SAD Celebrates 2014 as Year of the Literature Evangelist

by Tercio Marques | Publishing Director, SAD

To celebrate the ministry of literature evangelists and affirm their calling, the South American Division (SAD) scheduled a series of union-wide Literature Evangelist (LE) Congresses. As of February, three unions have already conducted LE congresses, coordinated in the following unions by their respective Publishing directors:

**South Brazil Union**
January 28-30
Hélio Machado

**Northwest Brazil Union**
February 3-5
Cicero Rodrigues

**Bolivia Union**
February 10-12
Fabio Novais

During these congresses literature evangelists were honored, recognized, and awarded for their commitment, years of service, and performance.

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In the Bolivia Union, the LE Congress featured a dedication service for newly credentialed literature evangelists. This service confirmed their calling and challenged them to remain faithful and maintain their status. It also motivated other LEs to work harder.

Howard F. Faigao, General Conference Publishing director, attended each congress, as did SAD publishing house leaders and union administrators. ♦

Congress delegates in the Bolivia Union

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**NSD Holds Publishing Policy Review and Strategy Council**

by Teru Fukui | Publishing Director, NSD


This was the first time a committee gathered to make major corrections and review Publishing policies since the NSD was divided and renamed in 1997. The committee met to adjust policies to reflect real-life situations and enhance the effectiveness of the Publishing Ministry.

The recommendations were submitted to the Publishing Committee that met to review and endorse the suggestions, which will be presented at this year’s meeting of the NSD’s Executive Committee.

Since 2014 is the Year of the Literature Evangelist, all leaders and directors in the NSD will emphasize the importance of literature evangelism throughout their territory, making members aware of the Global Leaves initiative designed to distribute 1 billion copies of literature before the next General Conference session in 2015, the World Literature Distribution Day on April 19, and much more.

The motto of the Publishing Ministries Department is “Bringing hope into every home” like never before! ♦
Historic Ordination
by Patricio Olivares | Communication Director, Bolivia Union, SAD

For the first time in the history of the church in Bolivia, a Publishing director was ordained to pastoral ministry. This recognition by God and the church was granted to Javier Massi, Publishing director of the Central Bolivia Mission.

The church in Bolivia recognizes the Publishing Ministry as important as other areas of the pastoral ministry. Pastor Massi, who has spent his career serving the Lord in the Publishing Ministry, was ordained without having served as a district pastor.

Stanley Arco, president of the Bolivia Union, stating the reason of this recognition on the part of the church, said: “We intend to give a clear message about the importance of this ministry in Bolivia. We believe that the best years of ministry must also be devoted to the area of Publishing.”

This ordination gives impetus to the fulfillment of the mission affirmed by the prophet John in Revelation 18 that the earth be lightened with the glory of God!

Church in Ghana Distributes Literature
by Isaac Sarfo | Publishing Director, Central Ghana Conference; Pastor, Suame Adventist Church, WAD

The pastor, elders, lay members, and Publishing Council of the Suame Seventh-day Adventist Church pledged to saturate their community with Adventist literature as part of the church’s fulfillment in the gospel commission of Matthew 28:18-20.

It was interesting and encouraging to witness the enthusiasm with which church members involved themselves in the initiative on February 8, 2014, immediately after divine service. Members went out in twos to distribute the book The Great Hope.

The church has planned to make this an ongoing Sabbath activity as books become available.

Church members hold up copies of The Great Hope before going door to door.

Thousands of Pathfinders Distribute Books
by Tercio Marques | Publishing Director, SAD

The city of Barretos in São Paulo, Brazil, has an international reputation as the “city of cowboys.” Once a year, thousands of cowboys participate in the largest rodeo events in Brazil.

But something different took place in early 2014. From January 8-12, this city became host of the IV South American Pathfinder Camporee. About 35,000 Pathfinders traveled to Barretos from many South American Division (SAD) countries.

One activity, among others, stood out: the distribution of 40,000 books written by Alejandro Bullon, A Única Esperança (The Only Hope), on January 9. Thousands of Pathfinders flooded the streets of the city to place a book in every home.

"Scattering books is part of our mission,” said Udolcy Zukowski, SAD Pathfinder director. “Our teenagers have to understand the importance of this. As they turn into adults they will continue doing it.”

Many people received the message that day, and the event was well received.

Residents were fascinated by the gift they received. The SAD wants to form generations of Pathfinders who can go to the streets and carry out missionary activities.”

TOP: Central Brazil Union Publishing leaders assisted the division in coordinating the distribution of books.
BOTTOM: Some of the Pathfinders who helped distribute 40,000 books.
On January 7, Gessy and Hongkara Desir, student literature evangelists in the Youth 4 Change program who attend Washington Adventist University (WAU) in Maryland, North American Division (NAD), encountered Sylvia Smith Albert at work. Albert shared her story as it relates to the young women’s ministry of the Word.

“On Saturday I went to a Christian bookstore to find a devotional book, but I did not find the kind I wanted.

“On Monday evening, I asked God to give me simple answers from Scriptures to the tough questions I am asked daily in this wonderful walk with Christ.

“On Tuesday I was talking on the phone to a pastor in Florida when two young women walked into my office. I told them there was a no-soliciting sign on the door, but I felt I had to speak to them. They had such beautiful smiles. One of them explained they were from the Youth 4 Change program. They said they had several books, and if I purchased one at the regular price I would receive a second book called Bible Answers.

“I was so excited I yelled to my friend on the phone: ‘These young women just walked in here with the answer to my prayers!’

“The book I purchased was called Lessons for Living. The second book, Bible Answers, provides 923 answers to life’s toughest questions with simple, direct answers straight from Scripture. I praise God for answering my prayers by sending these two young women to my office with the books I need to enhance my devotional life as I study, learn, and teach the Word.”—Sylvia Smith Albert

God worked it out, and the students walked out blessed. May God continue leading them to many more similar encounters.

The two student literature evangelists with Sylvia Smith Albert.