From the Associate Director

February is the “love” month. It is a time of love and friendship; a romantic time if you wish. A time when “love is in the air”. And of course, there is February 14th Valentine’s Day. Many celebrate Valentine’s Day with flowers, chocolates, teddy bears and milar balloons. I have had my share of Valentine’s Day celebrations but this year it was different. I spent the day and the weekend in Hawaii. But not vacationing or celebrating a romantic getaway, I was there to be a part of the Youth and Children’s Ministries Leadership training weekend and the inauguration of the Hawaii Conference’s Ministry Training Center. And I was not alone. Our NAD Team was there: James Black Sr, Gael Murray and also Milton Coronado Youth Pastor from Chicago.

The weekend included general sessions, with some great Hawaiian music as well as breakout sessions dealing with issues in youth ministry. Jesse Seibel, Hawaii Conference Youth Director and his team did an excellent job in preparing everything for the event. Friday night we were part of history as the new Hawaii Ministry Training Center was inaugurated with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

As we wrapped up the weekend I thought about all the ministry leaders who traveled from far and near to be part of the weekend event. I noticed that our theme “Hand n Hand” was evident in the way everyone fellowshipped and how God really blessed the weekend. Love was in the air, but a different kind of love. The love that only God can give and the love that only dedicated ministry leaders can give the kids they serve. God is love and we experienced God and His love this past weekend. So I say to our brothers and sisters in Hawaii, “Ma’halo”

Pastor Manny

Editorial

Pathfinders across the division love to eat haystacks. Now they call them different things,
taco salad, Frito pie, pyramids, but they still love them. And of course you find all sorts of unique things added in to make them unique. Things like prosage crumbles, pineapple, sliced avocados and of course my favorite, green olives! Some Pathfinders pile on some of everything, while others put a little pile of chips, and a little pile of beans, and a little pile of cheese on their plate, making sure that the three never touch each other. And if you want to start an argument within the staff, just put two of them in charge of lining up the bowls of fixings. Each one is sure to have their own perfect sequence and you can be sure they won’t agree on that sequence!

Well, my intent is not to tell you how to sequence your haystack fixings, as long as you put the cheese right after the beans, so it melts, but to consider the fixings of Pathfinder ministry.

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Feature Story

Type How does one small club in central Vermont (Central Vermont Regiment Pathfinder Club) take on a missions project to 1,500 soldiers and their families? Through the energy of a committed club director, Jim Brown, and a very big God!

In 2010, 1,500 military service personal from the Vermont National Guard were deployed to Afghanistan. The Pathfinder club decided to devote their time and energy into making sure these soldiers and their families felt cared for! In the following months, they wrote a letter (newsletter) and postcard to each soldier every month! "I wanted to make sure that at mail call, every name would be called," says then-director Jim Brown. In addition, they served the families left behind with lawn mowing, leaf raking, house painting, and other acts of service that were needed by those families.

"Now stop for a minute and do the math—1,500 soldiers are each receiving a letter and a card each month for approximately 10 months. Tht's 3,000 pieces of mail each month and a total of 30,000 pieces of mail for the deployment periods."

This required finding a printer willing to donate the printing and paper media -- that turned out to be easy, since Jim Brown's parent own a print shop. It also meant that this small Pathfinder club needed to raise at
least $13,200 to cover postage! Thanks to free radio advertising (thanks to another of Jim's friends), support from a social networking friend (who also was a bank regional manager), and other fundraising events, that money also came in!

Read More Online

This story is featured in the Atlantic Union Gleaner

Prayer Requests and Hallelujahs

We thank God for a safe and blessed Pathfinder parade during the Las Vegas Youth Rally this past month. Pastor David Hall and the entire Pathfinder Leadership team did an excellent job organizing the parade. Pathfinders and their Clubs came from the Las Vegas area and participated by expressing their support for a healthy lifestyle using banners and posters. Under the theme: "Kick the Habit if you have it!" hundreds of Pathfinders marched down one of Las Vegas' busiest streets, handing out flyers and health related brochures. Praise God for Pathfinders!

Print Resources:

Community Service:

The Westside Lions from Tampa Florida combined the Basic Sewing honor with service to their community. Each Pathfinder was taught the basics of using a sewing machine, then used their newfound skills to cut long strips of fabric, sewed them on three sides to make a "pillow case" then filled the "hot/cold packs" with dried corn. The Pathfinders then hand sewed the remaining slot. The resulting packs were heated in a microwave or frozen to provide soothing relief. The Pathfinders provided sick church members who were patients at Brandon Hospital with their own personal hot/cold packs.
Thanks Martina Peters for the idea!

Do you have something that has worked in your club? Let us know.

**Book Resources:**

*Pathfinder Club Director -- A Quick-Start Guide*

English: [TinyUrl](#)
Spanish: [TinyUrl](#)

*Tools for Teen Leaders: Keeping Teens Involved In Pathfinders*

"'Help!' is often the cry of leader who has the task of leading teenagers. What can I do with them -- whether I have 2 or 22? What do they want to do that will not either kill them or lead them astray? I don't have a clue what to do with the teens?

If this sounds familiar, then this $4.95 NEW resource is for you. Inside this book you'll find ideas for 1) including teens in leadership 2) developing their creativity 3) Strengthening teens' outdoor skills 4) Teaching teens about mentoring younger Pathfinders

Visit Adventsource

**Online Resources**

**Honors:**

Do you need an excuse to take your Pathfinders outside in the winter? *Snowshoeing* is a new Recreation honor from the NAD that, while patches are not yet available, the requirements are available online

[http://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Adventist_Youth_Honors_Answer_Book/Recreation/Snowshoeing](http://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Adventist_Youth_Honors_Answer_Book/Recreation/Snowshoeing)
Other snow-climate Honors: Winter Camping, Downhill Skiing, Cross Country Skiing

Now, if only they would make an honors for Smoores!

**Geocaching meets Geology:** Clubs often attempt to combine honors of different skill levels or in different categories to create unique club experiences. In Geocaching, where one uses a GPS to hunt for containers hidden nearby (over 1.2 million hidden worldwide) there are also Earthcaches -- which are locations that you reach using a GPS and once there, instead of hunting for a container, you learn and interact with the geology of that location. Whether you're looking for faults, waterfalls, or other geological phenomena, there might be an earthcache near you to explore with your club.

More about earthcaching: [TinyUrl](http://www.netknots.com/)

**Class Levels/Classwork:**

**Knots** -- Easy-to-follow knot illustrations and knot animations help take some of the fear out of teaching knots. You might even find some you've never tied before, since their knot list is MUCH more comprehensive than the list included with the classwork requirements and AY Honor.  
http://www.netknots.com/

**Bible skits** (all class levels require at least one)  
Assembly Scripts (Catholic resource): http://www.schoolassemblies.btinternet.co.uk/scripcon.htm  
Kerusso Drama Ministry has a set of free scripts that are script intensive but might make a good point for a Pathfinder Sabbath production. http://youthministerman.com/kerusso.html

**Gracelink:** What memory verses are your Pathfinders already learning?  
Pathfinder counselors and instructors may be able to use this resource to network with church Sabbath School teachers regarding memory verses that may "count" for both Sabbath School and Class Levels!  
http://www.gracelink.net/

**Physical Fitness and Memory Verses** becoming a mid-winter challenge? Try combining physical fitness with verse memorization using a jump rope and some creativity! E-how.com give you all the information:  
http://www.ehow.com/
Other Online Resources:

**Free Adventist Apps**
Three Seventh-day Adventist apps are available for you to download to your iPhone/iPad or Android. The White Estate app features all 412 books written by Ellen G. White. A companion app, called EGW Lite, features content from 10 of White’s most popular books. Other Adventist apps include the Sabbath School app which is available for iPhone, iPad and Android platforms in English, French and Spanish. The InPrayer app is designed to facilitate a global prayer chain. This is available for both iPhone and Android platforms. [http://news.adventist.org/2011/01/two-organizations-at.html](http://news.adventist.org/2011/01/two-organizations-at.html)

Events

**Upcoming Pathfinder Union Camporees:**

Atlantic Union Camporee - Westerly, Rhode Island May 5-8, 2011  
Lake Union Camporee - Berrien Springs, Michigan September 15-18, 2011  
Pacific Union Camporee - Glen Helen, California March 22-25, 2012  
Columbia Union August 8-11, 2012, Camp Mohaven  
North Pacific Union Camporee - Astoria, Oregon September 13-16, 2012  
South Western Union- Texas October 4-7, 2012 (to be held at their new camp for Texas)  

**Conference Events:**

Alaska Pathfinder Camporee May 27-29, 2011 Camp Tukuskoya, Big Lake, Alaska

*Your Camporee -- get it listed here:* Email us [Manny.Cruz@nad.adventist.org](mailto:Manny.Cruz@nad.adventist.org) or [James.Black@nad.adventist.org](mailto:James.Black@nad.adventist.org)

**NAD Pathfinder Committees**
The North American Division Pathfinder Committee meets face to face once a year followed by several teleconferences throughout the year. Please keep us in your prayers as we prepare for our upcoming meeting which is scheduled for March 14, 2011 in Lincoln, NE. As we prepare the agenda please feel free to share with your union representatives or with us, concerns you have about the Pathfinder Ministry in this division.

[Please understand that this committee works for you. We want to make certain that we are listening to those on the front line of this ministry. We thought it would also be helpful to know the role and responsibility of the committee as well – See Terms of Reference.

Following our committee meeting in Lincoln, you will be able to view the actions voted by visiting the website at www.adventistyouthministries.org then click on committee minutes in upper right column.

Pathfinder Union Representatives

If you have any questions or concerns regarding North American Division Pathfinder Ministries, please contact your Union Representative:

Atlantic Union – Bill Wood wwood@atlanticunion.org
Columbia Union – Denny Grady dennyg@pcsda.org or Pam Scheib papathfinders@verizon.net
Lake Union – Craig Harris charris@misda.org
Mid America Union – Hubert Cisneros hucisner@maucdsa.org
North Pacific Union – Wayne Hicks wayneh@uccsda.org
Pacific Union – Bob Wong bobiwong@gmail.com
SDAC Canada – Cyril Millet cmillett@adventistontario.org
Southern Union – Allan Williamson awilliamson@southernunion.com
Southwestern Union – Gene Clapp Gene.Clapp@valero.com

Introducing...

NAD Youth Ministries has appointed division level coordinators to assist the department in moving projects forward. Three ministry programs have had coordinators for a short time,
Allan Martin, Young Adult Coordinator; Bill Wood, Camp Coordinator; and Ron Pickell, Public School ACF Coordinator. We have recently appointed two additional ministry coordinators, Brad and Lisa Gary as Adventurer Coordinators and Glen Milam as the Pathfinder Coordinator.

Glen has a 28 year history of Pathfinder and Adventurer leadership, covering the full range of roles from counselor to conference coordinator. He has been an invitee to the NAD Pathfinder Committee for about 15 years as a project developer. Projects include the Pathfinder drill DVD, design and illustration of the Adventurer and Pathfinder Church Bulletins, design of the Pathfinder Bible and author of its insert. He and his wife are the original authors of the TLT program.

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