aldridge, overseas secretary, and Sherwood Lee, former missionary to Côte d'Ivoire, left the United States on February 6 for a ministry in North and South India.

After visiting with and ministering to churches in South India, accompanied by Carlisle Hanna, Aldridge and Lee journeyed with Hanna northward to minister to churches in the northeast corner of the country.

First, they were on hand for the annual conference of Free Will Baptists meeting in Sonapurhat February 20-23. Sherwood and Jimmy spoke three times each at the conference.

Latest reports indicated that Aldridge and Lee were very busy meeting with Christians from eight to nine churches daily.

The duo were scheduled to return to the States on February 25.

## "Mom" Mabel Willey Falls, Breaks Bone, Has Surgery

*Miami, Fla.*—"Mom" Mabel Willey, 91-year-old pioneer missionary to Panama and Cuba, fell in her bedroom during the early morning of January 22 and broke a bone in the upper leg and hip area. She had surgery that day at Columbia Kendall Medical Center in Miami—a partial hip replacement.



"Mom" Willey

Surgery went well, and she was moved to South Miami Hospital on January 26 for therapy.

On February 1 Mrs. Willey experienced some heart problems, but latest reports indicated she left the hospital on February 19.

## Wisehart Installs Officers for African Women

*Antioch, Tenn.*—Dr. Mary R. Wisehart, executive secretary-treasurer of Women Nationally Active for Christ, left for Côte d'Ivoire on February 12. She attended the an-

*Continued on page 14* ➔

## Payne's People

By Eddie Payne





# News Update

→ Continued from page 13

nual women's retreat February 17 and 18 and participated in the installation of officers of the Free Will Baptist national women's organization. She planned to return on February 24.

## 20 Children Saved at Panama Children's Camp

**Panama**—According to Steve Lytle, 92 children were registered at the Panama children's camp held February 12-14 at the El Amanecer campground in Panama. Over 20 children indicated they received Christ as Savior. Approximately 33 adult workers added to already cramped conditions since they only had beds for 75 people.

Classes were taught on subjects

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These individuals gave special gifts in December and January in memory or in honor of friends or loved ones:

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Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Settle Lebanon, Va.	W. C. Childers
Mr. Joseph Buttgen Blakely, Ga.	Gladys Mercer
Poplar Springs FWB Church Glen, Miss.	Mittie Barnes Edna Brassfield

These individuals gave gifts in memory of Mrs. Oleta Hughes:

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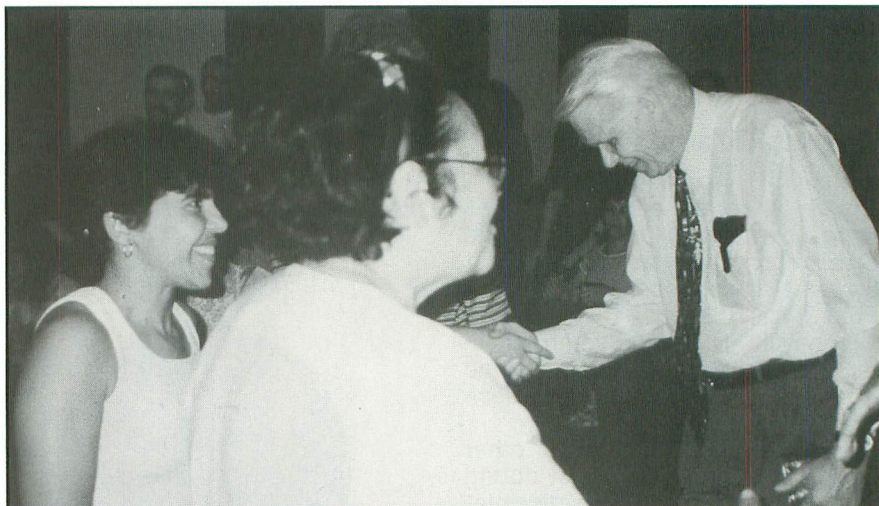
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General Director R. Eugene Waddell (right) greets Christians at the church in Uberlandia, Brazil, during his visit to South America in January and February.

ranging from Bible to manners and etiquette, music, mime, making hand puppets, etc. "We had a campfire service on Thursday night," writes Steve. "For perhaps half of the children, it was the first time they had ever seen anything like that."

## Former Missionary Cronk Has Surgery, Slight Stroke



Dan Cronk

**Nashville, Tenn.**—Dan Cronk, former missionary to India, underwent surgery on February 5 to remove a malignant tumor from the esophagus.

The surgery was successful but pathology reports were not yet in at press time. Preliminary findings indicated that three lymph nodes were removed and appeared to be malignant.

While in recovery, Cronk suffered a stroke which left him partially paralyzed but some of the paralysis had cleared up at press time. He also was battling pneumonia. Christians were urged to pray for his recovery.

## Betania Youth Provide Kids a Late Christmas

**Panama**—On the weekend of January 4 and 5, seven young people from the Betania Free Will Baptist Church in Panama City, Panama, traveled to Aguas Frias in the Darien province, almost six hours from

Panama City. They went to take Christmas toys to all the children in that isolated area.

The group had planned to make the trip prior to Christmas but heavy rains made roads impassable at that time.

Judy Lytle says, "The trip was rough, but we were able to get there and back. We had a service Saturday evening and Sunday school on Sunday morning. Probably 75 children and 30 adults attended."

Through the visitation and the Saturday night service, four people made decisions for Christ.

## Waddells Visit Brazil and Uruguay Fields

**Antioch, Tenn.**—General Director R. Eugene Waddell and his wife, Genevieve, left from Miami on January 21 en route to Brazil and Uruguay to visit Free Will Baptist missionaries and ministries.

Mr. Waddell met with the Brazil field council January 27-30 in Belo Horizonte. He also spoke in area churches before leaving for Uruguay to meet with missionaries and speak at their annual family camp during the week of February 8-13.

Reports indicated that 129 full-time campers attended and at one point 67 visitors were also on hand. Twelve people made professions of faith during the week.

After ministering in the works in Uruguay, the Waddells returned to Brazil on February 15. They visited other Free Will Baptist ministries in



the state of São Paulo and met with the Brazil Association of Churches on Saturday, February 22.

The couple also ministered to the two churches in Uberlandia, Minas Gerais, before returning to the States on February 26.

## Lynette Morgan Involved in Auto-Bicycle Mishap

*Côte d'Ivoire*—The automobile driven by missionary Lynette Morgan was hit in the side by a speeding bicycle on February 9 in Bouna, Côte d'Ivoire. The boy, who was racing another bicyclist, was knocked unconscious and was in a coma until the next day.

According to Lynette, she and her son, Adam, were on their way to church when the accident occurred. Christians are urged to pray for Lynette and for the boy.

## Panama Association Meets; 300 Attend

*Panama*—The annual Panama Association of Free Will Baptists was held at Las Tablas on January 11 and 12 with approximately 300 people in attendance. Missionary Steve Lytle noted that attendance was bolstered when they were able to obtain lodging almost free at a government-run boarding school. Several churches cooperated in renting vans to get to the meeting.

Reports at the meeting indicated over 200 people in Panama had professed faith in Christ during 1996.

## Nationals Take Charge As Pinkertons Move

*Côte d'Ivoire*—As missionaries Jerry and Carol Pinkerton prepared to move from Bondoukou to Abidjan to help with the new ministry in the capital city, Kouame Robert assumed Jerry's role as director of the leadership training program.

Pastor Samuel is in charge of the Bondoukou church, which Jerry once pastored, and the women's class, which Carol once taught, is now led by Africans.

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## Financial Summary Through January 1997

### \$ubstance

Total income for December 1996.....	\$ 634,186.23
Total income through December 1996.....	4,574,421.23
<b>Total 1996 Budget</b> (including VISION projections).....	<b>\$5,229,982.15</b>
Total income for January 1997.....	241,629.25
Total income through January 1997.....	241,629.25
Projected income through January 1997.....	412,913.47
Total expenses through January 1997.....	462,369.81
<b>Total 1997 Budget</b> (including VISION projections).....	<b>\$4,954,961.67</b>

### \$hortage

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:

Bryan.....	\$ 6,355.77	Robinson.....	\$ 4,657.14
Crosby.....	7,348.30	Sturgill.....	10,220.05
Eagleton Sr.....	11,180.56	Tallent.....	3,892.11
Franks Sr.....	2,558.28	Wilson.....	675.35
Hanna.....	21,901.29	Wiley.....	8,982.01
Hersey.....	4,024.79	Special committee.....	18,882.34
McFall.....	318.10	General Fund.....	39,827.80
Owen.....	3,940.01		
<b>Total.....</b>			<b>\$144,763.90</b>

### \$inking

The following accounts are in the black but in serious need:

Combs.....	\$ 1,959.66	Teague.....	\$ 2,663.47
Midgett.....	1,245.07		

## State Goals—1996/97

States/ Organizations	Goal 1996	Contributions Through December	Goal 1997	Goal Through January	Contributions Through January
Alabama.....	\$ 183,624.80	\$ 198,762.27	\$ 195,000.00	\$ 16,250.00	\$ 21,998.77
Arkansas.....	316,612.43	341,337.19	300,000.00	25,000.00	2,915.70
Arizona.....	6,643.67	7,261.80	6,500.00	541.67	465.00
California.....	84,083.96	66,128.80	83,000.00	6,916.67	5,510.63
Canada.....		5,947.91	10,000.00	833.33	972.00
Colorado.....	8,823.63	5,241.41	8,000.00	666.67	1,526.28
Florida.....	82,007.81	71,988.40	85,000.00	7,083.33	6,540.12
Georgia.....	159,863.33	211,159.43	200,000.00	16,666.67	8,530.32
Idaho.....	3,114.22		1,000.00	83.33	
Iowa.....	3,321.84	2,379.53	3,000.00	250.00	385.00
Illinois.....	117,226.16	149,229.24	150,000.00	12,500.00	4,493.84
Indiana.....	36,332.57	54,840.52	40,000.00	3,333.33	1,661.34
Hawaii.....	2,802.80		1,000.00	83.33	
Kansas.....	14,533.03	8,211.53	9,000.00	750.00	647.00
Kentucky.....	85,122.03	67,490.81	80,000.00	6,666.67	5,617.56
Louisiana.....	1,764.73	1,932.14	2,000.00	166.67	25.00
Maryland.....	13,494.96	33,947.20	29,000.00	2,416.67	4,349.00
Michigan.....	207,805.08	155,765.94	200,000.00	16,666.67	2,200.93
Missouri.....	369,211.52	347,457.77	325,000.00	27,083.33	4,827.50
Mississippi.....	78,893.59	66,607.79	75,000.00	6,250.00	4,582.76
Montana.....	1,764.73	2,110.00	2,500.00	208.33	175.00
North Carolina.....	575,663.85	622,127.01	570,000.00	47,500.00	55,259.85
Nebraska.....	1,038.07	2,396.00	1,000.00	83.33	150.00
New Mexico.....	2,179.95	5,915.13	2,000.00	166.67	12.50
*Northeast Assoc.....	2,595.18	880.00	2,400.00	200.00	60.00
**Northwest Assoc.....	12,494.96	8,037.93	10,000.00	833.33	1,001.78
Ohio.....	138,063.78	164,489.35	135,000.00	11,250.00	4,448.69
Oklahoma.....	430,610.16	425,246.18	420,000.00	35,000.00	4,887.71
Pennsylvania.....	1,349.50	904.54	1,000.00	83.33	10.00
South Carolina.....	263,670.68	252,241.77	255,000.00	21,250.00	11,464.35
Tennessee.....	721,080.38	720,365.61	715,000.00	59,583.33	47,608.04
Texas.....	103,807.36	83,197.46	100,000.00	8,333.33	1,420.00
Virginia.....	125,606.90	97,464.26	110,000.00	9,166.67	10,678.04
Virgin Islands.....	2,491.38	1,800.00	3,000.00	250.00	100.00
West Virginia.....	115,188.09	115,912.04	110,000.00	9,166.67	6,143.60
FWB Foundation.....		15,120.10	23,000.00	1,916.67	
Miscellaneous.....	80,533.85	23,538.19	19,365.88	1,613.82	2,908.81
WNAC.....	155,711.03	180,301.81	170,000.00	14,166.67	16,069.97
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>\$ 4,509,132.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,517,737.06</b>	<b>\$ 4,451,765.88</b>	<b>\$ 370,980.49</b>	<b>\$ 239,647.09</b>

\*Northeast Association  
New Hampshire, Vermont, New Jersey, Maine,  
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\*\*Northwest Association  
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