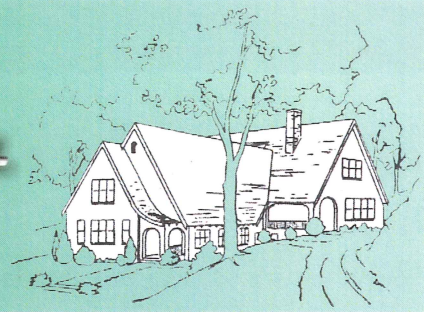


The Newsletter of
Fletcher Academy, Inc.

WINTER 2003

The Fletcher Spirit



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Because of your generosity many things have changed

For the people of Costa Rica life is hard and challenging most of the time. The mission groups that go there from time to time are, for them, a welcomed sight. Add to this value, a group of young people who are learning the important lessons of giving of themselves for Christ's work and the term "mission" takes on a whole new meaning. Read the meaning of mission from the view point of some you helped to send and how it has changed their lives forever.



Laura Pearman makes lunch for the hungry paint crew in Costa Rica.

by Diana Cox, FA Senior

When they first announced that the mission trip this year was to Costa Rica, I never really wanted to go. I have been on two other mission trips (to Africa and to New Mexico), and there was a limited number of people who could go, so I wanted to allow others to

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CGS Students Catch The Giving Spirit

Students at Captain Gilmer School wanted to do things a little different this past holiday season. Normally, students pick names of their classmates and then go out to find a Christmas gift for them. This year we realized that all of us have more than enough in comparison to our neighbors from around the world. A.D.R.A. (Adventist Development and

Continued on page 3



See story of our "new" coach on page 6.

Africa and to New Mexico), and there was a limited number of people who could go, so I wanted to allow others to

Lelia Patterson Center Progress Report

Gerald Nash, FA President

Facts give understanding, so here are some. The sprinkler system is being installed. Before dawn, January 13, the crane arrived to move the last ventilation/humidity unit into place on the support pad and the heating contractor is working on the completion of the rough-in HV/AC.

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Remembering the Past

by Ray Johnson

The history of Fletcher Academy is one that is steeped in a tradition of self-sacrifice among the "pioneers" of the institution. There are many who have worked long, hard hours to provide others with the opportunity for a Christian education and healthcare that would otherwise have gone unsupplied. Many of these people were willing to see the organization and its employees as "family" and treat them as such. When a need was noticed, there was a spontaneous response to quietly take care of the need with just the satisfaction of caring for the "family". Think this feeling is "old fashioned"? That kind of thing doesn't happen today... right? I was unsure, until I witnessed it at the last Alumni breakfast. The name was mentioned of a couple who needed a grave marker. This couple had served Fletcher Hospital and Academy, Inc., for many years, but from the puzzled look on many faces, the name in question was not too familiar. Soon the hat was passed and most reached into their pockets to fulfill the need. They were taking care of "family", not for show or a tax receipt but because that is what families do.



The name of the couple is the Meekers, and from what I am told they were true to their name. It was encouraging to see their family come together to remember them with a grave marker. The need was supplied and now their resting place is marked. A simple task accomplished? Yes! But much more is shown about the continuing of a Fletcher tradition... taking care of family.

I visited their grave recently and offered a prayer. I thanked God for their lives and the many people He touched through their dedication to Him. I also thanked Him for the wonderful "family" He has provided Fletcher Academy. May you feel a part of the family because you are a part of it.

The Meeker Memorial

by Donald C. Hunt

The Meeker Memorial is in place. Thank you to each one who made that possible! You contributed enough for the floral arrangement as well. If you would like to see the marker, here are some directions. Enter the *Shepherd Cemetery* through the main gate. Start around the circle, and immediately turn right. Park at the first hedge on the left. Walk left. At the present writing, (January 14) there are two floral arrangements, one behind the other. The first grave site is the Meeker's. The second is the T.C. Lowers'.

Blue Love Light Tree Donors

- 2 In HONOR of Aime Arroyo by Anonymous
- 4 In MEMORY of Lowell Barber by Anonymous
- 2 In HONOR of Kelly Britton by Anonymous
- 2 In HONOR of Michael Britton by Anonymous
- 1 In MEMORY of Mr & Mrs N B Cantrell
by Mr & Mrs Robert E Hansen
- 1 In MEMORY of Nobel Carlson by Gary Carlson
- 2 In HONOR of Nancy Carter by Anonymous
- 1 In HONOR of Chappie by Dr P J Moore
- 2 In HONOR of Mr & Mrs Glenn Clark by Anonymous
- 2 In HONOR of Mr & Mrs Russell Cook by Anonymous
- 1 In MEMORY of Cheri Dennison by Denver & Anita Stephens
- 1 In MEMORY of Roy Dunn, Former FA Principal
by Becky Rowe Ray
- 1 In MEMORY of My parents, Mr & Mrs Earnhardt
by Jan Earnhardt
- 1 In MEMORY of Art Ericson by Anonymous
- 2 In HONOR of Andrew Ezler by Anonymous
- 2 In HONOR of Barbara Feather by Anonymous
- 2 In HONOR of Israel Flechas by Anonymous
- 1 In MEMORY of Jean Graves by Willis Graves
- 1 In MEMORY of Gertrude Green by Mr & Mrs H M Baldwin
- 1 In MEMORY of Ann Hafner, My mother by Rosalie Zinke
- 1 In MEMORY of Mr & Mrs E A Hansen
by Mr & Mrs Robert E Hansen
- 1 In HONOR of Mrs Robert (Carol) Hansen by Robert E Hansen
- 1 In MEMORY of Helen Hawley by Cari Hammonds
- 1 In MEMORY of Kevin Hodges by Wanda Hodges
- 1 In HONOR of Dr Scott Hodges by Wanda Hodges
- 1 In HONOR of Larry Wayne Hodges by Wanda Hodges
- 2 In HONOR of Mr & Mrs Mike Hodges by Anonymous
- 2 In HONOR of Jessica Hughes by Anonymous
- 2 In HONOR of Brenda Jenks by Anonymous

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CGS Students Catch The Giving Spirit

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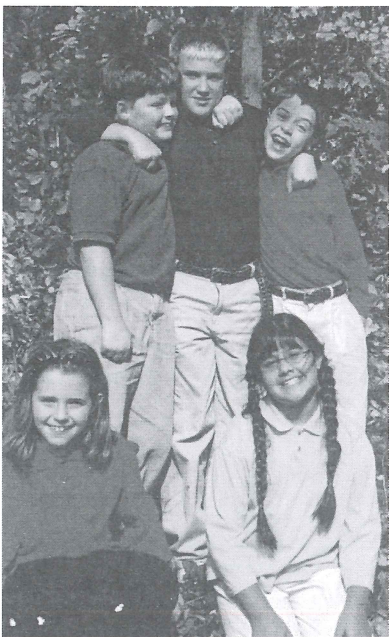
Relief Agency*) 2002 Gift Catalog has over thirty ideas of how you can help the world around you. The students decided to select projects from this catalog instead of giving to each other. They gave in order to provide 18 children in North Korea

nutrition for one day. They purchased 4 green houses for families in Mongolia. They bought 7 plots of land for Sudanese families, and seven chickens for a boy in Bangladeshi to help with his school cost, and a one-year scholarship grant for a child in Madagascar.

The students' enthusiasm was evident, and in total they gave over \$400.00 for projects like the ones listed above. We hope that for just a few we have given them a Happy New Year!

* More about ADRA ...

Established in 1984, the Adventist Development and Relief Agency is an independent humanitarian agency with a presence in 125 countries. ADRA provides development and relief aid programs to more than 16 million people worldwide without regard to ethnic, political, gender, or religious affiliation. One hundred percent of all donations to *The Original Really Useful Gift Catalog* are sent to the field for the projects specified by the donor.



Lelia Patterson Center Progress Report

Continued from page 1

The masonry work on the main building is complete and the loading dock and stage-level handicap ramp is being formed at this time and the soffit work around the building is being installed.

The rough-in electrical work is progressing. We were blessed with the gift of time, equipment, crew labor and knowledge provided by Harold Driggers, owner of CHAVIN Electric Company, to pull all of the main distribution electrical service lines to the sub-panels in various parts of the building. Site work is being done to allow for the placement of the two inch gas line that services the facility.

Professional help is on site to accelerate the construction work and place the Lelia Patterson Center into operation.

Lelia Patterson Center Operations Committee

The Fletcher Academy, Inc., Board of Directors called a special meeting in early December to devote dedicated time to the planning for the Lelia Patterson Center. At this meeting the board put in place a dedicated committee to oversee the planning for, and operation of the Center. This committee is reviewing operational procedures and developing printed materials.

The Lelia Patterson Operations Committee: Pattie Guthrie; Larry Kroll; Gerald Nash, chairman; Jo Ottinger; James Robertson; Carl Shaw; Shane Stephens, secretary.

For further information contact:

Gerald Nash,	Linda McIntyre,
President	Campaign Administrator
828 687-5113	800-249-2882

Blue Love Light Tree Donors

- 1 In HONOR of JESUS by Ruth & Everette Marley
- 2 In HONOR of Mr & Mrs Harold Jett by Anonymous
- 1 In MEMORY of Elizabeth Johnson by Bob & Nilda Johnson
- 1 In MEMORY of Herman Johnson Sr. by Bob & Nilda Johnson
- 4 In MEMORY of Dr Ted Joyner by Anonymous
- 2 In HONOR of Wayne Knittle by Anonymous
- 4 In MEMORY of Alfred Kuist by Anonymous
- 4 In HONOR of Marie Kuist by Anonymous
- 4 In MEMORY of Lee Kuist by Anonymous
- 4 In MEMORY of Louis & Eliza Kuist by Anonymous
- 2 In HONOR of Lucy Kuist by Anonymous
- 1 In MEMORY of Dolores Jeanne Lewis, my mother by Gary Lewis
- 1 In HONOR of Sharon Gail Lewis, my wife by Gary Lewis
- 2 In HONOR of Diana Liford by Anonymous
- 2 In HONOR of Christopher Lindsay by Anonymous
- 2 In HONOR of David & Carol Lindsay by Anonymous
- 2 In HONOR of Jonathan Lindsay by Anonymous
- 2 In HONOR of John Lomtz by Anonymous
- 1 In MEMORY of Lorraine Loughlin by Paul Donahue
- 1 In MEMORY of Gladys Lowder by Myron Brown
- 1 In HONOR of June B. Mansfield by Dr. R D Mansfield
- In MEMORY of A dear friend, Dr. Dorothy Martin by Jan Earmhardt
- 1 In MEMORY of Alfred O Mazat by Alberta Mazat
- 2 In HONOR of Dr & Mrs P J Moore by Anonymous
- 1 In HONOR of Gerald & Darlene Nash by Anonymous
- 1 In MEMORY of James Nash by Anonymous
- 10 In MEMORY of Jim Nash by Mazie Herin
- 2 In HONOR of Mr & Mrs Jerry Nash by Anonymous
- 1 In HONOR of Inez Beck Nestell by Doris B Herrick
- 2 In HONOR of Mr & Mrs Mitchell Nicholaides by Anonymous
- 2 In HONOR of Rebekah Nicholaides by Anonymous
- 2 In HONOR of Mr & Mrs Tim Novak by Anonymous
- 1 In MEMORY of Our Parents by Fred & Peggy Gerling
- 1 In MEMORY of Tom Pangborn by Fred & Peggy Gerling
- 10 In MEMORY of Lelia Patterson by Anonymous
- 2 In HONOR of Dr Arthur Pearson by Anonymous
- 2 In HONOR of Mr & Mrs Howard Pendleton by Anonymous
- 1 In HONOR of Howard & Gwen Pendleton by Anonymous
- 2 In HONOR of Howard & Gwen Pendleton by George & Wendi Pendleton

Continued on page 4

Blue Love Light Tree Donors

- 1 In MEMORY of Yvonne Pendleton by Les Pendleton
 2 In HONOR of Mr & Mrs Greg Peters by Anonymous
 1 In MEMORY of Cynthia Savage by Sylvia Donahue
 2 In HONOR of Dr & Mrs Richard Schwarz by Anonymous
 2 In HONOR of Mr & Mrs Bob Sheldon by Anonymous
 1 In MEMORY of Connie Sherman by Bob & Nilda Johnson
 1 In MEMORY of Harold Sherman by Bob & Nilda Johnson
 2 In HONOR of Kevin Shotwell by Anonymous
 2 In HONOR of Kyra Shotwell by Anonymous
 1 In HONOR of Charles S. Silliman by Denver & Anita Stephens
 1 In MEMORY of "Ma" Smitty by Ralph Walters
 1 In HONOR of Chere' Stephens by Shane Stephens
 2 In MEMORY of Frances Ann Sturgis by Logan Sturgis

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Left to right: Diana Cox, Laura Pearman, David and Rosaura

A complete listing of our Costa Rica Donors will be published in the next issue of the Fletcher Spirit.

Because of your generosity many things have changed

Continued from page 1

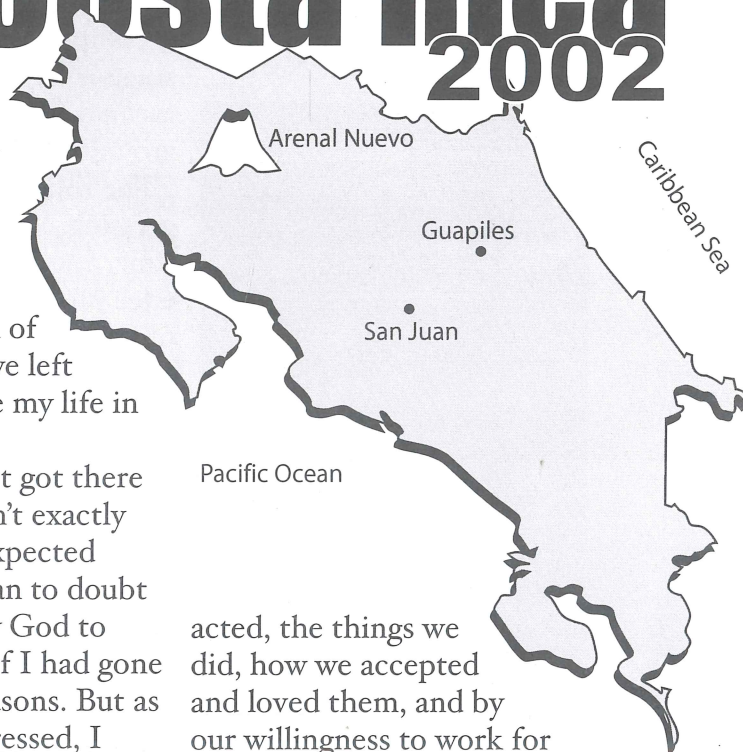
be blessed by a mission trip the way that I have been with the other two. But a week before the group was to leave someone cancelled, and I was asked if I wanted to go. I had never thought about going, but as I considered it, I was filled with the desire to go there and share Christ with the people. After only a week of trying to raise money to go, we left on the trip that would change my life in many ways.

When we first got there and things didn't exactly turn out as I expected them to, I began to doubt if I was sent by God to Costa Rica or if I had gone for my own reasons. But as the week progressed, I began to see more and more of how much of an effect our group being there had on the locals. From the very first night we were interacting with the locals almost constantly.

What I really enjoyed the most was getting to know the kids. There were two of them who were around a lot: Rosaura and Daniel. They spoke almost no English, but we managed to communicate when necessary. The smiles on their faces when we were playing with them were really gratifying, and I felt that we may yet have an impact on the lives of the kids in Costa Rica, though we were not able to talk to them directly about Christ and His love for them. I hope and pray that we were able to show them His love by an example of how we as Christians

Fletcher Academy Mission Trip

Costa Rica 2002



acted, the things we did, how we accepted and loved them, and by our willingness to work for Christ to help other people in the world. Thinking about this and realizing that even though we may not be able to understand each other very well, Christ's love can still be imparted to them. Knowing this makes me consider how much of an effect we have right here in our own community on countless people we never even talk to. Our testimony is for Jesus just by who we are and what we do.

This mission trip opened my eyes to see how much we can effect other people just by being there for them. I thank God that I had the opportunity to witness for Him to at least a few Costa Ricans because of the people who helped me share Christ's love by their financial gifts and support for this trip. I pray that His love will continue to be spread throughout the world through future mission trips like the one I was blessed to go on.

Continued on page 7

Industry Spotlight

by Jon Smith

Fletcher Academy Inc. is fortunate to own and operate a number of industries. In addition to providing valuable student labor opportunities, the industries provide needed services to the local community. One of our most public industries is Homestead Market.

Homestead Market moved to its' present location opposite Park Ridge Hospital on Naples Road about 17 years ago. Its product line has always reflected an interest in offering resources for healthful living.

The Market is managed by Harold Jett. Prior to coming to Fletcher Harold worked for several years at Winn Dixie, 25 years at Bi-Lo and 3 years at the Village Market in Collegedale, TN. Harold took over the Homestead Market operation in February of 1996. His experience and expertise helped to bring about an immediate improvement in sales and customer service. Under Harold's guidance the Market has developed into Fletcher's most profitable industry.

During an average month more than 3200 customers will be served by the store. On average each will purchase more than \$20.00 worth of product. The product line with the highest sales volume is the vegetarian line of food products marketed by Worthington (Kellogg) Industries. In fact the store was ranked 8th in total sales of Worthington products on the east coast 2 years ago. Rankings were not available for last year, but Worthington sales increased over the previous year. Given the size of the store

and location in a smaller rural market this is a remarkable achievement!

The Market inventories one of the largest and most diverse supplies of alternative milk and non-dairy products, vitamins and supplements in Western North Carolina. Customers often call the Market to see if desired products are in stock. They say if Homestead Market



doesn't have the item they're looking for, no one else will.

Homestead Market also has a representative amount of Christian books, music; study guides etc. and sells freshly baked products from the Academy Bakery.

I asked Nancy Carter, an employee for 17 years, what part of her job as

cashier and customer service she enjoys the most. She replied, "I love working with people. I really enjoy helping customers find the vitamins and supplements they need." With 17 years of experience I'm sure Nancy can help the customers with any questions they have!

Kristin Eszler, a student employee at the store since last summer, says that students help to bag and weigh merchandise, run the cash register, stock items and answer the phone. She says she loves "every aspect of her job"!

Recent improvements to the Market include new skylights and lighting, a new sign, improved landscaping, and a new paint job inside and out. If you haven't been to the Market for a while, please stop by. We think you'll like what you see!

Blue Love Light Tree Donors

- 2 In HONOR of Marwen & Divinia Tingzon by George & Wendi Pendleton
- 2 In MEMORY of F John Tingzon by George & Wendi Pendleton
- 2 In HONOR of Doris Vaughn by Anonymous
- 1 In MEMORY of L C Walker by Judi Walker Henderson
- 1 In MEMORY of Derrick Watkins by Judi Walker Henderson
- 2 In HONOR of Melissa Watson by Anonymous
- 1 In MEMORY of Ernie & Marie Wells by Cari Hammonds
- 1 In MEMORY of James Wheeler by his parents, George & Donna Wheeler
- 2 In HONOR of Mr & Mrs Gene Wilkie by Anonymous
- 1 In MEMORY of Mary Willey by Fred & Peggy Gerling
- 2 In HONOR of Mr & Mrs Blaine Wolbert by Anonymous
- 4 In MEMORY of Wilton Wynn by Anonymous
- 1 Thanks to God for Everything by Ray & Carol Hoffmann
- 6 The Howard Pendleton Construction Company Wishes to Honor Their Six Children:
Sharon & Gary Garner
David Pendleton
Marcia & Craig Waters
Brian & Debbie Pendleton
Bruce & Kelly Pendleton
George & Wendi Pendleton

White Love Light Tree Donors

- 1 In MEMORY of Eunice Ade by Ron & Becky Holt
- 1 In MEMORY of Arthur R Arnold by Vina E Arnold
- 1 In MEMORY of Byron Ashbaugh by Catherine Ashbaugh
- 1 In MEMORY of Lowell Barber by Dr Daniel & Eloyce (Barber) Erhard
- 1 In MEMORY of Mr & Mrs Bennet by Lyons & Muriel Hamblen
- 1 In MEMORY of Mrs Kathie Benson by Eric Benson
- 1 In HONOR of Allison Joy Bradley by Garwood & Linda Duncan
- 1 In MEMORY of Dr V E McNeilus & Nobel Carlson by Jan & Gary Carlson
- 1 In HONOR of Andy & Anne Carey by Evelyn Erwin
- 1 In MEMORY of Col. Lawson W. Clements by wife Marie Eubanks Clements
- 1 In MEMORY of Karen Leigh Duncan by Garwood & Linda Duncan
- 1 In MEMORY of beloved brother, Roy Dunn by Willis & Judy Robertson
- 1 In MEMORY of Mr & Mrs W L Eubanks by daughter Marie Eubanks Clements
- 1 In MEMORY of Jimmy Garey by Rebecca Crittenden Crawford-Class of '59
- 1 In MEMORY of David Gemmel by Employees of Fletcher Park Inn
- 1 In HONOR of Ted Graves by Willis Graves
- 1 In MEMORY of Saramae Griesman by Anonymous
- 1 In MEMORY of Saramae Griesman by Jean Murphy
- 1 In MEMORY of Mr & Mrs Hamblen by Lyons & Muriel Hamblen

Continued on page 6

White Love Light Tree Donors

- 1 In HONOR of Our Children
by Ray & Carol Hoffmann
- 1 In MEMORY of Our Parents
by Ray & Carol Hoffmann
- 1 In HONOR of Ray Johnson
by Anonymous
- 1 In MEMORY of Walter J Knittle
by Wayne & Jayne Stubbart
- 1 In HONOR of Wayne Knittle
by Wayne's Mom, Helen Knittle
- 1 In MEMORY of Mrs Gladys Lowder
by Edna Justus
- 1 In MEMORY of Harvey W Murphy
by Jean Murphy
- 1 In MEMORY of Richard W. Myers
by Kathryn B. Myers
- 1 In HONOR of Our Sabbath School
Teacher, Jerry Nash by Anonymous
- 1 In MEMORY of Jim Nash
by Ron & Becky Holt
- 1 In MEMORY of Jennings Neff (father)
by Rose N Sikora
- 1 In HONOR of Tim & Janet Novak
by Anonymous
- 1 In MEMORY of Philip A. Parker
by Irene R Parker, his wife
- 1 In MEMORY of George Pearman
by Anonymous
- 1 In MEMORY of Grace Pearman
by Anonymous
- 1 In HONOR of Twin Daughters,
Jorolyn & Ciara Patton by Lora &
Jeremy Patton
- 1 In MEMORY of My Parents, Mr & Mrs
H S Preiner by Gordon Preiner
- 1 In MEMORY of Mrs Rose Rogers
by Lelia Hinton
- 1 In MEMORY of David Sheldon
by Robert & Vivian Sheldon
- 1 In MEMORY of Michael Smith
by Jon & Glenda Smith
- 1 In MEMORY of Virginia Stewart
by Ron & Becky Holt
- 1 In HONOR of Dennis & Joan Taylor
by Jean Murphy
- 1 In HONOR of Pauline Templeman
by Jean Murphy
- 1 In HONOR of Dr Kay Vogt
by Willis Graves
- 1 In HONOR of Our 39th Wedding
Anniversary
by Becky & Lester Hodges
- 15 Howard Pendleton Construction
Co. To honor their 15 grandchildren:
Tammy Peterson
David Pendleton, Jr.
Wendy Deitsche
Daniel Pendleton
Marcie Pendleton
Chris Pendleton
Jaqueline Pendleton
Michael Pendleton
Joshua Pendleton
Jessica Pendleton
Nathan Waters
Vanessa Waters
Rebecca Doudiken
Sydney Pendleton
Alex Pendleton

Red Love Light Tree Donors

- 1 In MEMORY of Carol & Arn
Anderson by Sandra & Owen
Spencer
- 1 In HONOR of Marie & Marvyn
Baldwin by Sandra & Owen
Spencer
- 1 In MEMORY of Mary & Curtis Barger
by Mazie Herin

*Continued on page 7***Students Compete in Contest for New Bus Design***By Kevin Haesche*

Our 1975 MC8 bus was breaking down two out of three trips, which made for some very tired students and some very anxious parents and teachers. Then late last year Fletcher Academy was given a sizable donation which was put towards the purchase of a bus that would reliably get our traveling groups safely to their destinations and back.

We began looking for a vehicle that would be dependable and keep our kids safe. Because of MCI's reputation as a reliable vehicle, and we were familiar with its quality compared to other options, MCI quickly became the preferred choice.

We were told by many knowledgeable people that our fuel cost would be about half with the Detroit Series 60 engine and Allison B500 automatic transmission, which meant we would have to get a 1995 MCI102D or newer bus. But the disappointing fact that it had a starting price of around \$145,000 to \$175,000 meant we could not even consider this as an option, since we did not even have half that price.

With trust in the Lord we searched anyway, looking at many that had unobtainable prices of around \$120,000 with lots of rust or other body damage. One contact put us in touch with a friend of the school who gave us the name of a person about three hours away. When we spoke with him, he said he could provide what we were looking for.

I went down and looked at four busses, and came back with the information that the closest one worth the asking price for us was a bus for \$92,000, which he said he would take for the bus as is.

After talking with many potential donors, we were able to get the financial backing needed to purchase the new (to us) bus. On January 1, 2003, we brought home our new bus.

Since the "new" bus wasn't really new, we had to get it serviced and then painted. Fletcher students became involved in a design contest to come up with the design which is shown in the photo.

The Lord blessed us many times during the process of replacing the old bus. First, we received the initial donation; second, we were able to trade our old bus for the paint job on our new bus—a real bargain; and again the sales tax was much less than what we were originally quoted.



The first official trips will be the ski trips to Beech Mountain and to Copper Mountain, and the Valentine's Banquet.

I would like to thank those who have supported Fletcher, not only in this purchase, but in every way that you do.

Light Bearers Convocation

Christ Our Promise Keeper is the theme of the Light Bearers Ministry Fourth Annual East Coast Convocation, scheduled for Monday, June 23 to Sabbath, June 28, on the Fletcher Academy Campus.

Light Bearers speakers include Ty Gibson, Herb Montgomery, and James Rafferty. Dr. Sang Lee and Evangelist David Asscherick will be guest speakers. Meetings for the children and youth are planned.

On-campus accommodations are available. For further information contact: faievents@bellsouth.net or call 828-687-5112. — Everyone is welcome!

Activities Taking Shape at Lelia Patterson Center

Andy Carlson – Junior Class President

Developing and coordinating the events, programs, and other services the Lelia Patterson Center will provide is a huge task. However, Shane Stephens, the director of the facility, along with the operation committee, is hard at work to bring this hefty chore to completion. Mr. Stephens said he desires to have swim lessons, after school programs, aerobics classes, health education classes, and community events as part of the offerings at the Lelia Patterson Center. They will be so well prepared that when people walk in the door for the very first time they will feel as if the Lelia Patterson Center has been serving the community for many years.

"We are here to serve the needs of people," he said. "We will provide services for each child, student, adult, retiree, and family. It's on this individual basis that we will be able to reach people where they are—by this means we will truly be a blessing to the community."

I asked Mr. Stephens who else will be involved besides the Academy and individual community members.

"Local businesses," he said, "and we hope to eventually provide specific corporate wellness packages for all of them. We will provide services on their job site, and provide a place for employees to relieve stress and get some quality exercise. I hope everyone takes advantage of this wonderful opportunity. There are many things here for everyone. We are going to be a *happening* place," he said, "and I can hardly wait until we open."

Costa Rica 2002

Continued from page 4

by Michelle Nawmann

The mission trip was a great experience for me. I was able to help paint a school. The Vacation Bible School was awesome,

the children were really cool. It really makes you want to learn Spanish, because they are always trying to talk to you. It was also a time that I grew spiritually, the love that the people have for God, is really awesome. It really makes us think about all the things that we have in the



U.S., and we just take for granted. Getting to know my fellow stu-

dents better, was definitely a time to test my patience, eleven girls, one room! I am really glad that I was able to attend this trip. I just want to thank everyone in the community for your prayers and support.

by Jonathan Mendoza

I had the opportunity to go on a mission trip to Costa Rica last December. We did many things for the people down there. We painted a school building, it was actually like a gym that was going to be used as a church school. It had a place to get baptized.

We had everything over there; God really blessed us because I thought that we were going to sleep on the floor, but they had some kind of beds for us. The food started to get better after the fourth day, but the thing that I was blessed the most with was the people. They were so friendly and nice. I had the opportunity to be the translator for the trip at VBS. I was also blessed; I never thought that I was going to be telling stories to the kids, but God helped me as well as He helped Mr. Gerst. I think that God blesses people that work for him.

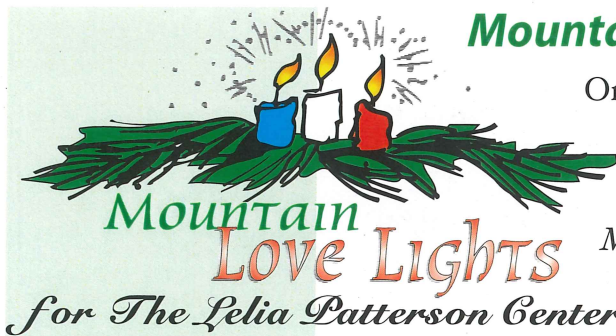
Academy Press Goes Digital

Academy Press has a new Xerox DocuColor 2240 printer which adds short-run full color to its list of services. The printer can handle paper up to heavy cover weight, and sizes up to 12x18, which means full bleed on 11x17 paper is now a reality. The cost for their digital full-color printing is very reasonable when compared to normal press-printed color. This issue of *The Fletcher Spirit* is an example of the full-color capabilities of their new addition.

Red Love Light Tree Donors

- 1 In HONOR of Gary F. & Ruth Bradley by Jeannie Bradley
- 1 In HONOR of Marj Brown by Jean Murphy
- 1 In MEMORY of Doris Clough by Mazie Herin
- 1 In MEMORY of Mrs Kate Crowder by A Fletcher Nurse
- 1 In MEMORY of William Eaton by Danielle Johnson
- 1 In MEMORY of William Bruce Garland by Mr & Mrs Robert Newell Jr
- 1 In MEMORY of Mr & Mrs William Garland by Mr & Mrs Robert Newell Jr
- 1 In MEMORY of Jean Graves by Mazie Herin
- 1 In MEMORY of Gertrude Green by Ella May Stoneburner
- 1 In MEMORY of Asa Gullett by Evelyn Gullett Graves
- 1 In MEMORY of Frances Gullett by Evelyn Gullett Graves
- 1 In HONOR of Mazie Herin by Ella May Stoneburner
- 2 In HONOR of Jesus by Anonymous
- 2 In HONOR of Jesus by James D. Erskine
- 1 In MEMORY of Elizabeth & Herman Johnson, Sr. by Willi & Hermie Johnson
- 1 In MEMORY of Lee Keenan by Kay Keenan
- 1 In HONOR of Kathy & Mike Kimball by Wayne Knittle (Brother)
- 1 In HONOR of Helen Knittle (Mom) by Wayne Knittle
- 1 In MEMORY of Walter Knittle (Dad) by Wayne Knittle
- 1 In MEMORY of Walter Knittle by Anonymous
- 1 In MEMORY of June Lawrence by Lorraine Felker
- 1 In MEMORY of Conner Lynes by Edith Lynes Bruorton
- 1 In MEMORY of Haines McIntyre by Gail & Linda McIntyre
- 1 In MEMORY of Mr. Willis Meeker by A Fletcher Nurse
- 1 In HONOR of Darlene Nash by Jean Murphy
- 1 In HONOR of Gerald Nash by Jeannie Bradley
- 1 In HONOR of Jerry & Darlene Nash by Sandra & Owen Spencer
- 1 In MEMORY of Elder W A Nelson by Sandra & Owen Spencer
- 4 In MEMORY of Elder W A Nelson by Fletcher Park Inn
- 1 In MEMORY of Lewis Nestell by Ruth Nestell
- 1 In MEMORY of Mr & Mrs Robert Newell by Mr & Mrs Robert Newell Jr

Continued on page 8



Mountain Love Light Tree Program Huge Success

On December 15, 2002, Fletcher Academy, Inc., held it's second annual Mountain Lovelight Tree Program. The event featured the

lighting of the tree along with reading the many names that were remembered and honored. The honor of reading these names went to two Fletcher Academy Seniors, Diana Cox and Autumn Swiatek, whom we are grateful to for volunteering. The few who braved the wind and cold to witness the lighting of the tree were

treated to hot cocoa and cookies and words of encouragement about the progress of the Lelia Patterson Center.

This year's event was very successful, thanks to all of you who responded to our appeal. The monies raised this year have gone for the construction of the Lelia Patterson Center, which we are very hopeful will be open before next year's program.

The donor names from this program are listed in the shaded panels starting on page 2 of this publication. Please take some time to read this list because you never know who might be on that list.

Red Love Light Tree Donors

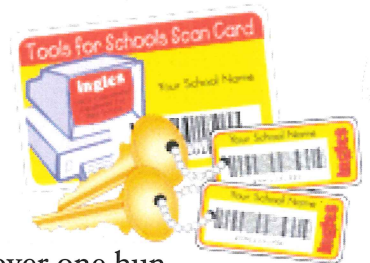
- 1 In MEMORY of Armand Palmieri by Linda & Gail McIntyre
- 1 In MEMORY of Sue Palmieri by Linda & Gail McIntyre
- 1 In MEMORY of Patsy Parrish by Elaine & Joe Padgett
- 1 In MEMORY of Miss Lelia Patterson by A Fletcher Nurse
- 1 In MEMORY of Grace & George Pearman by Willi & Hermie Johnson
- 1 In HONOR of Howard & Gwen Pendleton by Gail & Linda McIntyre
- 1 In HONOR of Kristy Pine, Christopher Hux & Julie Barnwell by Wayne (Papa) Knittle
- 1 In HONOR of Lisa Pine and son Jordan by Wayne (Papa) Knittle
- 1 In MEMORY of John Gabriel Port by Ilene Briesmister Port
- 1 In MEMORY of Carolyn Port by Ilene Briesmister Port
- 1 In MEMORY of Mary Sue Branch Rhoney by Carole Branch McCracken
- 1 In MEMORY of Starett Roberts by Danielle Johnson
- 1 In HONOR of James Robertson by Jeannie Bradley
- 1 In HONOR of Lorie (Evins) Romeo, FA Grad now teaching at Madison Academy, TN by Ruth & Fred McDonald
- 2 In MEMORY of Raymond Rudell by Anonymous
- 5 In HONOR of Tyler Sandborn, our grandson by Marie & Bill Sandborn
- 1 In HONOR of Jason Silva by Mr & Mrs Gene Silva
- 1 In MEMORY of Ma Smitty by Andy Carey
- 1 In MEMORY of Ma Smitty by Marie V. Prusia
- 1 In HONOR of Jayne & Wayne Stubbart by Wayne (brother) Knittle
- 1 In HONOR of Fred & Renie Veltman by Marie V. Prusia
- 1 In MEMORY of Leta Wilson by Lora & Jeremy Patton
- 1 In MEMORY of William H Wilson by Ruth Nestell
- 1 In HONOR of Blain & Shirley Wolbert by Ruth & Fred McDonald
- 1 In MEMORY of Helen Woodall-Hale by Marie V. Prusia
- 1 In MEMORY of Elizabeth Wright, RN by Ruth Nestell
- 1 In MEMORY of William L Young by Steve & Janis Young
- 4 Given by Howard Pendleton Construction Company In Honor of their 4 GREAT Grandchildren Hannah Doudiken Hunter Doudiken Katelyn Dietche Lauren Pendleton

Ingles Tools for Schools

This marks the fourth year Fletcher Academy has participated in the Ingles Tools for Schools program. The program has come a long way from the totaling of cash register receipts. Now, whenever you shop at Ingles, you simply present your card to the cashier so that they can scan the bar code on the card. Last year the academy had over one hundred thousand credits towards our account, and this year is off to a great start!

The credits earned last year provided the school with a vacuum cleaner, electric pencil sharpener, various athletic equipment as well as valuable bulletin board lettering dies. Hundreds of dollars worth of equipment given to the academy by simply shopping at Ingles and scanning the school provided card. Thanks to all that have and/or are currently participating in the program.

If you are currently not participating and would like to get started, please contact the academy office at (828) 687-5100.



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