

# Fletcher spirit

A Newsletter for the Alumni and Friends of Fletcher Academy, Inc.

Summer 2012



## Fletcher Academy's New Principal Starts

**FLETCHER ACADEMY  
EDUCATING  
FOR ETERNITY**

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# Fletcher Spirit

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Iva Armstrong, Vice Principal

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# Fletcher Academy Welcomes our New Principal

*By Dale E. Twomley – President of Fletcher Academy, Inc.*

Terry K. Pottle is the new principal of Fletcher Academy.

However, Mr. Pottle is not new to Fletcher; he served as Vice Principal last school year and becoming our principal completes the Board's succession plan to replace Dr. Dale Twomley as principal.

Mr. Pottle and his family moved to Fletcher last summer from Calhoun, GA

where he served as teacher and work program director for 5 years at Georgia Cumberland Academy. He has earned a Bachelor of Technology degree cum laude from Andrews University in Physical Plant Management. In May 2012, he completed the Master's degree in Educational Administration from Southern Adventist University. His previous experience includes plant services director/teacher, managing the construction



## HONORARIUM DIPLOMA FOR JANET NOVAK



Since 1977 Janet Novak has dedicated her life to the students and families of Fletcher Academy. Serving as Registrar for those years, her duties have at times also included Business Education Teacher, Secretarial Science Teacher, Student Association Sponsor and Vice-Principal of Academics. Her ministry has touched thousands of lives during her tenure. After her years of labor, Janet is beginning a

new chapter in her career. Wanting to spend more time with her husband Tim and daughter Erin (Class of 2006), Janet is scaling back to half-time keeping only the role of registrar.

Janet's service and dedication of 35 years to the students was recognized during the 2012 graduation service as Janet received an honorarium diploma from Fletcher Academy, presented to her by her mother Carol Hoffman.



of an academy in Africa, designing and creating class curriculum, and creating the physical plant for the East-Central African Division.

Terry’s wife, Dana, has served as the Dean and Assistant Dean of girls for 13 years at various institutions and this year has changed directions at Fletcher Academy as Life Skills/ESL teacher and librarian. The Pottle’s have three children: Julia – 18, Jessica – 16, and Cameron – 13.

Mr. Pottle has already made his mark on Fletcher Academy as Vice Principal. During his first year here he was one of the sponsors for the Student Association. He also was very involved in the academy’s re-accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, including teacher evaluations and in conducting weekly meetings with our teachers to improve their teaching skills. Terry’s most enjoyable moments, however, may have been while administering the school’s discipline policies – the job every administrator aspires to...



## A NEW GENERATION OF SPIRITUAL AMBASSADORS

*By Eileen States-F.A. Academy Chaplain*

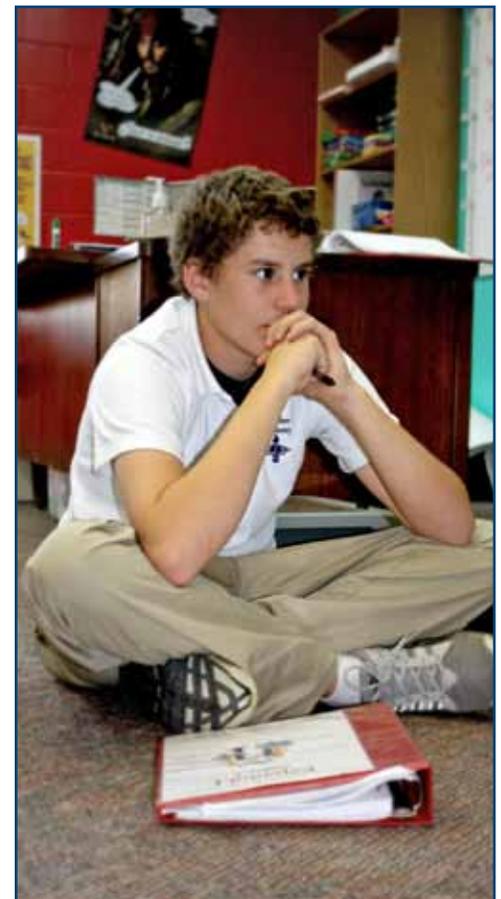


A new course being offered in our Bible curriculum this year is entitled Ambassadors, leadership/discipleship training. This course is designed to help the high-school age student understand what it takes to be a Christ-centered disciple, how to develop as a spiritual leader, and how to participate in both personal and public evangelism. This class will meet one evening per week throughout the entire school year and will count towards one semester of Bible credit. There will be outside class requirements in order to allow the student to have hands on application of all that is being taught in the classroom. (The curriculum we will be following in class is currently still in the process of being written for the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. We have been asked to pilot this program for them as we seek to train a new generation of spiritual ambassadors who will in turn prepare others for the soon return of Christ.)

Mr. Pottle has aggressive plans for the spiritual and academic growth of Fletcher’s students. The staffing for this year has been realigned to provide for a FTE Chaplain and a more balanced teaching load for all of our teachers. Enrollment prospects are very promising with acceptances already over 175 eager students, including nearly 50 juniors! The physical challenge will be finding enough rooms for the expected 59 guys in Nestell Hall! Rumbaugh Hall will be nearly full with a projected 59 girls in residence. Finding a seat in the cafeteria will likely be a challenge this year.

Being the principal of an academy is a difficult, but rewarding job. Mr. Pottle is well-trained and experienced to assume this position. With the continued guidance of the Holy Spirit, Fletcher Academy will continue to succeed with Mr. Pottle as principal. Please pray for him and his family as he assumes this challenging role in helping to lead our students into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

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# Equally Blessed

## F.A. Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic

Forty students and staff participated during Spring Break in the annual Mission Trip. The group led by Terry Pottle and Craig Johnson travelled to Higuey, Dominican Republic where they met up with two other mission groups from Greenville Adventist Academy and Georgia-Cumberland Academy. The goal for the combined group was to build two churches, conduct a Vacation Bible School for the lower grades of a local K-12 Adventist school, and hold a Week of Prayer program for the higher grades. Several Fletcher students were featured as presenters for the Week of Prayer.

Upon arrival at the two construction sites the students only found cement slabs

where the churches were to be built and a mountain of cement blocks. For six days the students labored under the Caribbean sun putting in a grueling 10 hour work day. On Wednesday evening at the Lindo Church site, a small group of students and staff stayed late into the night raising the roof trusses with the help of a single light bulb. The students' dedication and hard work came to fruition by the second Sabbath of the trip as the two churches held their first services in their newly constructed houses of worship.

But not all of the time was spent in hard work. The students were able to take two days during the trip to spend at the

beach where they played as hard as they worked. But some of the results of the trip were still yet to come. Upon her arrival back at Fletcher Academy Amber Henski (Class of 2012) made the decision, in part due to the mission trip, to be baptized and during graduation weekend Amber was baptized.

This year's mission trip was a success with two churches being built and a 900-member school being ministered to. The Seventh-day Adventist community of Higuey, Dominican Republic was blessed by the students and staff, but the students and staff of Fletcher Academy were equally blessed.



# Academy Days 2011-2012

By Guillian Prince, Senior at Fletcher Academy and SA Vice President for 2012-2013

An exciting group of 77 students arrived at Fletcher during Academy Days from all around. Their stay at Fletcher was filled with fun and excitement as the students were able to enjoy a diverse amount of activities. The students were divided into the twelve tribes of Israel in which they worked together to earn points for their team. The students went on an interactive tour through campus as they answered questions located in key places in order to win the competition at the end of their stay.

The tour of campus allowed the students to see for themselves the facilities here at Fletcher. They viewed the Administration Building and its classrooms, the chapel, the Lelia Patterson Center and its diverse amount of fitness activities. Helicopter rides were available for those brave souls who wanted to see an awesome sky-view of our campus and its surroundings.

The students were also given the opportunity to obtain scholarships for several of the groups here at Fletcher such as choir, band, gymnastics, team sports and others.

Before Monday was over there was a presentation for all of the students. There were performances by the school choir, band and drama.

The students really enjoyed the activities and some expressed what their favorite activity was.

“My favorite activity were the helicopter rides,” stated Caitlyn French.

“It was all around fun,” exclaimed student Britani Brown.

Overall Academy Days was a success, the students enjoyed their stay and learned what Fletcher Academy is all about!



# Graduation

Graduation Day at Fletcher Academy is always the most anticipated day of the school year. Gowns are on, tassels are set, cameras are ready, parents and relatives wait impatiently as Pomp and Circumstance begins. At graduation this year the 40 graduates listened to Mr. Bill Bass give the commencement address on What R the 3 Rs?; 1) Get into God's word, 2) Share Him, and 3) Let God do the math.

The Class of 2012 continued in the rich heritage of academic achievement from Fletcher Academy. This class set new milestones for future students to reach. One new milestone was in the area of Dual Credit classes. Dual Credit classes are classes the students take for both high school requirements, and also receive academic credit from Southern Adventist University. 75% of the graduating Seniors took Dual Credit classes for a total of 223 credit hours. The average Senior obtained 7 credit hours while the highest student received 21. 55% of the class graduated on the Honor Roll which begins with a

cumulative 3.25 GPA. 34 of the Seniors have immediate plans to continue on to college next school year. Many of the Seniors are planning to attend Southern Adventist University, Andrews University and Florida College of Health Sciences, but several will be enrolling in prestigious secular universities including Duke and Clemson. One graduating senior will be attending IESEG School of Management in France. These colleges gave scholarship offerings spanning over four years to the Class of 2012 in excess of \$1.75 million in total. This class has clearly demonstrated their abilities.

Congratulations to the 2012 graduating class of Fletcher Academy – our newest Alumni members!





# Campus Security Improvements

By Dale E. Twomley – President of Fletcher Academy, Inc.

Fletcher Academy's Administration has had an ongoing concern about the unlocked doors to the administration building and the dormitories that allowed strangers to enter these buildings anytime during the day. We also did not have a receptionist area in the ad building to welcome guests and help them find the person they have come to visit. It has also been a concern that there was not a public address system to make building announcements or campus-wide emergency alerts.

During the past year, each of these concerns has been addressed and campus security at Fletcher Academy has significantly improved.

Guests entering the ad building now will find a welcome desk with a smiling student receptionist and/or a house phone to call the offices (pictured left/right). There is also a copy of the Fletcher Story and other information about Fletcher for the guests to read while waiting. A new tile floor has been installed in the main entrance hallway.

A new public address system has been installed that covers the ad building, both dormitories, and the cafeteria. From any campus phone, an administrator can "page" each of these buildings separately or all of the buildings simultaneously. In addition to making public announcements, emergency procedures and a campus-wide "lock-down" can be communicated.

The Fletcher Academy students and staff all wear a "smart-card" ID badge that contains their picture and other status information. But the "coolest" part of this is that by holding their badge near one of the electronic sensors at every outside door, the door latch unlocks and they can enter the building -- without a key! The keyless entry system allows us to keep all of the building doors locked yet students can enter certain buildings at certain times as programmed in the computer. (Obviously, the boys' cards will not work on the doors of the girls' dorm and visa versa. Also, the cards will unlock the doors only during pre-set hours and days.)

We all feel these steps have improved the security of our campus and provide additional protection for students and staff. As we all have learned from recent campus assaults across the USA, no campus is secure when someone decides to attack. However, we believe the campus security steps we have taken are prudent safety measures that make our campus more secure than in the past.



## Donna Louise (Hodges) Fender - Class of '83



Donna Louise (Hodges) Fender, age 47, passed away on Wednesday, June 20, 2012 at the John F. Keever Solace Center in Asheville, North Carolina. She was a daughter of the late Floyd and Georgia Evans Hodges. She was also preceded in death by an infant son, Dawson Fender. Donna was a people person who was caring and loving. She was a hairdresser, loved cooking, making people laugh and going to the beach. Donna will be missed greatly by those who knew her.

Surviving are her loving husband of 20 years, Rick Fender; daughter, Charly Fender; sons: Taylor and Zach Fender; sister, Judy Daggett of Clarksville, TN; brothers: Ken Hodges of Flat Rock and Steve Hodges and wife, Connie, of Calhoun, GA. Multiple nieces, nephews and cousins also survive.

The Class of 1983 wish to give their condolences to her family and friends. Donna will be in our hearts forever.

# Fletcher Family

## Updates on FA Alumni Classmates



**Gary and Ruth Neff Bradley (Class of 1958)** celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in the Fletcher Academy Chapel. They were married on Sunday, April 29, 1962, in

the Fletcher Academy Chapel, and their celebration was exactly fifty years later to the day on Sunday, April 29, 2012. All but one of their original attendants were able to come back and join them for the re-make photo. Congratulations, Gary and Ruth!



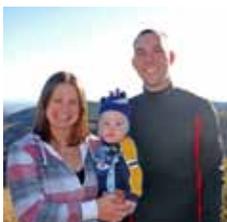
**John Neff - Class of 1990** - Since graduating from Fletcher in 1990 God has truly blessed me. I met my wife Jackie in college and we have two wonderful boys, Alexander and Nicholas. I am

a self-employed photographer and video producer for Getty Images and affiliates.



**Shawn Collins - Class of 1987-** After graduating from Fletcher in 1987, Shawn Collins attended Southern Adventist

University, graduating in 1991 with a BS in Nursing. He then graduated with a MSN (Anesthesia) from UTC in 1995, a DNP from Rush University in Chicago in 2008, and a PhD in Leadership from Andrews University in 2012. Shawn lives in Mills River, NC and is the director of the Western Carolina University nurse anesthesia program. He enjoys traveling, waterskiing, and snow skiing with his wife Beverly and their two children, Noah and Kendall. The family attends the Arden SDA Church.



**Ryan and Kerah Higgins** - Ryan graduated from Fletcher Academy in 2004 and is currently Attending college at the University of Phoenix, about to finish his Bachelors degree

in Information Technology. He has been working at Fletcher Academy in the IT department since November 2011.

I, Kerah, graduated in 2005 from Marion Christian Academy and am currently working for Hendersonville Pediatric Dentistry as a dental assistant. Ryan and I got married in 2008 and I gave birth to Ethan on March 2nd, 2011.



**Tiffany (Brown) Burghart, Class of 2002**, is living in Hendersonville, NC with her husband, John, and their two boys, Tomer and Garret. John and Tiffany are both Registered Nurses at Park Ridge Health where John works full time in

the OR and Tiffany works part time as a charge nurse on Med-Surg and spends the rest of her time taking care of her boys.

*If you are interested in having the Fletcher Spirit feature an update about your family, please send information to Jon Smith at [jsmith@fletcheracademy.com](mailto:jsmith@fletcheracademy.com). Include a photo and a few sentences about what is happening in your family. Join the Fletcher Family in our next issue. Send your information in today.*

# Calling all Fletcher Academy Choir Members

## Coming Alumni Weekend Features Choir Reunion

By Jeannie Bradley Larrabee '88

Ever since I can remember there has been an amazing Fletcher Academy Choir. I well remember my choir days. I loved climbing up to the choir room in the Chapel.....looking out the windows to the green mountains. We sang our hearts out in that room. We could sing anything in that room. We were praising our God in that room. The earliest yearbooks of 1958 showed that Helen Rust was an icon to remember as a choir and music director. She was my first piano teacher in my early elementary years. She was kind and patient. She gave over 25 years of service to the Academy Choir. There were many other wonderful and talented choir directors (see list below). We want to pay tribute to these leaders and invite all Alumni who sang in the Fletcher Academy Choir to a special reunion this October 5-7, 2012. Make plans to join our practice in the Lelia Patterson Center following the Friday Evening Vespers. We will be joining the current Fletcher Academy Choir and singing for the 11:00 a.m. Church Service. Come join us as we once again praise our Lord in song!

### Choir Directors

- Helen Rust 1958-1981
- Douglas Macomber 1982-1984
- Sue Yingling 1985-1987
- Leonard Cann 1988-1994
- James Burnham 1995-1997
- Randy Cox 1998-2002
- Kendal Greene 2003
- Greg Lindquist 2004-2007
- Rob Knipple 2008-2010
- Greg Lindquist - 2011
- Ginnie Hakes - 2012- Current Director





FLETCHER ACADEMY, Inc.  
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Featured Weekend Speaker  
**Sam Leonor '88**  
Chaplain at La Sierra University



## JOIN US FOR

# ALUMNI HOMECOMING WEEKEND 2012

*“Time to Re-Connect”*

**October 5, 6, 7**

Special Events and Features...

- Annual Golf Tournament
  - Friday Evening Reception
  - Vespers Message by Pastor Jonathan Arroyo '02
    - Special Choir Reunion
  - Mass Choir Performing at the Church Service
    - Church Sermon by Sam Leonor '88
  - Sunday Morning Brunch & Business Meeting
    - Sunday Morning Motorcycle Rally
- ...and more!

## Honor Classes

1952, 1962, 1972, 1987, 2002

For more information, visit  
[www.fletcheracademy.com](http://www.fletcheracademy.com) or call 828-209-6800