

Newsletter

GSAA LINK

Gem State Adventist Academy

December 2016



Engaging in **SERVICE**
Training for **LEADERSHIP**
Preparing for **ETERNITY**

From the principal's desk



I was recently handed a book to read by Rick Dunham. The title was intriguing: *If God Will Provide, Why Do We Have To Ask For Money*. Most of us have heard of George Mueller who ran an orphanage and never asked anyone directly for money. His story may leave some of us feeling that to ask for money is a lack of faith, thus leaving us embarrassed to ask others to support our ministry. Dunham's book offers a fresh look at the principles of fundraising.

We are in a ministry engaged in the Great Controversy. Adventist education plays an important role in spiritually nurturing our young people, the future of our church. A well-known quote from the book *Education* states that "With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Savior might be carried to the whole world!" ED 271. There are two significant implications that follow from this idea.

First of all, as Adventist educators, we must seriously evaluate what we are doing. If we are not training our young people to be more than responsible citizens of today's society, then we ought not call ourselves Seventh-day Adventist educators. Our primary focus should be to train up an army of young people to finish taking the gospel to the world.

Secondly, if we are actively engaged in the spiritual training of our young people but have limited resources then we can only have limited impact. The enemy would like nothing more than to limit our abilities to train our young people in service for God. He does everything possible to persuade people not to support Adventist education.

I believe that Seventh-day Adventist education is at a crossroad. We can keep status quo and somehow expect different results. Or we can go back to God's blueprint and put behind us those practices that distract us from purposely training our young people in active ministry. Our church is also at a crossroad. We can continue to offer all sorts of excuses of why we will not help support our churches and our schools. Or we can quit holding back because something is not quite the way we like it and renew our commitment to use our God given dollars to fund God's Kingdom work of our churches and schools.

A second principle stated by Dunham is that when we fail to properly engage Christians to fund God's Kingdom work, we fail to grow their whole-hearted devotion to God. He says, "You and I cannot be wholly devoted to God if we are not investing in His Kingdom work with what He has put into our trust, because our hearts follow wherever we invest our money!" In the words of Christ, "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Matthew 6:19-21

I ask you, "Where is your treasure?"



By Marvin Thorman
GSAA Principal

Worthy Student Fund

By Cynthia Hastings
GSAA Business Manager

With the changing economy, we are encountering more and more families each year who are struggling to keep their

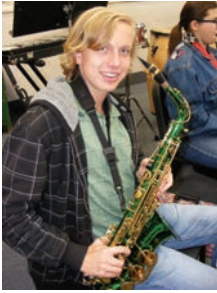
students in Adventist education. These families have sacrificed a lot for their students but still owe on their accounts and are not able to make full payments. Worthy Student funds are so important to these families.

I would love to see GSAA filled with more students. That is my dream! I would love to

be able to give out more worthy student funds to students who are in great financial need. But in order to be able to do this, the funds need to be raised. Trust me, there is a big need for Worthy Student funds.

My heart breaks when students should have the opportunity to attend GSAA and they can't

because of financial reasons. We need you to partner with us to make students' dreams a reality! We would appreciate your prayerful consideration in regard to this need and thank you in advance if you feel the Lord is leading you to donate and help our students obtain an Adventist education!



● *Thirteen Seniors survived and even thrived during five rainy days with no showers, cooking over a campfire, sleeping in wet tents, scaling a 12-ft. wall, worships around the fire and many other bonding moments! Way to go, Seniors!*

● *GSAA Music Department has flown from one event to the next this fall! From church services to Eagle Nativity program to home concerts, the choir, band and bell choirs have been blessing people everywhere with their smiles, talents and great music! Thanks to Ms. Simmons for her dedicated efforts with our students!*

● *Idaho Power sponsors an annual Art competition every October during National Energy Awareness Month It is designed to bring energy education into the classroom and inspire students and families to think about their energy use. The artwork is judged on content, creativity and originality. Even though more than 2000 K-12 students competed, GSAA had two winners and two runners up: Alexis Smith and Rachel Mills/Portia Kluchesky and Alexis Smith (for a different category). Congratulations on sharing your talents!*

● *The world had better watch out for the GSAA students when Mission Day and School Pride Day come around! This fall they moved tons of mulch at a park, hauled all the wood from three dead trees, cleaned up the highway, and pulled weeds to beautiful our campus. Good job, students! We're proud of you and your service to our community!*



Teachers' Wish List

We have compiled a wish list of items that would enhance our ministry.

Please look it over prayerfully.

If you see one that you are inspired to take on, please indicate the item on your check.

Thank you!

Bible:

- Two Whiteboards (\$300)
- 60" TV (\$999)
- Webcam for meeting with missionaries (\$800)

Spanish:

- New Whiteboard (\$540)
- Large wall screen monitor (\$400)

Science:

- Elmo Document Camera (\$600)

Music:

- Manhasset music stands (\$60 each)
- Manhasset music stand storage (\$335)
- Wenger music chair move & store cart (\$350)
- Handbell gloves all sizes (\$5 each)
- Two Projectors (\$299 each)

GSAA Calendar

Christmas break - December 16-January 2

Winter Sports Day - January 18

Outdoor Winter School - February 5-8

Homeleave - February 8-12

Senior Recognition - February 17-18

New leadership in finances

By Hannah Miller
Class 2018



The 2016-2017 school year boasts many additions that distinguish it from past years. One of the most important changes happens to be in the staff of the school's internal affairs. Cynthia Hastings, fresh off of a move from Arizona, has taken the daunting reins

of the accounting office. Hastings moved to Idaho in June 2016 to pursue the offer that Gem State presented. Mrs. Hastings moved with her husband and two children, one who is attending college and one who is an 8th grader at Caldwell Adventist Elementary School. When asked about the perks of working at Gem State, Mrs. Hastings replied with, "I enjoy the amazing staff that I get to work with and the chance that I have to get to know the students." The future of Gem State Adventist Academy is looking bright with Mrs. Cynthia Hastings exercising her expertise in our financial department.

A Recipe for Chef

By Sandy Jensen,
Marissa Yarlott
Class of 2017

Here at Gem State Adventist Academy, we have had a privilege of welcoming our new chef, Norman Tagalog. He has been an enormous blessing to Gem State and he plans on staying here for awhile.

Chef Tagalog was born in the Philippines, but grew up in Uganda, Kenya and Cote d'Ivoire. He started school in Africa, attended his junior year in Singapore, and found himself at Auburn Adventist Academy here in the United States his senior year of high school.

He has been a chef since 1997 when he started culinary school. His first job was at Sfuzi, where he was under the master chocolatier.

Through the years he has been a chef at popular restaurants such as Café Pacific and The Palm.

I'm sure we are all thinking: How has this world traveler master chef found himself here, at Gem State, in Caldwell, Idaho? Chef believes the Lord called him to work at Gem State, and so far he has never regretted the move.

"The farm program is great here and the availability of fresh products is outstanding." Chef was trained in French and international cuisine, and he wants to share the different kinds of foods with us. Fresh products and pure foods are what he uses because it is the best food for the students. In the future he

hopes to start a culinary program for students, but until then, he will continue to create culinary masterpieces.



The race through camp



Payette Lake. Camp Ida-Haven.

By Linda Kirby
Class of 2020

The bus rolled into the camp. We had been looking forward to seeing this place since the beginning of the school year. The first week had been hard. We

had all had to adjust back into our old routines, so it was nice to now get a short break away from our crazy lives. As we filed out of the bus we grabbed our bags and headed up the stairs. We were ready to have some fun.

Very soon you could hear luggage hitting floors and girls calling bunks. As we settled in, many of us had one thing on our minds, the lake. We were soon rushing down the stairs and running across the hard sand. Yelling

and splashing we ran to the beautiful, still, cool water.

Later that afternoon we were called to the front of the lake for some activities. We were all put into teams of around seven. We had a blast playing team-building games; we met some new people and learned to trust our classmates.

The next day we were immediately wrapped up in more activities. We helped clean up the camp. The freshman and sophomores went to work on clearing out fallen tree branches while the juniors spread mulch and the seniors laid out sod in the Cabin Circle.

Then we began the class elections. Each of the classes went to their designated places and began the process of picking out leaders of the classroom for the year. It was exciting to set the

positions in place.

Later that afternoon we had the experiences of water skiing/boarding/tubing, and zip lining. Anna stated, "Zip lining is one of the best things I have ever done in my life!"

After supper we were called yet again to the front of the lake. We were made to understand that we would be conducting a relay race between all of our previous teams. We were sent on a crazy and rather exciting obstacle course set up by the S.A. team members. We all had a ton of fun participating in that.

Later that night, we had a short and fun worship followed by a campfire with s'mores. Everybody had a good time chatting and eating lots of sugar. Even though we all knew that we would be leaving in the morning, we were already looking forward to next year.



Spiritual Leadership Retreat

By Aurora Gault
Class of 2018

As the bus fishtailed along the curved road up to Donnelly, Idaho, I wasn't sure what to expect. By the looks of the tiny dirt side road we were taking into the woods, I was beginning to question my decision making process. There were about 10 or 12 students going on the trip none of which I was super close with

at that time. When we eventually arrived at our destination, I stepped off the bus catching a deep breath of the fresh mountain air. Though I was still nervous about our 3 day stay, the fresh air gave me a little hope. The small group of students that I came along with, sat together around a fire near the cabin we would be staying in. As I looked around at our group, I suddenly felt safe

despite the darkness and being so far from any legitimate civilization. Not only did I feel safe, I had an overwhelming sense that I was a part of something good. This short trip would end up changing all the goals I had set for the newly begun school year. Every day that we were in Donnelly, we spent time bonding as a group and discussing what it meant to be spiritual leaders. Through different

activities and games, we looked inward and outward at the effects we have on our peers. On our last day, the group went swimming in a nearby creek which was frigid! Going in the freezing cold water with all my friends made the trip for me. Having the opportunity to grow relationships with new people I wasn't overly close with was an opportunity I wouldn't have wanted to miss. By

the end of the trip, we had made the decision together to pay close attention to how we address others when not talking directly to them. We set a goal to attempt to stop gossiping and to include everyone whether we know them well or not. The retreat changed my outlook on what I can do as a spiritual leader in my school and how I can encourage those around me to do the same.



Dear Gem State Academy Alumni, former students, staff, faculty and friends,

As we plan for the 2017 homecoming celebration, our hearts are filled with nostalgic memories of the time we spent as young energetic students at GSAA. Remembering the many people we crossed paths with at a time when the world was new and our future laid ahead, brings feelings of appreciative joy. Of course the best part of homecoming weekend is seeing old friends and renewing lifelong connections with people we don't see often enough. We put a high value on the friendships we made and hold dear.

Our featured speaker will be Darold Bigger, a man who got his start in Idaho and has accomplished so much in a lifetime full of remarkable achievements and devastating loss. His message of hope and forgiveness as chronicled in his book "A Time to Forgive" is timely for us all. Darold was a young talented upstart when I first heard him sing and speak at Gem State Academy. He made a lifelong impression on me as a young person and I have considered it a privilege to call him friend.

A big thank you to Rochelle Hauser (1967-50 year honor class), for sharing her life experience with us on Friday night. Make plans to be here March 31 – April 2 to be a part of everything we have planned. Of course roll call, singing the school song, Military Appreciation, Family Loyalty Award, eating lunch together, an afternoon of sharing, Sabbath evening basketball and Sunday morning "Soles for Heaven Fun Run/Walk", and much more will round out a memorable weekend. We want this to be a special time for us all. See you then.



Sincerely,
Terry Mace
President GSAA Alumni Association

Committee:

Terry Mace	President
Pat Francisco (1973)	Vice President
Valerie Moore Trees (1981)	Immediate Past President
Tracy Howie Spainhower (1982)	Secretary
Sheri Culver LaMott (1981)	Marketing/5k Coordinator
Dan Moore (1978)	Historian
Kimberley Peters Mitchell (1982)	Faculty Liaison
Marvin Thorman	GSAA Principal



GSAA Sherwood forest

The year is 1988, my first as boys' dean at Gem State Academy. Being responsible for the upcoming banquet, the Merry Men of the Boys' Club and I chose the theme of A Night in the Forest.

We soon began to scavenge forest material from around Lake Lowell. It seemed like we worked nonstop throughout Saturday night and Sunday and by the evening of November 6 we had transformed the cafeteria into Sherwood Forest, complete with trees, a leafy forest floor and a running waterfall. All too soon, however, the Merry Men were escorting their fair maidens back to the girls' dorm and by morning the medieval forest was once again our familiar cafeteria.



Greg Davies,
Boys Dean, Teacher
1988- 2006 school years

Karen Davies,
Registrar/ Administrative Assistant



Blessings of the music

Many of my best memories are of our music tours with Chamber Singers and orchestra. It was our opportunity at the time to travel the Idaho Conference and the Nevada/Utah Conference. This made it possible to go to Reno and to Salt Lake City. My most memorable trip was to Salt Lake City where we got to tour the Mormon Tabernacle, see the Temple and tour the museum. It was very special that we got to hear the Mormon Tabernacle Choir rehearse.

When we went on tour we went to different churches where the members became our hosts and we spent the night at their homes and ate with them. We met some very interesting people and stayed in some unique places.

Then there was the bus!! I believe that it was an old army surplus bus but it took us for hundreds if not thousands of miles safely with John Woodbury at the wheel. The bus was filled with lively kids, pillows and a lot of noise. I don't know how Mr. Woodbury could tolerate it but he did.

These tours gave me a great appreciation for the production of beautiful music and the tolerance to accept music that was not particularly good but given with heart and soul. The Lord blessed us on our tours and it did end up being a good marketing tool. I look back on those days as being some of the happiest and funniest

times of my life. And I have had the privilege of maintaining life long friendships from those days.



Nancy Worley/Crisp
Class of 1968



The Horn Quartet, Dee Ann Wagner, Rob Wagner, Nancy Crisp, and Roger Johnson, was one of several groups within the band.



Gem State Adventist Academy
16115 S Montana Ave,
Caldwell, ID 83607

Production Editor: Lisa Thorman
Design Editor: Tatyana Wahlman
Marketing Team: Matthew Fitting, Marvin
Thorman, Mark Waterhouse, Cecilia Simmons

*Centennial
Celebration*

1918-2018

100

Save The Date!

Join us
for a fun-filled weekend
as we celebrate the blessings
God has showered on GSAA
during the last 100 years!

March 30 – April 1, 2018

*Featured speakers
Rochelle Hauser and Darold Bigger*



March 31 - April 2, 2017
Gem State Adventist Academy

**Registration
Friday, March 31, 2017
6 p.m.**

Journey to Excellence



- Christ Centered Education
- Safe School Environment
- Exceptional Sport, Music and Art Programs
- Lifetime Friendship

Contact Us

16115 S Montana Ave,
Caldwell, ID 83607
208-459-1627
gemstate.org