Dear Friends,

Ahhh, how long we looked forward to summer and how quickly it passed! Like summer, our long anticipated NAD Teachers’ Convention is also a thing of the past. Held every 6 years, this is the 2nd time the convention convened at the Gaylord Opryland in Nashville. (And if I heard right, there was an overwhelming response that it should be considered again!)

It was great to see many of you, if only briefly, among the 6300 in attendance. So who made up those registered attendees? Educators (preschool – grade 12) from the nine North American unions and Guam-Micronesia, and small delegations from as far away as South Africa, China, Europe and South Korea.

I have included a pictorial diary of the convention to tweak your memory. For those not able to attend, it will give you a glimpse of what it was like. Not only did we fill the Gaylord’s 2800 rooms, but we spilled over into nine other area hotels.

I was amazed to learn that the Gaylord is built on nine acres, all under one roof (I never went far without my little map!). I was in awe of the indoor gardens, the cascading waterfalls and magnificent fountains, some choreographed to music, the indoor river complete with Delta flatboat, the many restaurants and shops… etc.

But, as impressive as all that was, the most thrilling aspect to me was not the venue, but the spiritual tone. Through the worship, general sessions, breakouts, and networking with each other, we caught a renewed vision of the urgency of doing what we do well, for the right reasons, and came away with the earnest desire to be the best we can be for His kids.

Vice-president for NAD education, Larry Blackmer, described the goal of the convention as twofold: “(1) that the teachers become infused with God’s Spirit so that they can return to the classroom better able to share the love of Jesus with their students, and (2) to say THANK YOU to them for their commitment and their love for young people and Adventist education.”

Thoughts that made an impression on me from keynote speaker, Carlton Byrd, were: “Never forget that the mission of our schools is evangelism, and the children must see Jesus in you. If you don’t believe in the Adventist message, you shouldn’t be teaching in the Adventist school system.”

Some of the attendees’ comments summed up the experience best—

- “We teachers need to be on our knees, but it’s also important for us to stay abreast of research, methods, techniques, and technology.”
- “I felt so affirmed that what I do in early childhood is really important in helping kids start with a firm foundation academically and spiritually as they begin their JOURNEY TO EXCELLENCE.”
- “I left the convention spiritually renewed, professionally refreshed, filled with new ideas, and better equipped to return to the classroom.”
- “Teachers in small schools sometimes feel very isolated, like we’re the only ones dealing with problems. Here there are so many from all over who are challenged by similar things, so it’s very encouraging to know I’m not alone.”

With you, in His service, for His kids,

Sue

PS PLEASE fill out the last page and send in your information for the new EC directory. THANK YOU!
Memories of 2012 NAD Teachers’ Convention—Gaylord Opryland Hotel, Nashville, TN
AUGUST 5—8, 2012
**SAVE THE DATE!....**

Our 2nd
Early Childhood Workshop
NPUC Office, Ridgefield, WA
SUNDAY, June 23—MONDAY, June 24, 2013
(More information coming SOON)

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**My Daisy Days.™**

CREATE BLANK BOOKS FOR MY DAISY DAYS EARLY LITERACY

DIRECTIONS FOR FOLDING PAPER TO MAKE AN EIGHT-PAGE BOOK

Supplies: 8-1/2" x 11" sheets of paper for smaller books or larger (11" x 17") for larger books. Scissors needed to make a single cut.

1. Fold the paper in half lengthwise making firm, sharp creases.
2. Open the sheet and fold the paper in half widthwise.
3. Fold the paper in half again in the same direction. Unfold, keeping the crease at the top and four sections facing you.
4. Place ends flat on the table so that the center sections stand as a peak.
5. Cut downward from the folded edge to the center crease.
6. Holding the crossed edges, pull downward.
7. Glue thediamond and fold the "pages" into a book.

Visit www.MyDaisyDays.com

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**GOOP**

*Ingredients needed:*
- Liquid starch
- Glue
- Food coloring

Add food coloring to the glue in a bowl, then mix with liquid starch. Use equal parts of glue and starch. If the mixture is too sticky add more liquid starch. Keep the GOOP refrigerated and it will last for several weeks.

**SIDEWALK CHALK**

*Ingredients needed:*
- 1/3 c. Plaster of Paris
- 1 TBS. food coloring
- 3 TBS. water
- Small paper cups

Mix all ingredients together in a bowl. Quickly spoon into paper cups. Let chalk dry for 1 hour. Carefully peel the paper from around the chalk. Use for writing on paper, chalkboard or sidewalk.

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**FYI — Associations for the Education of Young Children**

NAEYC (National) 2012 Convention NOV 7–10, Atlanta, GA
OAEYC (Oregon) 2012 Convention OCT 12-13, Sheraton, Portland Airport
WAEYC (Washington) 2012 Convention OCT 18-20 Hilton, Vancouver, WA
(Google them for more information.)

**THANKS FOR SHARING—**

www.Teachpreschoolscience.com — FREE science discovery curriculum for EC
www.ABCmouse.com — 450 lessons, 3000 activities, virtual field trips, ages 2-6
www.MyDaisyDays.com — literacy learning activities
www.hwtears.com — Pre-K for handwriting and math

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NORTHWEST Adventist ECEC Newsletter ● Volume 3, Issue 1 ● North Pacific Union Conference ● sue.patzer@nw.npuc.org
Has any of your center information changed?

**UPDATED Information NEEDED** for the 2012—13...

**NPUC EARLY CHILDHOOD DIRECTORY**

*PLEASE fill out and return A.S.A.P.*

(Mail to: Sue Patzer, NPUC, 5709 N 20th St., Ridgefield, WA 98642)

1. NAME of your center (or school in which PRE-K is located)

2. If the center is located on a school or church campus please note this: (example: “on the campus of Smith Memorial Adventist School”)

3. ADDRESS of center/school:

4. **Mailing** address if different from #3:

5. Phone number of center/school:

6. Website of center/school (optional):

7. Director of center:

8. Director’s email address & phone number:

9. Teacher(s) & staff you want listed: (if multiple teachers, include ages they serve)

10. Teacher’s (& staff) email address & phone number

11. Any other information you would like to include about your center/Pre-K: