

The Pathfinder Story

By John Hancock

World Pathfinder Director (1963-1970)



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Revised June 2003, November 2003, February 2004

Edited by Sheila Draper
Designed by Glen Milam

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AdventSource
5040 Prescott Avenue
Lincoln, NE 68506
1-800-328-0525
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Printed in the United States of America

Contents

Dedication	5
About the Author	6
Story of Pathfinding	9
Early Beginnings	10
Summer Camp	14
Pathfinders	16
The Pathfinder Song	22
Camporees	26
Witness Through Roses	28
Teen Pathfinders	31
Pathfinder Leadership	31
How Summer Camps Began	34
Important Dates & Events	47

Dedication

This book is dedicated to all adults who challenge young people to seek the high adventure in Christian service that Pathfinder Ministries can provide.

Special thanks to John Hancock and the pioneers of Pathfinder Ministries. These people—true Pathfinders—shared their dynamism and their spiritual influence with young people in the Seventh-day Adventist Church and in the community, and paved the way for the Pathfinder and Camp programs that we use today.

Thanks also to the youth leaders who support our young people when they respond to the Master's call: "Come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ" Ephesians 4:13. These leaders help Pathfinders discover their world and themselves, and they enthusiastically teach Pathfinders to believe that they can be the people God intended them to be.

A special tribute to today's Pathfinders who want to be great in the Lord. If you believe in yourself and have the courage, determination, and commitment to your Lord and Savior, and if you are willing to sacrifice the little things in life to pay for the things that matter, you will reach your goals.

Norm Middag
North American Division Pathfinder Director
(1986-1996)

About the Author

John H. Hancock, a native Californian, graduated from Pacific Union College and entered the ministry in the Northern California Conference in 1939. He and his wife Helen worked in pastoral evangelism until 1946,



when he was called to be the youth director of the Southeastern California Conference. That year, he organized a conference-sponsored Pathfinder Club at Riverside. In 1947, he joined other youth directors in the Pacific Union to develop the Pathfinder Club organization. He served as youth director in both the Lake Union Conference (1951-54) and the North Pacific Union Conference (1954-63). In 1963, he was called to the General Conference Youth

Department to serve as world Pathfinder director, and then served as World Youth Director from 1970-80.

Youth around the world remember him not only for his stories and his inspiring Christ-centered message of hope and courage, but also as the “man with the accordion.” His custom-made instrument traveled with him everywhere, because, as he said, “it does not need to be translated.”

In 1972, he organized youth ministry training seminars at Andrews University and later in overseas divisions. In 1992, “John Hancock Youth Centers” were established at La Sierra and Andrews Universities in his honor.

John and Helen were married for over 52 years and had a daughter and two sons, and now have nine grandchildren. After Helen’s sudden death in 1990, he married Charlotte “Lollie” Keller in 1991. She appears with him in the picture here. They both attended many Pathfinder activities each year.

John Hancock passed away February 22, 2001.





Pathfinder Pledge

By the grace of God,
I will be pure, kind and true.
I will keep the Pathfinder Law.
I will be a servant of God
and a friend to man.

Pathfinder Law

Keep the Morning Watch,
Do my honest part,
Care for my body,
Keep a level eye,
Be courteous and obedient,
Walk softly in the sanctuary,
Keep a song in my heart and
Go on God's errands.

Story of Pathfinding

The North American Division Pathfinder Department presents Elder John Hancock, former World Pathfinder Director and one of the pioneers in the introduction and development of the Pathfinder Club, giving his first-hand record of the roots and history of Pathfinding. This will be the most accurate historical account of this subject that has thus far been presented. (Editor's Note: The 2003 edition contains the on-going history of the Pathfinder organization as recorded by Arnold and Dixie Plata)

“Hello!” to all you wonderful people who are interested in becoming involved in the nicest work ever given to man—working for boys and girls of the Seventh-day Adventist Church through Pathfinding.

These youth are not only the church’s future, but a very important part of today. We are living in the last days, just before Jesus returns, and as someone has said, “Time’s most noble offspring is its last.” To work with these youth is a great privilege. It is important to know where we came from and where we are going. I wish I could tell this story face-to-face, but this booklet will be a way to contact thousands with an accurate account of Pathfinder history.

How did Pathfinding get started, and who participated in its beginnings and development? Well, Pathfinding is not something which suddenly appeared as the brainchild of one person. Its roots go back to the beginning of this century, and many individuals making contributions to youth ministry were involved. In this booklet, we

will examine the historical developments which led to the adoption of the Pathfinder Club program by the General Conference at their session in San Francisco. The Pathfinder world-wide program became official in 1950.

Early Beginnings

From 1879-1907, many local churches and schools experimented with junior youth societies. In response to this grass-roots interest in youth ministry, the General Conference voted to establish a youth department in 1907 with Elder M. E. Kern as the first secretary, or director, and Matilda Erickson became the assistant secretary.



During that year, church leaders involved in education and youth ministry met at Mount Vernon, Ohio. They studied the program and named the new youth organization “Seventh-day Adventist Missionary Volunteers.” MV Societies, as they were called for senior youth were quite popular. At a gathering in Colorado in 1909, these

same leaders voted in a program for junior youth, ages 10-15, and JMV Societies were established in churches and schools. An aim “The Advent Message to All the World in This Generation” and a motto “The Love of Christ Constraineth Us” were adopted. Each member also pledged that, “Loving the Lord Jesus, I promise to take an active part in the young people’s MV Society, doing what I can to help others and to finish the work of the gospel in all the world.”

Elder Kern was also, from 1910-1914, president of the Foreign Mission Seminary (Washington Missionary College—Columbia Union College) and spent as much time in the field as possible and also did much writing. During the 1920's Elder Kern spent most of his time in other lands—Australia, South America, China and the Far East, India, Africa, Europe—as the young people's work

throughout the world developed. In 1912 Meade MacGuire was made a field secretary of the MV Department to serve in overseas assignments.

By 1911, several boys' clubs, such as the *Takoma Indians* and *Woodland Clan*, were started by Charles Boyd in the state of Maryland and *Boys Pal* in Lincoln, Nebraska formed by Milton P. Robinson. In 1919, down in Nashville, Tennessee, Arthur W. Spalding organized the *Mission Scouts* for his own children and their neighborhood friends. Spalding was a very resourceful person and wrote a pledge and a law, which later became the basis for the present Pathfinder Pledge and Law.

In 1915 the Seventh-day Adventist Church held a joint countrywide convention of the Educational and Missionary Volunteer workers in Saint Helena, California. That same year Ella Iden-Edwards was added as an assistant field secretary in the Missionary Volunteer Department. Most notable in her service was preparation of the 1918 *Junior Manual*.

To foster the junior/youth program the General Conference called Harriet Maxson Holt to the Missionary Volunteer department in 1920. As the junior/youth secretary, she promoted JMV Societies in churches and schools and in 1922 introduced the "Junior Progressive Missionary Volunteer" Friend and Companion classes. Another class, Comrade was designed for older youth and youth leaders. When an individual had completed the Comrade class they could, with additional study and a normal course of 7 requirements, become Master Comrades.

Also in 1922, Henry T. Elliott, from successful conduct of the youth work in the Lake Union, was



C. Lester Bond 1888 - 1971



Model Airplane Honor

brought to join the General Conference Missionary Volunteer staff. In 1924, the *Junior Manual* was revised and brought up to date, including the Progressive Class plans, by Harriet Holt and Arthur Spalding. During these years Harriet Holt and Arthur W. Spalding worked together to lay the groundwork for what would later become the worldwide Pathfinder program.

In 1928, when Harriet's husband, Chester Holt, was elected to be the Pacific Union Youth Director, C. Lester Bond replaced her as Associate MV Secretary in charge of Junior Youth Ministry. Elder Bond was a great leader. During his long term of service (1928-1946) there was much growth in the MV and JMV programs. Elder Bond introduced Vocational Merits and asked Arthur W. Spalding to help develop requirements for them. In 1928, 16 Vocational Merits were offered and during that same time a group of dedicated youth workers toiled to present a handbook to aid boys and girls in their Christian growth. Harriet Maxson Holt and Julia Leland aided in preparation of the inspirational sections; Arthur W. Spalding worked on 19 additional Vocational Merits and Kathryn L. Jensen RN aided in the preparation of the First Aid and other health related requirements. A number of other youth workers helped and in March of 1929 the name Vocational Merits was changed to Vocational Honors. When the *Junior Missionary Volunteer Handbook* was published in 1929 it included 35 Vocational Honors. It was not until the revision of this publication, in 1931, that there were drawings of these 35 Vocational Honor tokens. Elder Bond did a lot of his work while traveling by ship to visit the world divisions. In 1932 the *Camp Leader's Handbook*, which Elder Bond helped to write was published. In 1933 his first devotional book, *God's Challenge to Youth* was published by Southern Publishing Association. In 1934 his second devotional book, *Adventurers in Christian Living* was published by the Review

and Herald Publishing Association. In 1938 the *Master Guide Manual* and *Ideals for Juniors* were published and also *Stamp Collecting* which he wrote in collaboration with Mervin R. Thurber. From 1928-1946 Elder Bond served as one of the Associate Editors of the *Youth's Instructor* and was also on the book committee of the Review and Herald Publishing Association. In 1950 Elder Bond's book for senior youth, *The Quest of Youth*, was published.

In 1931, in order to demonstrate the Junior Work, a special investiture of all class levels, was held during meetings of the General Conference. Fifty-three Master Comrade Pins were awarded at this time as well as numerous pins in the three other class levels.

In 1930, Henry T. Elloitt was elected General Secretary of the MV Department and in 1933 he became associate secretary of the General Conference Secretarial Department, a position he held for 25 years. Alfred W. Peterson filled his place, as General Conference MV General Secretary, in 1934, a position he held for twelve years. A. W. Peterson gave vigorous leadership in the youth work. Elder Peterson was called to be young people's secretary of the Australasian Division in 1943.

At this time, many youth leaders and educators believed that the Scout program had some excellent ideas. But they also felt that it would be difficult for Seventh-day Adventist juniors to join the Boy or Girl Scout organization because of Sabbath, dietary and other differences. So they used the Scout program as a base and developed clubs of their own.

Elder Eldine W. Dunbar became an Associate Secretary to the MV department in 1943, following his service as Young People's Missionary Volunteer Secretary for the Pacific Union. He became the General Missionary Volunteer Secretary in 1946. Elder Dunbar was best known for his 39 years

of work with youth. He led out in organizing the Pathfinder Club and was instrumental in setting standards for the youth organization's Master Guide level. Elder Dunbar devoted his life to helping youth learn of God's love and the plan of salvation.

In 1946, Elder Laurence A. Skinner and Elder Theodore E. Lucas became Associate Secretaries of the General Conference Youth Department. Both men worked to enhance the Pathfinder as well as Senior youth programs. Elder Skinner had previously conducted Trailblazer Clubs (a program written by Henry T. Bergh) in the North Pacific Union and well understood the need of dedicated leaders to work with the youth of the church.

Summer Camp

During these formative years, summer camps in the Adventist church were just beginning to grow. The very first camp was held in Australia in 1925. In the North American Division the Wisconsin Conference held a girls camp, following Campmeeting, August 4-14. Followed by a boys camp in Michigan, at Townline Lake, with director Grover Fattic MV Secretary, in 1926. The following year both Michigan and Wisconsin held youth camps for boys and girls. An interesting side light to these camps is that to attend the junior must have completed and been invested in the Friend Class. Illinois held



Junior Missionary Volunteers and Counselors at the Pathfinder Idyllwild Summer Training Camp in 1933. (Also next page)

camp in 1928, and other conferences followed their example. Early youth leaders of these camps included Arthur W. Spalding, I. Smith, Grover Fattic, Roy McKenzie, Wilbur Holbrook, Eldine W. Dunbar, F. G. Ashbaugh, and C. Lester Bond.

The West held its first summer camps in 1928. Julia Nelson directed a camp in Angeles National Park for the Southern California Conference. Central California Conference held its first camp at Wawona when Eder John F. Simon took boys and girls to camp in the woods of Yosemite. Mrs. Emma Simon, a schoolteacher and parent, was the cook at this first adventure. At Julian, near San Diego, camp directors Guy Mann and Laurence Skinner held a camp for the Southeastern California Conference. Arthur Spalding, a guest from the General Conference, told pioneer stories at campfire each night. One of these stories was about John Fremont, a Pathfinder. Explorer John Fremont's name is very familiar in California and at the capital, in Sacramento, you can find a lot about him.

The name "Pathfinder" caught the imagination of the youth leaders in Southeastern California, and the next year a second camp was held at Idyllwild, in the San Jacinto Mountains. In 1930 this



campsite was purchased by the Conference, and a permanent summer camp facility was built on the 15½ acres and was christened the “JMV Pathfinder Camp”. The Conference used the site for more than thirty years before it was sold so a larger camp could be purchased. A new permanent camp was developed at Pine Springs Ranch, in 1961, on 480 acres in the San Jacinto Mountains.

Pathfinders

In the mid nineteen twenties, John McKim, a Scoutmaster decided that something should be done for junior youth in the Anaheim, California Seventh-day Adventist Church where he was a member. He had a Boy Scout Troop but like other Adventist youth leaders, he believed that the church needed its own club, patterned after the Scouts but with an added spiritual emphasis. Under the direction of the Southeastern California Conference Youth Director, Guy Mann, John McKim and his wife Bertha worked together to have a club for boys and girls. Willa Steen and her husband Dr. Claude Steen, members of the Fullerton Seventh-day Adventist Church worked with the McKim's. The boys and girls clubs met weekly and were very active in community parades with a marching band and doing community outreach as well as going on campouts and day outings. Mrs. Willa Steen started up the Orange County Junior Choir, which sang in many churches in the area. They called the club Pathfinders.

At the Santa Ana Seventh-day Adventist Church, Lester and Ione Martin felt the need to offer a similar club experience for the boys of his church. When they looked for a place large enough to hold these meetings they contracted Dr. Theron Johnston, an ophthalmologist and a member of the Santa Ana church. Dr. Johnston and his wife Ethel had moved into a large home in 1929 and they graciously agreed to allow their home to be a meeting place. Incidentally that home was still

standing in 2003. The boys met downstairs, in the basement workshop area, with Mr. Martin as their director and Dr. Johnston as the assistant director.

Dr. & Mrs. Johnston had two daughters. Their eldest daughter, Maurine helped her father set up for the club meetings, but when the boys appeared, she had to vanish, and complained strongly that it wasn't fair. So it wasn't long before her mother, Mrs. Ethel Johnston, and Ione Martin became the girl's directors.

Now the question arose, "What will we call this club?" As the name "Pathfinder" was now part of Southeastern Conference junior youth vocabulary, these church members decided to call them Pathfinder clubs. Things went well for a while, but then some of the older Santa Ana Church members began thinking that the club activities were bringing the world into the church, and they were strongly opposed to that idea. The club activities were similar to what Pathfinders do today—crafts, games, nature studies, cycling, field trips, and so on. The church board voted to request that Martin and Johnston disband their club. The board sent them threatening letters stating that if the clubs were not disbanded immediately, church discipline would be applied. Needless to say, this ended this club in Southeastern Conference, at least until after World War II, when the GIs came home and were ready for action.

In the '30s and '40s, one man who kept the club idea alive was Laurence A. Skinner. After working as Junior Youth Leader for Southeastern California, he was called to serve as Youth Director first in Hawaii and later in the Southern California Conference. While there, he organized church clubs for juniors, but he was counseled by the General Conference to keep the name JMV rather than going to another name like Pathfinders. In the early 1940s, Elder Skinner became the Youth Director for the North Pacific Union. One of his first undertakings was to promote the Trailblazer Club, which was organized very similarly to what would later become



Laurence Skinner 1905 - 2002

the basic outline for Pathfinder Clubs. Although the Santa Ana church had rejected the Pathfinder idea and McKim of the Anaheim-Fullerton Church had disbanded his club because of ill health it would not be long until the Pathfinder club idea would become a permanent part of the Southeastern California Conference and in all the Pacific Union.

In the mid-1940s, regional conferences were organized and Walter Kisack, director of the Lake Region Conference Youth Department, started the first camping program for African-Americans. In 1955 Leon Davis, who followed Kisack, transferred to New York and developed such outstanding

camp programs at Victory Lake Camp in Hyde Park, New York, that more campers attended his camps than any other camp in North America.

In 1946, Elder John Hancock was called from his pastorate in the Santa Ana church to become Youth Director for Southeastern California Conference. This happened right in the middle of the camping season at Idyllwild, and my Conference President, Elder H. H. Hicks, called me on the phone and said, "John, we want you to come immediately and be director of our Idyllwild JMV Camp and also Youth Director for the Conference." Well, this was quite an initiation for me! But having served at camp as a counselor in previous years, and with the support of friends there at camp, I knew they could get through the summer. God blessed, and we had a very fine camping season. After the season was over, my wife Helen and our three small children moved from Santa Ana to Riverside. The Conference bought a new parsonage on Gardena Drive by the Santa Fe railroad tracks. We used to say that the railroad ran through the middle of the house. I set up my office in the Conference headquarters, which was located in Arlington.

At the end of the summer and after we were settled, a mother came into my office and said, “Elder Hancock, I wish that summer camp could last all year long!” Well, I was a bit surprised at this comment, and remarked that I was sure the counselors were glad the camp didn’t last a whole year. In those days, our staff was comprised almost entirely of Conference workers and pastors and teachers, and the Conference Committee assigned them to work at these 10-day camps. But when I saw the earnest expression on this mother’s face, I inquired, “Why do you wish this to happen?” I will never forget her reply. She said, “Because my son comes home from camp with the light of heaven in his eyes.” Well, this mother’s response made me wonder, “Why can’t summer camp—the activities and the fellowship—last all year?”

I was acquainted with the Trailblazer program, that Henry T. Bergh had written, as Elder Skinner had given me a copy. In fact, I had all the organizational plans in my office. I got these out, looked at them, and decided to call Stan Jefferson, the pastor of the Riverside Church where my wife and I were members. He was a good friend, so I asked, “Stan, would you be interested in joining me and getting a club going for the boys and girls 10-15 years old in your church?” Stan’s response was an enthusiastic “Yes!” You see, his daughter was in that age bracket. I consulted with several Master Comrades and other workers who had helped at Idyllwild. They offered good counsel and encouraged me to go ahead. So we did. But what would we call such a club? Why, what else in Southeastern California Conference but a Pathfinder Club? In my ignorance as a new youth director, I didn’t know that the General Conference Youth Department did not want the name of JMV to be changed. I guessed that if Henry Bergh and Laurence Skinner had Trailblazers in the North Pacific Union, we certainly could have Pathfinders in our conference, especially since that name was so prominent in youth ministry history.

Because I had majored in art in high school and at Chico State College, I decided to design a sleeve emblem for the new club uniform. I didn't want Pathfinders to be another Boy Scout Troop, although the Scouts had been very kind to work with C. Lester Bond and others, letting them use much of the material in the Scout Handbook. I wanted Pathfinders to be Christ-centered, so I thought about how this emblem should look. It would be in the shape of a triangle, with the three sides representing the spiritual, physical, and social aspects of child development. I put a shield in the center to symbolize faith in Jesus and a sword on top of the shield to represent the Word of God. These emblems were made up in a local embroidery shop.

While the emblems were being made, we had to decide on a uniform. We were able to get suntan uniforms for men and boys at Army Surplus stores right after the war, but for the girls, it was indeed a different story. My wife Helen and some of the mothers whose children would be members of the club went to work to make girls' uniforms. Helen searched the pattern companies for the right pattern. The Conference then bought bolts of green cloth, wholesale, which we stocked in our office. We recruited a college ministerial student, Francis Hunt, to be the club director.

In the fall of 1946, the Pathfinder Club made its debut in the Riverside church. There were about 15 boys and girls in that club. Their parents were very supportive. We didn't have a clubhouse, so we used the school ground of the Clafflin Memorial Riverside School. GIs who had returned and were now students at La Sierra College led the drills and marching. Vocational Honor classes were held in parents' homes.

One of the most popular classes was BAKING, taught by Helen in our little home on Gardena Drive. The class was popular because at the end of each class, the boys could eat all the goodies they made. After all, someone has said a boy is an appetite

with skin stretched around it! Well, we took those Pathfinders on outings to county recreational parks and on field trips.

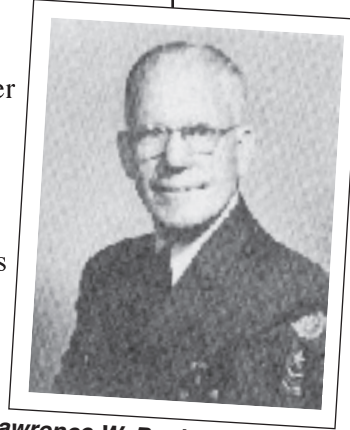
We also decided to teach Master Comrade classes for the counselors. Lawrence Paulson, a lay-worker who had started a club in Glendale in 1947, often came over and helped us with these classes, which were held in a classroom at La Sierra College.

Lawrence and I worked closely together during those days. He named his club Pathfinders and used the emblem which I had designed. I visited his Pathfinders Club Birthday Party after their first year, and he had 150 club members at that time. Incidentally, I consider Lawrence Paulson to be one of the greatest all-time Pathfinder club directors in our denomination. From 1947 onward, he was responsible for organizing and directing twelve different church Pathfinder clubs in Southern and Southeastern California Conferences. He also helped in Pathfinder Leadership Institutes nationwide. Even in his retirement years, he continued to be active in Pathfinders.

After the Riverside and Glendale clubs began to prosper, other clubs sprang up here and there. In Central California Conference Henry T. Bergh encouraged a Mrs. Lorna Esry, a member of the Sunnyvale Seventh-day Adventist Church to start a Pathfinder club. By the spring of 1949 Elder Bergh had organized 23 Pathfinder Clubs in his Conference.

Elder Bergh was also the first Youth Director to use Pathfinder Area Coordinators throughout his conference, in 1949, to better serve all the club leaders.

In 1949 the momentum was so strong that Elder E. W. Dunbar, Youth Director for the General Conference and Elder L. A. Skinner, who



Lawrence W. Paulson 1901 - 1998

was now Associate Youth Director for the General Conference, believed it was time to move forward with the whole idea. Elder Skinner contacted J. R. Nelson, Pacific Union Youth Director, and said, “Joe, can you bring your local conference youth directors in the Pacific Union together and ask them to develop the Pathfinder club idea?” Elder Nelson said, “We’ll do it,” as he was really in favor of Pathfinding. So, from 1949-1950, this was done with great success and dispatch. The Pacific Union Conference Youth Directors, at that time, which were involved in working with the new program were: John H. Hancock and Lee Carter from Southeastern California Conference, Miller Brockett from Southern California Conference, Henry T. Bergh from Central California Conference and Clark Smith from the Nevada/Utah Conference.

The Pathfinder Song

In the spring of 1949, the Pacific Union youth leaders met for the MV Director’s Council. Among other items that were worked on, John Hancock suggested to Henry Bergh that he write a Pathfinder song. Henry replied, “I’m no song writer. I’ve never written a song and I am not a musician.” In a letter written to the World Pathfinder Director, Michael Stevenson in 1984, Elder Bergh wrote, “I dispatched that idea very quickly. But along in May 1949, I was driving to a Sabbath appointment at Monterey Peninsula from San Jose (70-80 miles). I was riding along thinking about Pathfinders and about our need for the song and started thinking about a tune. What would be a good tune for a Pathfinder song? Then I thought, well, I could write the words. So I tried to compose a poem.... I started thinking of what things would I want to put in the poem for a Pathfinder song. I thought about the JMV pledge—pure and kind and true, with a message to go to the world, and things started to fall into place. I pulled over to the side of the road, took a piece of paper out of my Bible, and

began to write:

*Oh, we are the Pathfinders strong,
The servants of God are we
Faithful as we march along
In kindness, truth, and purity.
A message to tell to the world,
A truth that will set us free
King Jesus the Savior's coming back
For you and me.*

Well, I thought, that's not bad.... I took off again for my Sabbath appointment and got down the road a ways and started to hum a tune. Then I started singing the words with that tune. I have said repeatedly that God gave me the tune because I am not a musician and I have never written a song before or since. The Lord just gave it to me. I pulled off the side of the road, turned the sheet of paper over, and put down five lines for a staff. I knew enough about music to be able to read it, so I started humming the tune that was going through my mind and putting dots on the staff.... That evening when I got home, I asked my wife Miriam to play this thing for me from the dots on the page. We corrected where I had misplaced the dots and got the tune just as it is today. I still wasn't confident that it was good enough for a Pathfinder Song, so I sent it to Wayne Hooper, who is a personal friend of ours and the musical director for the radio program Voice of Prophecy. I asked Wayne to edit it and to harmonize it. He sent it back and said, 'It's a good song—go ahead and publish it!' So we mimeographed it for use among our Pathfinder clubs (in the Central California Conference). I think that the first time it was really introduced on a conference-wide scale was at the Pathfinder Officer's Convention in Ascilimar, near Monterey, CA, January of 1950." A side note to this story is another from Elder Bergh. "I

was contacted by persons in the Southern Union Conference for permission to include the song in their Youth Sings. Unfortunately they edited the song and left out the word "kindness" that came from the pledge. Then it was picked up by the Review and Herald, in *Singing Youth*, and they also left out the word "Kindness". The editing was done without my permission and I have always felt it diluted the impact of the song." (As a note of interest—in 1998 the North American Division voted to put Kindness back into the Pathfinder Song—and incidently into the Pathfinder clubs.)

Central California Conference had the first Pathfinder Leaders Training Camp over the July 4th weekend of 1949. A. C. Nelson, J. R. Nelson, Clare Wolfsen and Ernest Booth were the instructors at this Wawona gathering.

Various Pathfinder materials were being produced around this time. Using suggestions, for design, from Henry Bergh, Helen Hobbs, the "Betsy Ross of Pathfinding," sewed the first Pathfinder flag. Lawrence Paulson at Glendale, California designed a series of achievement books which could be used in Pathfinder clubs and church schools. These included the requirements for the JMV classes, but also many other activities in which the club could participate as an enrichment program. Don Palmer, a teacher in Glendale and a Scout Master, helped make the nature and outdoor activity programs come alive. Clark Smith and Henry Bergh wrote a *Pathfinder Drill Manual*, in 1949, at one of the Youth Leader's Meetings at the Conference office in Reno, Nevada.

Elder Skinner called Lee Carter and John Hancock to Washington, DC where they worked to prepare a Pathfinder Staff Manual, from materials shared by the Pacific Union Youth Leaders. Also taking ideas from Lawrence Paulson and Henry Bergh's original booklets, they compiled a booklet "How to Start a Pathfinder Club."

Central California Conference, directed by

Henry Bergh, held the first Pathfinder Fair in Dinuba, California on September 23, 1951. Southern California Conference, directed by Miller Brockett, held their first Pathfinder Fair on the following weekend with Elder E. W. Dunbar in attendance at both Fairs.

The Pacific Union also adopted a Pathfinder button for the girls blouses as well as black ties for the Master Comrade ladies blouses.

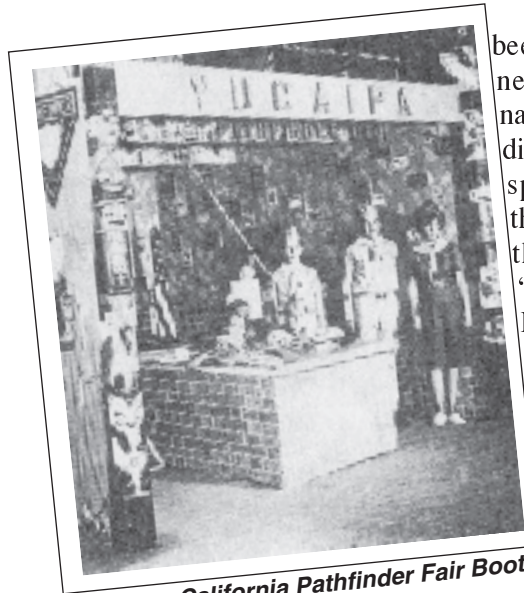
By 1949 the whole Pathfinder program was growing by leaps and bounds throughout the Pacific Union. Thus it was that at Fall Council in 1949 the entire Pathfinder program, developed in the Pacific Union, was adopted at the General Conference Session in San Francisco. Youth directors from all over the world accepted the concept enthusiastically, and also adopted the Pathfinder emblem. Pathfinder clubs were off and running. Laurence Skinner traveled to the world divisions to help get the Pathfinder club idea off the ground overseas.

It was not until the 1960s that Regional Conferences conducted Pathfinder clubs to any extent. Fitzgerald Jenkins conducted Master Comrade classes and in 1950 invested Danny Davis. Davis became the director of the Allegheny Conference Youth Department in 1963 and in 1970 initiated the first International Camporee in Bermuda. He was one of the first to combine Pathfinder Fairs with Campmeetings. He also joined the Pathfinder Drum Corps with the Temperance Department to lead the first Better Living parade. These two activities really got Pathfinding going in Allegheny Conferences.

In 1952, youth directors from the North American Division assembled at Camp MiVoden on the shores of Hayden Lake, Idaho, and discussed the Pathfinder club. Although the Pathfinder program and emblem had



Danny Davis



**Southern California Pathfinder Fair Booth
- Yucaipa, California**

been adopted worldwide, it was necessary to use a different name because of translation difficulties. The Spanish-speaking countries adopted the name “Conquistadors,” the Portuguese used “Desbravadores,” and the French selected the word “Eclair.” Other countries such as Japan, Korea, and China made adjustments as necessary, but the program and the emblem design were universal.

Camporees

As the Pathfinder program developed other activities were adopted. The first Pathfinder Camporee was held by the Southern New England Conference at Camp Winnekeag, on the shores of beautiful Lake Winnekeag, Ashburnham Massachusetts. Elder E. W. Dunbar, World Pathfinder MV Leader and Elder Harold F. Maxson spoke for this October 9-11, 1953 Pathfinder event.

The second Camporee was held May of 1954 in the Pacific Union at Idyllwild. For this Camporee in Southeastern California, Charles Martin, Youth Director and his associate, Harry Garlick, were directors.

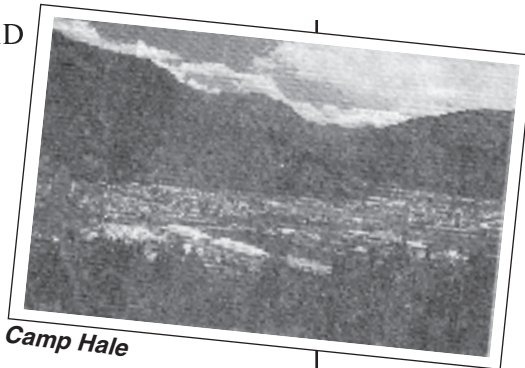
The first overseas Division Camporee was held in Vasterang, Sweden. The Northern Europe/West Africa Division gathered their youth for this Camporee in 1971. The North American Division held a Division Camporee in 1985. The NAD Camporee convened at Camp Hale, a former U.S. Army Alpine Division site near Leadville, in the mountains of Colorado. Les Pitton was the camp

director for this first ever NAD Pathfinder Camporee with 15,000 in attendance.

Columbia Union sponsored the Friendship Camporee in Pennsylvania in 1989 with Pathfinders from all over the division in attendance. In fact, on Sabbath there were 13,000 present for a special Pathfinder Sabbath, a wonderful spiritual treat. Ron Stretter, then Youth Director of the Columbia Union Youth Department, directed the Friendship Camporee.

In August 1994 the Dare to Care International Pathfinder Camporee was held at Morrison, Colorado. Ron Whitehead, the Youth Director for the Rocky Mountain Conference, was the director of this Camporee with camping and daytime activities on the Morrison Speedway Grounds and the evening meetings and Sabbath services held at Red Rocks Amphitheater.

The North American Division sponsored its second Camporee August 10-14, 1999 at the EAA (Experimental Aircraft Association) grounds at Oshkosh, Wisconsin. On the lovely grounds of the EAA, 20,000 youth and their leaders gathered to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Pathfinding. Ron Whitehead was also the director of this Camporee.



Camp Hale



Drum Corps



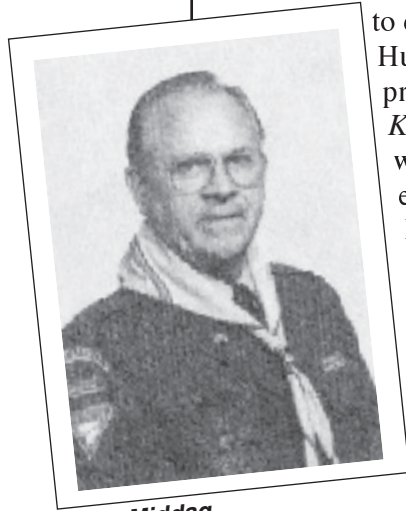
Southern Union Camporee

Witness Through Roses

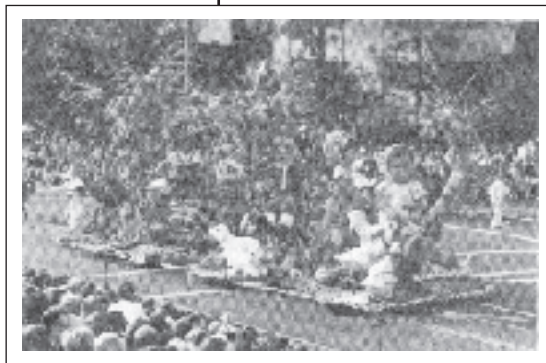
One project which caught the attention of Pathfinders all across North America, was Witness Through Roses. Norm Middag, the Pathfinder Director for North America, contacted the Pasadena Rose Parade officials who agreed that the Seventh-day Adventist Church could have its first float in that world-famous parade. Norm then contacted Fiesta Parade Floats in Azusa, and asked them to design our first float for 1991. Pathfinders and church members from all across the

United States and Canada came to Azusa to decorate the float in December 1990. Hundreds of hours were spent on this project, and the float won the *Lathrop K. Leishman* Trophy, which meant it was the most beautiful non-commercial entry. The second float for the 1992 Rose Parade, depicting children *Playing in Peace*, won the first place for best portrayal of life in the United States. A third entry featuring nature and the environment and carrying Pathfinders from each of the Unions in North America was entered in the 1993 Rose Parade.

Pathfinders also decorated the Good Housekeeping float, which received the Queen's Award for the best use of roses in 1992. In 1993 the FTD float entitled "On the Road to Zanzibar" won the Isabel Coleman Trophy for the best use of color and color harmony. This float was also decorated by Pathfinders and their friends. In 1994, ARCO float won the President's



Norm Middag



1991 Float "Playing in Peace"

Award, 1995, FTD (Floral Transworld Delivery) won the President's Award, 1996 Country Wide won the President's Award, 1997 FTD won the Isabel Coleman Award—Pathfinders continue to decorate.

On Monday following the 1993 Rose Parade, when the floats returned to the

Fiesta Parade headquarters in Azusa, Pathfinders and other church members removed roses from these floats. I believe that the Adventist float had 40,000 roses. These roses were removed, made into potpourri, packaged, and sold by FTD. The proceeds were donated to the Children's Miracle Network. Thus Pathfinders were greatly involved in this humanitarian outreach.

During the three years that Witness Through Roses project was sponsored by Pathfinders, it is estimated that 700 million people became acquainted with the name Seventh-day Adventist through the world-wide TV coverage in 1991 and 1992, many for the first time. In 1993, TV coverage was extended to China, which raised the total number of viewers to at least one billion. What a tremendous outreach! Since the 1994 Rose Parade was held on Sabbath, there was no SDA float, but the SDA's decorated the ARCO float, Fiesta Parade Floats' most elaborate, most expensive float ever. Within the last seven Rose Parades, Pathfinders



1992 Float "Discover the World of Service"



1993 Float "Enjoying and Caring for Nature"

have decorated 9 floats and 8 have won awards.

In addition to the Pathfinders and their friends who worked on the project, I want to pay special tribute to Arnold and Dixie Plata of Loma Linda, California. They organized and helped direct those involved in the decorating. Dr. Plata, a dentist, and his wife Dixie were Conference coordinators for the teens and also served as area coordinators for the San Bernardino County. They are widely known to Pathfinders because they have the largest collection of MV, JMV, and Pathfinder memorabilia in the world, some of it dating back to the early 1900s. They have visited many Pathfinder



Arnold and Dixie Plata

camporees, conventions, and fairs with their exhibit. It is men and women like the Platas who serve as leaders and staff members in Pathfinding and who have kept the Pathfinder program alive and well for 25-30 years. I urge you to consider making Pathfinding a life's work in volunteer ministry. I will always remember what one Pathfinder leader in the Washington Conference said

to me: "There may be snow on the roof, but the fire hasn't gone out underneath."

Teen Pathfinders

Some have thought of the Pathfinder club as a ministry only to pre-teens, but through the years, these concepts have been expanded to include teenagers. In 1962, Norm Middag, working as an associate to Jim Harris, the youth director for Northern California, developed the Teen Pathfinder program, using the Howell Mountain Teen Pathfinder club at Pacific Union College as a model. The Southeastern California Conference has had strong teen programs since 1964.

Pathfinder Leadership

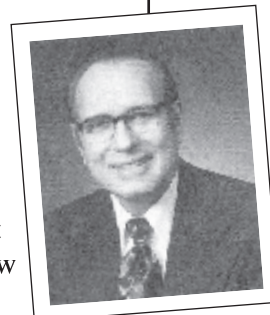
It is interesting to note that there have been only seven world Pathfinder Directors since Pathfinding was accepted by the General Conference in 1950.

Laurence Arthur Skinner, who was born in Montreal, Quebec was a youth director, Union youth director and in 1947 he was appointed to the General Conference Youth Ministries Department. Larry was the first World Pathfinder Director, a capacity he faithfully served in 1950—1963. L.A. Skinner traveled around the world sharing God's love with youth.



Laurence A. Skinner
1905 - 2002

John Henry Hancock, who was born in California, was appointed to be the second World Pathfinder Director in 1963. J.H. Hancock and his trusty Excelsior accordion traveled all over the world, promoting the Pathfinder program and the love of God. He often stated that "I did not speak the languages but my accordion knew the universal language of music, so we got along fine." In 1970 Elder Hancock was appointed the World Youth Director for the General Conference.



John H. Hancock
1917 - 2001

Leo S. Ranzolin, who was born in Brazil, was appointed to be the third World Pathfinder Director in 1970. Leo's love of youth and his enthusiasm to



Leo Ranzolin

share the love of Jesus with them helped to swell the Pathfinder program throughout the world. In 1980 he became the World Youth Director and later a vice president for the General Conference.

Michael Herbert Stevenson, of South Africa, assumed the responsibilities of World Pathfinder Director in 1980 and held this position until 1986. Mike had a special way with young people that helped them to know his love of God and for sharing the Advent message throughout the world.



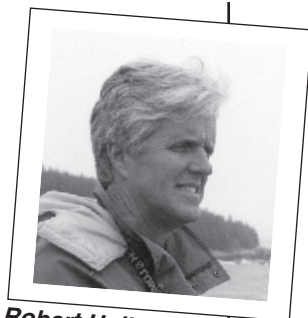
Mike Stevenson
1939-1993

Malcolm Allen, of Australia, joined the General Conference Youth Department in 1986 to become the World Pathfinder Director. Malcolm traveled for Pathfinder's around the world sharing Jesus with young people. He held this position until 1996 when he went "home" to his family in Australia and became a Conference President.



Malcolm Allen

Robert Holbrook, of Maryland in the United States, was well suited to become, in 1997, the next World Pathfinder Director. Bob had spent much of his childhood and young adult life in the mission field and spoke several languages. Bob not only loves God and enjoys young people but he also has a way of sharing God through nature that endeared him to young people throughout the world.



Robert Holbrook

North American Division Pathfinder Directors

Les Pitton was elected the first North American Division Pathfinder Director, working out of the Church Ministries Department. He served from 1980-1986. During Les's time as director, the Pathfinder organization held, in 1985, the first North American Division Pathfinder Camporee at Camp Hale, Leadville, Colorado.

Norman Middag was elected to serve as the

second North American Division Pathfinder Director. Norm traveled to many clubs and conferences throughout the division sharing his passion of working with youth.

In 1991 Norm headed up the first of several Seventh-day Adventist floats in the Pasadena Rose Parade where Pathfinder's decorated and won the prestigious Lathrup K. Leishman award. In 1994 a second International Pathfinder Camporee, Dare To Care, was held at Morrison, Colorado with Ron Whitehead as the director. During Norm's tenure the Pathfinder Leadership and the Pathfinder Instructor Awards were added as well as a rewriting of the Master Guide Curriculum. Norm retired in 1996.

Willie Oliver, Family Life Ministries Director, took on the formidable task of adding Pathfinders and Camping to his responsibilities. Under Willie's direction the first North American Division Master Guide Convention was held in Los Angeles, California in February of 1998. Willie served from 1997 until 1999.

In 2000 James Black was appointed the fourth North American Division Youth Ministries Director once again bringing Pathfinders, Adventurers and camping under one umbrella.

Leaders of Honor: Now and Beyond was the theme of the Youth Ministries Convention held in Atlanta, Georgia in 2002. This convention provided training and inspiration to Pathfinder leaders across the North American Division.



Les Pitton



Norm Middag



Willie Oliver



James Black

How Summer Camps Began

What a happy day it is when you pack your suitcase, roll up your sleeping bag, and head for summer camp! You can hardly wait to get moved into your cabin with your unit and begin the fun. There is never a dull moment with swimming, canoeing, water skiing, crafts, games, hikes, cookouts, and adventure at the outpost campsite. And the food? Well, you probably didn't know you could eat so much. Pancakes always taste extra good when they are cooked over an open fire.

This summer when you go to camp, did you know that you will be one of more than 47,000 youth who will be going to Seventh-day Adventist summer camps around the world. Nearly 22,000 of this number will be attending camps in the United States and Canada, where our church owns 55 well-equipped camps. Overseas the denomination owns 71 additional sites.

MV camping began in 1926. Have you ever wondered how it began? Who started the first camp for our youth and where was it held? What was that first youth camp like, and how many campers were present? Let me tell you the story.

The year was 1926. An MV secretary in Michigan, Grover Fattic, decided it was time for the Seventh-day Adventist Church to begin a camping program for boys and girls. For churches to sponsor camping was rather a new idea in the United States. Indians and pioneers knew the skills of camping in the outdoors, but organized camping was almost unheard of.

Elder Fattic had taken a Scout leader's training course and was convinced that camping had wonderful value for young people. There were many people, however, who were skeptical about such a venture. Why should a church get mixed up in summer camping? What good would that do boys and girls? Sabbath School, church services, and the church school were important, but this idea of "taking boys and girls out in the woods and turning them loose" was just too much of a departure from anything that had ever been done before.

We must remember, too, that in 1926 the Pathfinder Club was not in existence. The first JMV Classes—Friend, Companion, and Comrade (now Guide) and Master Comrade—had only been introduced four years before.

Elder Fattic took his request for a camp to the East Michigan Conference committee for approval. The committee turned him down again and again. He was a persistent man, and because he believed so much in the necessity of trying this new program for youth, he kept on asking for permission. The fourth time he was rewarded by a "go ahead" vote from the committee.



Grover Fattic

They made it plain that the cost of the camp would be his responsibility. He would have to find enough money to pay for it. The conference had no money to put into such experimentation.

“Don’t come to us for help. You are on your own, Grover.” These were the committee’s words, and they seemed so final. But Elder Fattic was delighted that the way had at least been opened for him to move ahead in faith.

He needed money, he needed equipment, he needed a staff, and he certainly needed a place to hold a camp. Where would all these “musts” be found?

The Lord knew the time was at hand for such a camp for Adventist youth. He guided Elder Fattic to find answers to the many problems he faced as a pioneer moving forward in faith. Two church members listened sympathetically to his plan, and each promised to give \$100.

With the assurance of that \$200, Elder Fattic now set out with new courage to find a suitable campsite. A Scoutmaster in Detroit had helped him in many ways, and he sought out the advice of this friend again.

“Why don’t you go up into Montcalm County in northern Michigan, Grover?” the Scoutmaster advised. “There’s a place there called Town Line Lake that I think would be just right for what you want.”

Thanking the Scoutmaster profusely, Elder Fattic rushed to a telephone and called Elder Gordon Smith, then the MV secretary for the Lake Union.

“Gordon, I’ve got a real lead on a place for our summer camp. Can you go with me to look it over? You know how important it is for us to have the right place for this experiment.”

Elder Smith was also a youth leader with great vision, and he was happy to make an appointment with Elder Fattic to go north and survey the proposed site.

A few days later the two pioneer campers were looking across Town Line Lake. It was a good place to swim, all right, but there wasn't very much in the way of camp facilities. It was a far cry from the modern, well-equipped camps we have today. All there was in the way of buildings was one little shack that could possibly be used for a kitchen and dining hall for a small group. But where would the campers stay? Oftentimes in the summer it rains in Michigan, and the campers certainly couldn't sleep in that one little building.

If only they had some tents! That would solve the problem. But there was no camp budget to buy any, or even to rent any, for that matter. Then Elder Fattic got an idea. He turned to Gordon Smith and said, "You know, Gordon, the conference has a lot of camp meeting tents stored in the warehouse. If we could only get those, our need would be met!"

But perish that thought! Had not the conference committee emphatically said, "Don't come to us for any help, Grover." Would he dare ask for such a thing?

Elder Fattic was a very short man, but his persistence and courage made up for his lack of height. When he got an idea he really believed in, there were few people that could stop him. He would not have been this close to the fulfillment of his dream if this were not the case.

He began to reason this way: "The committee men are my brethren. Some of the campers may be their children. Anyway, all the campers will be Adventist boys. Why shouldn't they have the use of some of those camp meeting tents piled up doing no one any good?"

Back to the East Michigan Conference office he rushed, walked down the hall, and stood for a moment before knocking on a door that bore the inscription "President." Would Elder Piper see any light in his suggestion?

Soon a kind voice from within said, "Come in, please." Elder Fattic entered and stood before

Elder J. F. Piper, president of the East Michigan Conference. Elder Fattic told me later that he presented the need for those tents for his campers as if he had been pleading for his own life. Elder Piper listened sympathetically and promised to present the matter to the committee the next time it met.

It seemed to Elder Fattic that the committee would never get around to meeting. In the meantime he talked to various members of the committee and detected a softening-up attitude toward the camp project. The Lord was working on the hearts of leaders in answer to his prayers. Finally word came from Elder Piper. With a big smile he put his hand on Elder Fattic's shoulder and said, "Grover, you can have the tents you need, and we even decided to do more than what you asked. You'll have to have some way to get those tents to Town Line Lake, won't you? Well, we decided to let you use the conference truck. How does that sound?"

The brethren did believe in his idea after all! He thanked them profusely and left the office to talk up the coming camp with other friends. More and more people were becoming interested. Several church school teachers volunteered to go as counselors, and a red-headed church member from northern Michigan agreed to do all the cooking for ten days for \$20.00. Adventist farmers said they would donate some food supplies and help pitch the tents. The first MV camp, was fast becoming a reality.

It was now time to send out advertising to all the churches concerning this new youth activity. Because there was no money for printed folders or application forms, Elder Fattic simply wrote a letter to all the local church elders informing them of the camp and asking them to announce the details in church. The first camp would be for boys only. Camp facilities were so meager it was decided that girls shouldn't come. If this first camp was successful, perhaps next year girls might be invited

also, but this first camp was going to be for real “he-men” only!

As the last day before the historic opening of the first MV camp dawned, Elders Fattic and Smith were out of bed with the rising sun. There was much to do, and a long hard trip lay ahead of them.

Some of the students from the church school were recruited to help them load the camp meeting tents that were stored in the conference warehouse at Holly. What fun it was for the boys to get a free ride on the conference truck.

At the warehouse, they looked for the tents. Wouldn't you know it? They were on the bottom of the pile, with camp meeting beds on top of them. And capping the pile was the big auditorium tent! Everyone lifted, pulled, and tugged until the family tents were uncovered and finally loaded onto the truck.

Mr. McKenzie, another youth worker, climbed into the cab with Elders Fattic and Smith, and the long trip to Town Line Lake in northern Michigan began. In 1926 automobiles didn't travel much faster than forty miles per hour on the narrow and often unpaved roads. With the conference truck, progress was even slower. The load was heavy, and it was nightfall before the trio reached the little town of Edmore.

At Edmore, they left the main highway and turned onto a very narrow, unpaved road that we would probably call a cow path today. Slowly they drove ahead in the darkness with the lights of the old truck burning dimly. At nine o'clock the rear wheels suddenly mired down in loose sand. Try as they would, the men could not get the truck out of that deep rut. They were stuck!

There was just one thing to do. In the darkness the entire load of tents and camp equipment had to be unloaded beside the road. Then, by pulling and pushing and digging, the three men finally got the truck back onto solid ground. Now the entire load of tents and equipment had to be hoisted aboard again. At last they were on their way.



The farther they went the worse the road became. Down again went the rear wheels. The motor raced, but the truck wheels only churned deeper into the loose sand. Once more the entire load was removed. Between nine o'clock that night and four o'clock the next morning, the truck bogged down four times! Each time the three weary leaders had to unload and reload all the equipment and supplies.

You can be sure it was a tired group of men who finally arrived at

Town Line Lake and began unloading the truck for the fifth time. Tired though they were, their spirits were high, for the dream of a church camp was fast becoming a reality. Their muscles testified to that!

They wanted to get the tents pitched and the equipment in place before the campers arrived, but they were thwarted in their plans. While the equipment was still on the truck, parents and boys began swarming all over the place. Some helped the leaders set the camp in order, but more were eager to ask questions than to help. They fired questions so fast that there was hardly an opportunity to answer them all.

"What are you going to do at the camp?"

"How are you going to feed all the campers?"

"Who's going to take care of my boy if he gets sick?"

"How do I know my boy won't drown if I leave him here for ten days?"

"Where are the boys going to sleep tonight?"

"Who's going to keep the boys from wandering off and getting lost out here in the woods?"

Before giving these pioneer youth leaders time to get the camp set up and organized, some parents made a snap decision. They viewed the whole situation with great skepticism. Even though they had come long distances to bring their sons to camp, some decided at the last minute to take them back home rather than leave them at Town Line Lake with youth leaders who had such “foolish ideas.”

Of course, this was a great disappointment to Elder Fattic, and I am sure it must have been to the boys who were taken home. We must not be critical of these fathers and mothers, however, for this was a new venture and even nowadays people are hesitant to accept new ideas. In many places back in the 1920s the entire JMV program was viewed with apprehension. Two church members in California were threatened with church censure when they dared to organize a club for boys similar to our Pathfinder club of today.

After nearly seventy years of rapid camp development in our church, it is hard for us to realize just how much courage Elder Fattic and Elder Smith exercised in going ahead with this first MV camp at Town Line Lake. Even their request to the General Conference to send a representative to the camp was turned down.

At last the tents were pitched and Elder Fattic blew a whistle for the first line call. The eighteen boys who responded that June day in 1926 perhaps didn't realize they were making MV history!

We do not know the names of all of those first MV campers, but before his death, Elder Fattic gave me the names of some of those he remembered. There were Howard, Bob, Ed, Bruce, Harry, Billy, Rollee, Howard (or “Howdy” as some of the boys called him), Bill, Leo, Jasper, and Elder Fattic's oldest son, Grover, Jr.

What a time those eighteen lads had! They explored the wonders of nature. They hiked, played games, and made interesting crafts to take home to

show their parents. Although they didn't know it then, they began a tradition that has been followed in many MV camps ever since—the formation of a “Polar Bear Club.” When reveille sounded, each camper piled out of bed and ran to the lake for a morning plunge in the cold water. Any boy who was “chicken” was promptly disciplined by the others. They pulled him out of bed, carried him to the last water's edge, and threw him in, pajamas and all! A few times like this and every boy learned he had better not linger after the morning bugle blew!

Boys then were just like boys now—they loved to eat! It would be interesting to know how many pounds those first campers gained during the ten days they were at Town Line Lake.

They had no scales or well-equipped medical unit as our camps have today, nor was there any personal record card with information to pass along to us. One thing we do know, is Mr. Nelson did a magnificent job in keeping the first MV camp “marching to its stomach.” If any boy did

think he wasn't getting enough to eat, there were other ways to get extra food as we shall learn in a minute! It is part of the story of the “lost campers.”

There was great excitement at Town Line Lake one afternoon. The boys had just finished a fast-moving game of capture the flag. Elder Fattic blew the whistle for line call and the boys scampered about.

Suddenly someone shouted in alarm, “Where's Bob? He's missing! And so are Harry and Bruce! Has anybody seen them?”



Counselors and boys shouted and called! Elder Fattic blew his whistle as loudly as he could. But there was no answer. Every tent was searched and every place where a boy might be hiding was examined. No signs of the missing boys could be found anywhere.

A look of great concern crept over Elder Fattic's face. He knew that if something had happened to these campers he would never get permission to hold another camp—never! Many thoughts went through his mind. Had some tragedy overtaken the boys? Perhaps in playing capture the flag they had run in the wrong direction—perhaps even now they were wandering farther and farther away from Town Line Lake. Worse yet, had they grown tired of camp or become homesick and decided to run away? At all costs, they must be found!

Back over the territory where they boys had played ran Elder Fattic. Past the clump of trees and through the thicket he made his way, scanning carefully every foot of ground. Finally he reached a blueberry patch that belonged to a neighbor. Halfway across the field of lush ripe berries he stopped and peered ahead. There were the lost boys, lying on their stomachs, gorging themselves with the delicious blueberries that surrounded them on every side.

When Elder Fattic came into sight, the campers jumped to their feet in surprise.

“What in the world are you doing out here away from camp?” exclaimed the distraught camp director. “Don’t you know the whole camp has been looking for you?”

The campers looked a bit sheepish and tried to make alibis. “We didn’t mean any harm, honest we didn’t, Elder Fattic. We thought capture the flag was still going on, and we were just hiding out here in the blueberry patch.”

As the boys got to their feet, it was obvious they had been doing more than just hiding. Bob’s stomach seemed to be protruding from above his

belt. He was so stuffed with blueberries it was with difficulty that he waddled back to camp.

A great cry of rejoicing went up as the lost boys entered camp. When the story of the blueberry patch was related, however, the rest of the campers felt envious.

“Why can’t we go too?” was heard all over camp.

Being a real pal of the boys, Elder Fattic decided to contact the owner of the blueberry patch the next day and make arrangements for the entire camp to make a visit to the place where Bob had found such a prolific crop to feed on. What a treat to eat all the berries a boy wants! Today’s summer campers who go to Camp Au Sable, Michigan Conferences 840-acre MV camp, still enjoy eating blueberries just as those first campers did many years ago. Sometimes they make blueberry pancakes. Are they ever delicious! I know, I’ve eaten my share of them too, near Town Line Lake.

Not long after camp began, the campers were awakened early one morning by a loud droning noise. It sounded almost like an airplane coming in for a landing. Elder Fattic looked out of his tent and was horrified to see what looked like millions of mosquitos swooping down upon Town Line Lake. He knew that if these pesky little insects stayed at camp, it would be disastrous, for he had no spraying equipment to repel such a hoard of intruders.

What could be done? Was the first camp destined to be broken up by the forces of nature? The God of nature knew their predicament and to Him the campers turned for help. Elder Fattic gathered his staff down by the campfire circle and each one prayed earnestly to God that He would show His approval of their camp by driving off the mosquitos.

That prayer was answered, almost miraculously. Only a few of the mosquitoes stayed there that day, and the next morning the air was completely free of the troublesome pests. What’s more, they did not

show up for the rest of the camp.

For ten wonderful days the eighteen boys with their counselors enjoyed the great outdoors in an experience that would never be forgotten. The camp was so successful that the next year, 1927, Elder Fattic planned two camps, one for boys and another for girls. That same year, Mrs. Harriet Holt, a pioneer in developing the JMV Classwork, conducted a girls' camp at Silver Lake near Portage, Wisconsin.

News of these successful camps spread to the West Coast, where camping fever spread rapidly. Near Julian, in the Southeastern California Conference, Guy Mann, John McKim, and L. A. Skinner conducted the first West Coast MV camps in 1928 for boys, with Mrs. Claude Steen as girls' camp director. Mrs. Steen lives today in Fullerton, California.

In 1929, Professor A. W. Spalding helped to inaugurate the camping program in the New England States. Some of the thrilling experiences of those early days of camping can be relived by reading the stories in the old book, *Camping With The JMV's*. This book is now out of print, but most church school or church MV libraries have a copy. Get the book off the shelf and have a feast of good reading.

Three years after the first MV camp at Town Line Lake it became apparent that camping was here to stay in our church youth program, and that leaders must be trained to carry on a strong camp organization. In the spring of 1930 the General Conference held a special camp leaders' institute at Wawona, deep in the heart of Yosemite National Park. MV camping was on its way to becoming one of the great summer evangelistic programs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

As our church passes the 11 million membership mark, we see Pathfinder clubs being organized everywhere. We are all thankful that since the fall of Communism, clubs are being

formed in countries of Eastern Europe, and now in the former Soviet Union. Pathfinder concepts are being taught to ministerial students in our new Russian seminary. Malcolm Allen estimates that in 1993, there were over one million Pathfinders. By the year 2005 that number will swell. Praise the Lord!

As we review the history of Pathfinding and see the world picture today, we marvel, "What hath God wrought!" In the words of that great first world youth leader, M. E. Kern, I think we can safely say: "I have confidence in the triumph of the Advent message for I have confidence in Adventist youth." May God bless you, work in you and through you to help Pathfinders have a loving relationship with our great Master Guide and experience the joy of Christian service. These are the most important goals of Pathfinding.

Important Dates & Events

Key

- ▼ MV/Pathfinder
 - Honors
 - † People
 - ⛞ Camps
 - ▲ Camporees
 - ▼ Adventurer Awards
-

- 1907 ▼ Missionary Volunteer Societies organized
- 1908 ▼ Junior Reading Course
 - ▼ *Child Life in Mission Lands* published
 - ▼ First MV Day, March 7
- 1909 ▼ Junior MV Societies organized
- 1911 ▼ MV Leaflet Series began
- 1913 ▼ First Spanish *Morning Watch Calendar* and *Reading Course Books*
- 1914 ▼ Junior Society lessons
- 1915 ▼ Senior Bible Year
- 1916 ▼ Junior Standard of Attainment
 - ▼ First MV census in the history of SDA Youth
 - ▼ Union MV Departments made administrative units
- 1917 ▼ Junior Bible Year
 - ▼ Primary Reading Course
 - ▼ *Youth Instructor* began with December issue
- 1918 ▼ 1,230 senior and junior societies; 24,638 members
 - ▼ *Junior Manual* published
- 1920 † Fall Council action to add Junior Secretary (Harriet Holt)
- 1922 ▼ JMV (now AJY) Progressive Classes introduced - Friend, Companion, Comrade and Master Comrade
 - † A. W. Spalding and Harriet Holt advocate basic idea of Pathfinder Clubs
- 1925 ⛞ First junior camp held in Australia
- 1926 ⛞ First junior camp held in USA (Town Line Lake, Michigan)
- 1927 ⛞ Boys' and girls' camps held in Wisconsin and Michigan
 - ▼ Conference sponsored Pathfinder club, Anaheim, CA
- 1928 † C. Lester Bond elected Junior Secretary of MV Department,

GC

- ✚ Southern California's first youth camp, San Gabriel Canyon
- Vocational honors (now AY honors) introduced
 - Automobile Repair (changed to Automobile Mechanics 1935)
 - Bird Study (changed to Birds 1950)
 - Christian Storytelling
 - Colportage (changed to Literature Evangelism 1956)
 - Cooking
 - Flower Study (changed to Flowers and Ferns 1936, then divided in 1938)
 - Gardening
 - Health and Healing
 - Laundry Art (changed to Laundering)
 - Needlecraft (changed to Needlework 1944)
 - Photography
 - Poultry Raising
 - Radio
 - Shoe Repair
 - Star Study (changed to Stars 1951)
 - Tree Study (changed to Trees and Shrubs 1951, then separated 1988)

1929 ▼ “Pathfinder” name first used at a summer camp in Southeastern California.

- ▼ JMV Pathfinder Camp, Idyllwild, California
- Honors added
 - Agriculture
 - Beekeeping
 - Campcraft
 - Carpentry
 - Christian Ethnic Studies (changed to People of Other Lands 1951, changed to Cultural Diversity Appreciation 2001)
 - Dairying
 - Drawing & Painting
 - Dress Making (Regular) (changed to Dressmaking 1938)
 - Electricity
 - Fruit Growing
 - House Keeping (changed to Housekeeping 1938)
 - Life Saving (changed to Community Water Safety 2001)
 - Music
 - Physical Culture (changed to Physical Fitness 1963)
 - Preserving
 - Printing

- Shorthand (discontinued 1956, revised as antique in 1986)
- Swimming
- Typewriting (discontinued 1956)
- 1930 ▼ Pre-JMV/AJY classes developed
- ▼ Conference sponsored Pathfinder Club, Santa Ana, California
- † H.T. Elliott elected GC MV Department Leader
- 🏠 First JMV Pathfinder Camp, Idyllwild, purchased
- 1932 🏠 *Camp Leader's Handbook* published
- 1933 ● Honors added
 - Cycling
 - Hiking
 - Insect Life (changed to Insects 1951)
 - Lettering & Poster Making
 - Moths & Butterflies
 - Philately (changed to Stamps 1951)
- 1934 † A.W. Peterson elected GC MV Department Leader
- 1935 ● Honors added
 - Bookbinding (discontinued 1951, revised as antique 1986)
 - Woodworking
- 1937 ● Honors added
 - Animal Study (changed to Mammals 1951)
 - Basketry
 - Bookkeeping
 - Chemistry
 - Fungi
 - Herpetology (changed to Reptiles 1951)
 - Leathercraft
 - Masonry (discontinued 1956, revised as antique 1986)
 - Metalwork (changed to Metalcraft 1938)
 - Mineralogy (changed to Rocks & Minerals 1951)
- 1938 ▼ *Master Comrade Manual* published
- Honors added
 - Accounting (discontinued 1956, revised as antique 1986)
 - Animal Husbandry (changed to Cattle, Horse, and Sheep Husbandry 1944)
 - Barbering (discontinued 1956, revised as antique 1986)
 - Christian Salesmanship (dropped 1986)
 - Conchology honor added (changed to Shells 1951)
 - First Aid (Advanced added 1963)
 - Flower Arrangement
 - Health Preservation (changed to Home Nursing 1951)
 - House Painting and Paper Hanging (seperated 1944,

- discontinued 1956)
- Journalism
- Language Study
- Plumbing (discontinued 1956, revised as antique 1986)
- Pottery
- Radio Mechanics (changed to Radio-Electronics 1956)
- Skiing
- Tailoring
- Weaving
- Wood Carving
- Wood Handicraft
- 1939 ▼ Service League added
- 1943 ⓘ D.E. Rebok & E.W. Dunbar appointed Associate MV Secretaries GC
- Honors added
 - Household Pets (later incorporated in Domestic Animals)
 - Junior Physical Culture (later changed to Physical Fitness)
 - Travel (later discontinued)
- 1944 ● Honors added
 - Airplane Modeling
 - Beginner's Swimming
 - Bible Readings and Cottage Meetings (changed to Personal Evangelism 1968)
 - Cacti
 - Fossils
 - Indian Arts & Crafts (changed to Indian Lore 1951)
 - Intermediate Swimming revised
 - Life Saving revised (divided into Regular and Advanced 1956)
 - Paper Hanging (revised as antique 1986)
 - Pigeon Raising
 - Poultry Identification (changed to Poultry 1951)
 - Teaching
 - Weather
- 1945 ▼ First MV devotional book, *Mysteries*, by L.H. Wood
- Honors added
 - Amphibians
 - Archery
 - Baking
 - Bird Pets
 - Block Printing
 - Canoeing

- Cats of the World (changed to Cats 1951)
 - Coin Collection (changed to Coins 1951)
 - Dogs of the World (changed to Dogs 1951)
 - Domestic Animal Identification (changed to Domestic Animals 1951, then to Livestock 1991)
 - Fish (changed to Fishes 1951)
 - Glass Painting
 - Grasses
 - Junior Leadership (changed to Junior Youth Leadership 1957)
 - Sculpture (changed to Sculpturing 1946)
 - Sheep Husbandry
 - Shrub Study (later included in Trees & Shrubs, then separated)
 - Spiders
- 1946 ▼ Conference-sponsored Pathfinder club (Riverside, California)
- Honors added between 1939-46 included in the 1946 *Master Guide Manual*
 - ▼ Pathfinder Club emblem designed by John H. Hancock
 - ▼ Character Classics introduced
 - † E.W. Dunbar elected General Secretary GC MV Department
 - † Theodore Lucas and L.A. Skinner appointed Associate Secretary GC MV Department
- 1947 ▼ First North American Division Youth Congress at San Francisco
- 1948 ▼ Helen Hobbs makes the Pathfinder flag
- ▼ Share Your Faith slogan introduced
 - ▼ First area Pathfinder coordinators appointed (Central California Conference)
- 1949 ▼ First Junior Congress, planned by John Hancock, at La Sierra College
- ▼ Henry T. Bergh writes Pathfinder Song
 - Advanced Study added to vocational honors
 - Honors added
 - Birds (Advanced)
 - Flowers (Advanced)
 - Insects (Advanced)
 - Rocks & Minerals (Advanced)
 - Shells (Advanced)
 - Stars (Advanced)
 - Trees (Advanced)
 - Weather (Advanced)
- 1950 ▼ General Conference officials authorizes establishment of JMV

- Pathfinder Clubs for world field
- ▼ *Pathfinder Staff Training Course* and *How to Start a Pathfinder Club* booklet published
- Mammal honor added (Regular & Advanced)
- Honors classified at the advanced (Master Guide) level:
 - Fossils
 - Grasses
 - Spiders
- 1951 ▼ First Pathfinder Fair, September 23, Dinuba, California
- ▼ MV Program Kit introduced
- ▼ Master Comrade changed to Master Guide
- Junior First Aid honor added
- ▼ *Pathfinder Staff Manual* published
- 1952 ▼ Pathfinder Song copyrighted
- ▼ Halloween idea developed in Wisconsin
- 1953 ▼ *Junior Guide* magazine (first issue on October 7; name changed to *Guide* in 1964)
- ▼ MV Legion of Honor
- ▲ First Conference Camporee, Oct. 9-11, 1953 Camp Winnekeog, Ashburnham, Massachusetts
- Honors added
 - Life Saving (Junior level)
 - Orienteering (Junior level, later discontinued)
 - Radio (Junior level)
 - Sailing & Navigation (divided 1956)
 - Signaling (discontinued 1986, back to Communication in 1987)
 - Succulents (not Cacti, later discontinued)
- 1954 ▲ Second Pathfinder Camporee, May 7-9, Idyllwild, California
- ▼ MV Voice of Youth officially adopted
- ▼ MV Leadercraft course
- 1955 † Theodore Lucas elected MV Secretary of GC & E.L. Minchin appointed Associate
- 1956 ▼ Explorer Class added
- ▼ Master Guide divided into junior and senior youth leadership
- Honors added
 - Ceramics
 - Communications (Advanced)
 - Cooking (Advanced)
 - Dressmaking (Advanced)
 - Feltcraft
 - Firebuilding & Camp Cookery
 - Marine Invertebrates
 - Orienteering
 - Pioneering (Combined with Campcraft in 1976,

- Seperated in 1981)
 - Radio (Advanced)
 - Rowing
 - Sand
 - Textile Painting
 - Wilderness Living
 - Radio Mechanics (changed to Radio Electronics)
 - Honors added between 1952 and 1956, included in the 1956 *Master Guide Manual*:
 - Rowing
- 1957 ▼ JMV Pathfinder Day added to church calendar
- 1958 ▼ Advanced JMV classes added
 - ▼ Silver Award (by L. A. Skinner)
- 1959 ▼ Gold Award (by L. A. Skinner)
 - ▼ Clark Smith appointed Associate GC Secretary
- 1960 ▲ First Union Camporee on April 11-14, Lone Pine, California
 - ▼ Second NAD Youth Congress
- 1961 ● Honors added
 - Horsemanship
 - Lichens, Liverworts, & Mosses
 - Marine Algae
 - Plastics
 - Seeds (Regular and Advanced)
 - Skin Diving
 - Swimming (Advanced)
 - Water Skiing (Regular and Advanced)
- 1962 ▼ *MV Pathfinder Field Guide* published
 - ▼ *Pathfinder Staff Training Course*, new edition of 60 hours
 - ▼ *Pathfinder Drill Manual* revised by Mark Smith & Harry Garlick
 - ▼ *JMV Advanced Manual* published
 - ▼ *Master Guide Manual* and *JMV Handbook* revised
 - Typewriting honor reactivated
 - Optics honor added
 - † E.L. Minchin elected MV Secretary of the GC
- 1963 † John Hancock elected World Pathfinder Director
- 1964 ● Honors added
 - Auto Mechanics (Advanced)
 - Orchids
 - Soapcraft (Regular and Advanced)
 - Springboard Diving
- 1965 ▼ *JMV Handbook* combined with *Master Guide Manual* to be *MV Handbook*
 - ▼ Eager Beaver program instituted

- 1966 ▼ Pioneer class added (changed to Ranger 1970)
 🏠 First North American *MV Camp Directory* published
 🏠 40th anniversary of SDA Junior Camps
- 1967 ● Honors added
 ● Lapidary
 ● Model Railroading
 ● Plastercraft
 ● Scuba Diving (Regular and Advanced)
 ● Tumbling & Balancing (Regular and Advanced)
- 1970 † John Hancock elected World Youth Leader
 † Leo Ranzolin elected World Pathfinder Director
 ● Honors added
 ● Crocheting (Regular and Advanced)
 ● Edible & Wild Plants
 ● Glasscraft
 ● Junior Witness
 ● Knitting (Regular and Advanced)
 ● Model Rocketry (Regular and Advanced)
 ● Rock Climbing (Regular and Advanced)
 ● Winter Camping
 ● Needlecraft honor discontinued
 ▼ Pioneer class name changed to Ranger
- 1971 ▲ First Division camporee, in Vasterang, Sweden (Northern Europe-West Africa)
 ▼ First Pathfinder film, “Pathfinder Drill,” by Jan Doward (filming by Gary Rust’s club in the Chesapeake Conference)
- 1972 ▼ 50th anniversary of JMV classes
 ▲ Euro-Africa Division Camporee, July 19-29, in Villach, Austria
 ● Honors added
 ● Braiding
 ● Cake Decorating
 ● Candle Making
 ● Copper Enameling (Regular and Advanced)
 ● Ecology (Regular and Advanced)
 🏠 *MV Camp Directory* expanded to include camps outside of North America
- 1973 ● Honors added
 ● Caving (Regular and Advanced)
 ● Environmental Conservation
 ● Junior First Aid changed to Basic First Aid
- 1974 ▲ First Camporee held in Brazil, Cotie, Brazil
 ▼ *Pathfinder Staff Manual* revised and expanded
 ● Honors added

- Silk Screening (Regular and Advanced)
- Small Gas Engines
- 1975 ▲ Australasian Division Camporee, January 1-6, Yarramundi, Sydney, Australia)
- ▼ First Congressoree, Pacific Union, North America, May 2-4, Soquel, California
- ▼ Pathfinder Silver Anniversary (celebrated 1974-75)
- Honors added
 - Christian Citizenship
 - Christian Grooming & Manners
 - Decoupage
 - Family Life
 - Geology (Regular and Advanced)
 - Knot Tying
 - Macrame
 - Power Boating
 - String Art
- 1976 🏠 50th anniversary of junior camps
- ▼ *MV Handbook* revised, name changed to *Youth Leaders' Handbook*
- ▼ *Church School Focus* published
- Master Awards added
- Honors added
 - Animal Tracking
 - Basic Sewing
 - Braiding (Advanced)
 - Bread Dough
 - Campcraft & Pioneering combined, Separated in 1980
 - Dog Care & Training
 - House Plants
 - Indian Lore (Regular and Advanced—formerly Indian Arts and Crafts)
 - Temperance
 - Wilderness Leadership (Regular and Advanced)
 - Winter Camping
- 1977 ▲ Euro-Africa Division Camporee, July 11-19 in Italy
- ▲ Northern Europe-West Africa Division Camporee, Kallioniemen, July 19-25, Finland
- ▼ Second Pathfinder film, “Pathfinder Club Meeting,” by Jan Doward
- ▼ *Youth Ministry Accent* launched
- ▼ Festival of Faith, Inter-American Division, Panama City (August 3-7)
- Honors added

- Archery (Advanced)
- Drilling & Marching (Regular and Advanced)
- Model Boats
- Quilting (Regular and Advanced)
- Needlecraft honor reinstated
- 1978 ▼ Festival of Faith, NAD
- ▲ First Division-wide Camporee in Bangalore, India (November 4-8)
- 📖 *Camp Director's Manual* published
- Honors added
 - Flower Culture (Regular and Advanced)
 - Sign Language
 - Track & Field
 - Welding
- 1979 ▼ MV changed to AY
- ▼ JMV changed to AJY
- ▼ Pre-AJY changed to Adventurers
- ▼ Youth Congress, Northern Europe West-African Division, Tormoy, Norway
- ▼ Division-wide Festival of Faith, Baguio City, Philippines (December 1-4)
- ▼ *Pathfinder Basic Unit* revised
- ▼ *Pathfinder Basic Unit* prepared in cassette album
- ▼ *Church Heritage Manual* revised
- 1980 † Leo Ranzolin elected World Youth Director
- † Mike Stevenson elected World Pathfinder Director
- † Les Pitton elected NAD Youth Director
- ▼ Launching of Seven Modules for Youth Involvement. General program of the church, but many things pertain to the junior youth program too.
- ▼ *Nature Unit* prepared on cassette album
- ▼ Third Pathfinder film prepared: "Share, You're a Pathfinder"
- ▼ Master Guide program revised into two areas for NAD
 - ▼ Master Guide leader for Pathfinders
 - ▼ Adventist Youth Leader for Senior Youth
- ▼ Anniversary: 30 years of Pathfinding
- ▼ New Adventist Youth Leader logo accepted
- 📖 *MV Camp Directory* changed to *World Adventist Youth Camp Directory*
- 1981 ▲ Division-wide Camporee — Monoblet, France, Euro-Africa — July 22-August 1
- ▼ *Church School Focus* discontinued
- ▼ Junior Week of Prayer discontinued

- ▼ Camp Meeting lessons discontinued
- ▼ *Pathfinder Sing* published
- ▼ *Pathfinder Staff Training Manual (Basic Unit)* revised
- ✚ *Camp Directory* revised
- ▼ *Pathfinder Drill Manual (British)* revised
- ▼ *Pathfinder Drill Manual (US)* revised
- Nutrition honor added
- Campcraft and Pioneering separated
- 1982 ▼ New Pathfinder World replaces MV World
- ▼ Voyager Class added between Ranger and Guide classes
- ▼ Pathfinder baseball style hat designed
- ▼ Pathfinder club uniform and insignia poster published
- ▼ NAD Pathfinder uniform revised
- 1983 ▲ 1st InterAmerican Division Pathfinder Camporee, Oaxtepec, Mexico, March 24 - 29, Isreal Leito—Director
- 1984 ▲ 1st South American Division Pathfinder Camporee at Foz do Iguaco, Brazil, December 28, 1983 - January 4, 1984
- 1985 † Norm Middag appointed NAD Pathfinder Director
- ▲ First NAD Pathfinder Camporee, Camp Hale, Colorado, July 31-August 6, Les Pitton—Director
- ▼ Adventurer for Christ (silver and gold)
- 1986 † Malcolm Allen elected World Pathfinder Director (1986-1996)
- Honors added
 - Backpacking
 - Camping Skills I (NAD)
 - Camping Skills II (NAD)
 - Camping Skills III (NAD)
 - Camping Skills IV (NAD)
 - Computers
 - CPR
 - Counted Cross Stitch
 - Food Freezing
 - Food Drying
 - Goat Husbandry
 - Kites
 - Recreation Master
 - Wind Surfing
- 1987 ● Red Alert honor added in the North American Division
- ▼ NAD Pathfinder emblem designed by Norm Middag
- 1988 ▼ Junior and Teen Pathfinder Curriculum revised
- ▼ *Teachers Resource Manual (Junior)* created
- ▼ *Teacher's Resource Manual (Teen)* created
- ▼ *Ay Classes Instructors Manual* published (NAD)
- Honors added

- Basic Rescue
- Computers (Advanced)
- Cross Country Skiing
- Nutrition (Basic—the original Nutrition honor became the Advanced honor)
- Outdoor Leadership
- Outdoor Leadership (Advanced)
- Stewardship
- Trees and Shrubs honor separated
- Recreation Master Award
- 1989 ● Adventurer for Christ revised as honor (Regular and Advanced)
- Pathfinder Honor Poster in three languages—English, French, Spanish
- ▼ *Pathfinder Honors Manual* revised (International version)
- ▼ *Pathfinder Honors Manual* revised (NAD)
- ▼ *Pathfinder Drill Manual* revised (NAD)
- ▲ Friendship Camporee, sponsored by the Columbia Union, 18,000 attended, August 7 - 12, Mt. Union, Pennsylvania, Ron Stretter—Director
- ▼ “The Pathfinders Strong,” a video, produced in English, French, and Spanish
- ▼ Pathfinder Leadership Award added
- ▼ *Adventurer Club Handbook* printed
- ▼ Adventurer Club Logo Emblem designed
- ▼ Adventurer Club World Emblem designed
- ▼ Adventurer awards
 - ▼ Artist
 - ▼ Astronomer
 - ▼ Basket Maker
 - ▼ Bible I
 - ▼ Bible II
 - ▼ Build & Fly (originally Kites)
 - ▼ Camper
 - ▼ Caring Friend (originally Disciple)
 - ▼ Carpenter
 - ▼ Collector
 - ▼ Cooking Fun
 - ▼ Courtesy
 - ▼ Cyclist
 - ▼ Environmentalist
 - ▼ Feathered Friends (originally Birds)
 - ▼ First Aid Helper

- ▼ Fitness Fun (originally Gymnast I)
- ▼ Flowers
- ▼ Friend of Animals
- ▼ Friend of Jesus
- ▼ Friend of Nature
- ▼ Gardener
- ▼ Geologist
- ▼ Guide
- ▼ Gymnast
- ▼ Handicraft
- ▼ Health Specialist
- ▼ Homecraft
- ▼ Home Helper
- ▼ Hygiene
- ▼ Media Critic
- ▼ Music Maker
- ▼ Outdoor Explorer (originally Hiking Fun)
- ▼ Reporter
- ▼ Road Safety
- ▼ Safety Specialist
- ▼ Sewing Fun
- ▼ Skater
- ▼ Skier
- ▼ Spotter
- ▼ Swimmer I
- ▼ Swimmer II
- ▼ Temperance
- ▼ Trees
- ▼ Troubadour
- ▼ Wise Steward
- ▼ 40th anniversary of Pathfinding (celebrated 1986-90)
- 1990 ▼ *Master Guide Teacher's Resource Manual* published
 - Honors added
 - Maple Sugar (Regular and Advanced) (NAD)
 - Marine Mammals (NAD)
 - Origami (NAD)
 - Physics (NAD)
 - Skateboarding (NAD)
 - Small Fruit Growing (NAD)
- 1991 ▼ *Pathfinder Leadership Awards Manual* published (GC)
- ▼ *Pathfinder Basic Staff Training Course* revised
- ▼ *Pathfinder Staff Manual* revised
- ▼ *Pathfinder Staff Training Manual* revised
- ▼ Adventurer Classes revised

- ▼ *Adventurer Teacher's Resource Manual*
- ▼ *Adventurer Administrator's Manual* published (GC)
- ▼ *Adventurer Awards Manual* published (GC)
- ▼ Adventurer Award Poster in three languages—English, French, Spanish
- 1992 ▼ John Hancock Youth Centers established at La Sierra University and Andrews University to develop resources
- ▼ Second training seminars in youth ministry
- 1993 ▼ Restructuring of Church Ministries Department by Annual Council results in Office of Pathfinder Ministries
- ▼ Separate GC Youth Department recommended to 1995 GC Session (after the merger with Church Ministries Department in 1980)
- ▼ Adventurer Ministries began (NAD)
- ▼ *Adventurer Manual* revised (NAD)
- *AY Honors Handbook* revised
- ▼ Eager Beaver program revised and re-piloted
- Physics honor added
- ▼ Primary Reading Course revised
- 1994 ▼ Adventurer Workbooks published
- ▼ Pathfinder Instructors Awards (NAD)
- ▼ Pathfinder Leadership Awards (NAD)
- ▲ “Dare to Care” International Pathfinder Camporee, August 2-6, Morrison, Colorado, Ron Whitehead—Director
- ▼ Pathfinder Honor Video "Journey of Discovery" released
- ▲ Second South America Division Pathfinder Camporee, January 10-16, Ponta Grossa, Brazil, Director - Jose Maria
- ▲ Trans-European Division Pathfinder Camporee, Koppabo, Sweden
- 1995 ▼ Youth re-organized as a General Conference Department
- † GC Youth Director Baraka Muganda named
- † GC Youth Associate Richard Barron named
- † GC Youth Associate David Wong named
- † Malcolm Allen named World Pathfinder Associate
- 1996 † Malcolm Allen retires as World Pathfinder Director
- † Norm Middag retires as NAD Adventurer, Pathfinder & Camping Director
- ▲ Euro-Africa Division Pathfinder Camporee, July 22 - 29. Kasterlee, Belgium
- Typewriting honor changed to Typing
- ▼ Adventurer Awards added
 - ▼ Computer Skills
 - ▼ Olympic
 - ▼ Sign Language

- 1997
- † Robert Holbrook elected as World Pathfinder Director
 - † Willie Oliver elected NAD Pathfinder and Camping Director
 - Caving Honor - new design (regular and advanced)
 - Honors added
 - Model Cars
 - Small Mammal Pets
 - GC adopted the following NAD Honors
 - Camping Skills I
 - Camping Skills II
 - Camping Skills III
 - Camping Skills IV
 - Maple Sugar (regular and advanced)
 - Marine Mammals
 - Origami
 - Small Fruit Growing
- 1998
- † Richard Barron retires from GC Youth Department
 - † David Wong heads new North Asia Pacific Division Youth Dept.
 - † Alfredo Garcia-Marenko becomes new GC Youth Associate
 - ▼ New Neckerchief slide - cloth made with world emblem logo
 - ▼ New Adventurer slide - cloth made with Adventurer logo
 - ▲ First South America Division Master Guide Camporee
January 13 - 17 Pucon, Chile
 - ▼ First North American Division Master Guide Convention
February 12 - 14 Los Angeles, California
 - ▲ Second Inter-America Division Pathfinder Camporee Aug 4-8
Carolina, Puerto Rico. Alfredo Garcia-Marenko— Director
- 1999
- ▲ Discover the Power International Camporee held August 10-14, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin
 - Honors added
 - Basketball (NAD)
 - Bones, Muscles and Movement
 - Brain and Behavior
 - Digestion
 - Pinewood Derby (Regular and Advanced) (NAD)
 - Soccer (NAD)
 - ▼ Adventurer Awards added
 - ▼ Bead Craft
 - ▼ Early Adventist Pioneer
 - ▼ Pearly Gate
 - ▼ Rainbow Promise

- 2000 † James Black elected Youth, Pathfinder, Adventurer and Camp Director for North American Division
 - Blood and the Body's Defenses honor added
- 2001 ▼ *Honors Handbook* revised
- 2002 ▼ Youth Ministries Convention held February 21-24, in Atlanta, Georgia
 - Antique honors revised as Vocational honors
 - Accounting
 - Barbering
 - Bookbinding
 - House Painting-Exterior
 - House Painting-Interior
 - Masonry
 - Paper Hanging
 - Plumbing
 - Shorthand
- 2003 ▼ Adventurer Awards added
 - ▼ Butterfly
 - ▼ Country Fun
 - ▼ Habitat
 - ▼ Tin Can Fun
 - ▼ Whale

Prepared by the Youth Departments of the General Conference and North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists

