

Shen-Val-Lore

The Student Voice of Shenandoah Valley Academy

Shenandoah Valley Academy

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WELCOME TO SHENANDOAH VALLEY ACADEMY

BY KAREN VALLADO

As our SVA family continues to grow with the new semester, you have probably noticed several new faces. One of the Adventist schools in Brazil, Centro Universitário Adventista de São Paulo (UNASP), has a program that sends students from their school in São Paulo, Brazil, to Shenandoah Valley Academy. They come during what is their equivalent to our summer vacation to study abroad. When school in Brazil begins again in February, these students must complete their UNASP homework and tests in addition to SVA's. Saying goodbye to your home country and family and be difficult, but it's a lot easier when you get to go with a few of your friends and make new ones.

From UNASP comes Olivia Paroschi, Caroline Garbo Olivato de Souza, Matheus Dotto do Valle, Rafael Eugenio Tamez Lazaro, Paolo Daniel Devinhale, Lucas Dias Bornholdt, Lucas Minoru Chuji, and Victor Hugo Vas Storch. Olivia is a Junior from Campo Grande, Mato Grosso do Sul which is located in the southwestern region of Brazil and shares its borders with Paraguay and Bolivia. She loves to read and her favorite thing about SVA is the people. Her favorite class here is world history. Carolina, or Carol

as most people call her, is 17 years old and is also from Campo Grande, Mato Grosso do Sul. She and our very own Suzanne Davidovas were roommates while they were both at UNASP and they did not plan this reunion at SVA but they were both happy to see each other again. When asked what her favorite thing about SVA is, Carol responded, "I like everything!" Her absolute favorite color is purple and she loves all things purple and all things chocolate. She also enjoys playing basketball, soccer, and the piano. She flew from Brazil with Rafael and Matheus (or Matthew) who is 16 years old and he, too, lives in Campo Grande, Mato Grosso do Sul. He attended UNASP where he played piano and guitar. He enjoys horseback riding and in Brazil, he rode a horse named Champaign. Rafael was born in Washington, DC, and is 17 years old. He now lives in Campo Grande and studies at UNASP. He likes to play basketball, volleyball, and soccer, and enjoys piano, guitar, and singing. Paolo is 18 years old and attends UNASP. He loves playing basketball and is still getting used to the American culture. Lucas lives in São Paulo and is 17 years old. He enjoys playing soccer and so far, his favorite thing

about SVA is the food and the people. The other Lucas is 16 years old and lives in Campo Grande. He enjoys a variety of sports including basketball, volleyball, and football. He plays the piano and his favorite class is any with Mr. Rivera. He likes the students and the teachers, but is not a fan of the food. Victor is 16 years old. He likes to sleep, watch movies, and read. He also enjoys the snow, and playing volleyball, basketball, and the flute. Victor lives in Presidente Prudente, São Paulo

There are also a few international students who didn't come from this program between UNASP and SVA. They are Eillen Ogata Santos, Pedro Augusto Teste Pereira, Renata Taborda Rilas, Paulo Vitor Alcova Barros, and Juan Pablo. Eillen is 15 years old and lives in Curitiba, Parana. She studied at Colégio Curitiba Adventista Bom Retiro (CCABR) with Pedro and Renata. Pedro is 15 and has been to Germany, France, and London. Last year he studied in London with Renata and by coincidence, they both came to SVA. Renata is 17 years old and is originally from Curitiba, Parana, Brazil. In her old schools, she took dance, participated in various sports, and art class. Her

favorite thing about SVA is the people. Vitor Paulo grew up in Campo Grande with Rafael and Carol but attended Fleming rather than UNASP. He plays piano, guitar, soccer, volleyball, basketball, and sings. Juan Pablo Lopez is 17 years old. He lives in the northern, central part of Colombia in a city called Bucaramanga.

Don't hesitate to get to know these new students and make them feel welcome. They may be here to learn English, but they can leave with so much more if we include them and help them get accustomed to this new culture.

In addition to new students, there are also returning ones such as Darnell Devadass. Darnell is a sophomore who attended SVA last school year. We are so glad to have him back this semester.

Welcome Back Dr. Twomley!

SVA would like to give a warm welcome back to Dr. Twomley. In less than one month, we can already see the difference he has made as principal. For starters, the cafe has a new serving style and a few menu tweaks that made all the difference. He also built up pride for our school by starting a new chant where he says "SVA" and the school respond with "PROUD!" At

chapel, we have been encouraged to learn SVA's objectives and mission statement. As a school we are studying character traits—one every two weeks. These last two weeks have been focused on the idea of being "My Brother's Keeper." The next trait will be courage.

But who is Dr. Twomley? He is someone who understands the importance of Adventist education having attended an Adventist elementary school, high school, and university himself. At Andrews University, he got his bachelor's degree in business administration. He continued his education at the University of Tennessee receiving his MBA there and he then went on to finish at the University of Maryland earning his Ph.D. in Administration. Although Dr. Twomley may seem new to most of SVA's students, he is actually rather acquainted with SVA having been principal in 1974-1978 and then again in 2005-2007, making this his third time working at SVA. He has been the principal at other Adventist schools including: Fletcher Academy, Takoma Academy, and Mount Vernon Academy.

We are very happy to see SVA growing and to have all the new and returning family members. :)

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY

- 4-8 Andrews University Basketball Tournament
- 8 ACT
- 8 Sunday School
- 11-15 Homeleave
- 12-14 WAU Choirfest
- 19-22 Andrews University Scifest
- 28 SA Talent Show

MARCH

- 1 NHS Induction
- 1 Principal's List Brunch
- 6 End of Third Quarter
- 7-8 Elementary Basketball Tournament

- 14 Music Tournament
- 15 SA Banquet
- 8 SAT
- 20-22 Richmond Area Youthfest
- 22 Sunday School

APRIL

- March 26-6 Spring Break
- 5 Easter Sunday
- 10-11 30-Hour-Famine
- 12 Scholarship Sunday
- 13-17 Week of Prayer
- 17-18 Alumni Weekend
- 19 ACT- All Juniors
- 19 Jr.-Sr. Banquet

- 22 Spring Picnic
- 25 Music Tour
- 26 Scholarship Sunday
- 26 Sunday School

MAY

- April 29-3 Homeleave
- 5-10 Baseball & Girls Soccer Tournament
- 16 Final Music Concert

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BARN PARTY
KRISTINE KOLLADKO

This year's Barn Party took place in the old barn on back campus on October 5. The Student Association rented a large bouncy slide which was used by most of the students. They also conducted a costume contest which everyone enjoyed. Faculty decided to change their identity and portray other members of society; Mrs. Griffin came as Mr. McNeilus and Dean Susan as a Duck Dynasty character, for example. Several students that chose to dress up chose characters from shows such as the Tele-Tubbies and Star Wars. Pastor Harley drove the tractor for the traditional hayride,

and music was performed by Miss Wiedeman, Carter Ware, and Chris Wilson. Mrs. Ware put on a photo booth behind the barn and many people took their fall candids. SA supplied costumes and props to make the pictures more humorous. Food selection included popcorn, pizza, and caramel apples sold by SA. Booth activities included whack-a-teacher, water pong, and bobbing for apples. Line dancing took place and to some people's surprise, select faculty participated. For entertainment Mr. Jensen provided the movie The Pink Panther. Overall, Shenandoah Valley





RINGFEST 2014
KIMBERLY OWEN

Ringfest is a bell festival which takes place each year in Toledo, Ohio. SVA's bell choir did not go last year, but we did this year. This year its theme was Genesis through Revelation. We left midday on Wednesday, October 29, after packing all of our equipment into a bus and car. The trip was quite long. We arrived there at around seven o'clock and unpacked the vehicles and set up in the church alongside a dozen other bell groups. We socialized with other bell groups and practiced a little before departing to the hotel for the evening. Before we left we decided on going to Chipotle to get food because we were all hungry. Another bell group from Washington state asked to come with us because they had no bus, so both of our bell groups crammed onto SVA's small bus and headed to Chipotle. Once there the bell group from Washington decided to get ice cream instead of bur-

ritos. After we had all eaten we regrouped on the bus and headed to the hotel. SVA did not stay in the hotel provided by the festival leaders, but preferred to pay extra to stay in a better hotel. The hotels were across the street from each other. The next day we awoke early in the morning and ate the breakfast that the hotel offered. We then went to the church in which the festival was taking place. We played couple of mixer games to get us acquainted with the other bell groups. We then practiced our pieces for several hours. The bell players that had previously gone to the festival brought sunglasses because they knew that the sun would shine through the stained glass and be in their eyes for a while. We stopped practicing for lunch and had some voluntary classes on bell methods. Practice continued then after the break and continued until dinner with a couple breaks interspersed in

that amount of time. When we stopped for dinner we again had some voluntary bell classes. We had our last length of practicing for the day after dinner. We went back to the hotel when the day was done and rested for the next day. On Friday we were going to have our main performance. It was to be that night. The practicing that day was hurried and stressed. There were practices with singular bell groups for them to practice their solo songs. The songs sounded good. Some of them were quite cool. Even so the directors still seemed to be panicking. We practiced the day away and before we knew it it was time to change into our performance outfits. Every group had their photo taken before the performance. The evening wore on and we performed well. Several groups had really unique songs, for example one, which was called Windscape, sounded like a wind storm.

Another group performed a song accompanied by percussion instruments. One of the favored songs, which the entire group played, was called Huron Carol. It was about the Christmas story that was adapted for the Native Americans. The experience was exhausting, but it was almost over. The next day was Saturday and the last performance was scheduled for the *service.* SVA played its solo piece, Psalm 42, for the prelude. The bell group that played with percussion instruments played another song that only used the lower bells and a cajón. After the service everyone packed up their bells and tables and loaded their buses and cars. Several SVA players stayed behind to go to Six Flags, but the rest drove back to with Mr. Goines. It was a stressful, but fun, couple of days and we look forward to next year's Ringfest.



SOUTHERN TRIP

BY ANDREA HERRERA

This year Shenandoah Valley Academy sent a group of seniors to visit Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tennessee. Visiting colleges has shown us seniors how very different high school is from college. We were woken up at the crack of dawn and loaded onto a bus for an eight-hour drive on November 6. Sponsors Pastor Harley and Ms. Song we were given \$32 from the cafe for all our travel meals, and the rest of the meals would be provided by Southern.

When we got there, we pulled up in front of the administration building and ran into some SVA alumni. We were then taken to our hotel so that we could get checked in. As soon as we had taken our bags up we were told to load the bus again because Southern was taking us out for pizza. After pizza, we went back to campus and hung out in the student center, which is much bigger than ours, and is also under plans to be made even bigger and better. When we got back to the hotel, Pastor Harley let us hang out in the workout room and pool until 11:00 and then we retreated to our rooms. Obviously we did not go to bed right away, but we eventually managed to get to sleep.

After eating breakfast at the hotel the next morning, we went back to campus for a tour. We were greeted at the administration building, then were taken on a tour of the campus by an SVA alumni. The tour took us all over campus, from the awesome health center to their different department buildings. We went to the library, and student center, where we saw people getting professional massages that had been paid for by SA. We also spent time in their new state-of-the-art nursing department. It ended with the girls and guys parting ways to go see the dorms. The dorms were very nice, clean, and big and used key cards instead of keys. After the dorm tours we all met up in the guys’ dorm chapel to fill out applications and were given free t-shirts. After our tour, we had free time to explore and really take in the campus for ourselves.

All in all, SAU is a very nice and prestigious institution. The trip was fun because I got to hang out with my classmates in a different environment. The thing I got most from the Southern trip was the freedom you have in college. When you go to college you are in charge of your life. Sure, there are restrictions, but college is where you find out just how much you will love freedom.

CANDLELIGHT AND POPS CONCERT

BY KIMBERLY OWEN

The week leading up to Candlelight and Pops Concert was very stressful. With people getting sick and time wearing thin, Miss Weidemann and Mr. Goines were nearing their breaking points. There were three performances to be gotten ready for; the Candlelight Concert, a second Candlelight Concert, and, to finish off the holiday spirit, a Christmas Pops Concert. There were two Candlelight Concerts to accommodate any who wanted to come and listen. On the fateful night of the first candlelight performance everyone was exhausted, but they performed well. All the music groups of Shenandoah Valley Academy joined in the performance, including the faculty brass group. The soloists of the evening were Carter Ware, a senior at SVA, and Ryan Hoffman, his teacher, both on the cello. The theme that resonated the evening was the birth of Jesus and his mother Mary. Magnificat, a piece by John Rutter about Mary the Mother of Jesus, was the feature of the

evening. The arrangement of Angels We Have Heard on High the song which was used to finish the concert for the night.

After the success of the previous night, everyone had just a short break before the next concert. They also performed for the church service on Saturday, so they did not have much of a break between the first and second Candlelight Concerts. The second Candlelight was in the afternoon of that Saturday, and just a couple minutes after it was the Christmas Pops Concert. At the Pops concert SVA’s music department sold art made by the musicians as well as food made by awesome parents. This was to help raise money for the Germany trip to be taken during spring break. The Pops Concert was casual with intermissions to allow people to buy things. Over \$1,000 were raised to help the music department for their trip. It was a very successful concert time and many people were blessed.

“It was tiring, but it turned out ok- it turned out to be a good experience”

Meredith Schuen

“It was a life changing experience”

Gabby Carcamo

“It was filled with the Holy Spirit”

Madai Villa

“Even though the word in magnificat did not make sense to most of us, the message was quite clear, Jesus loves”

Ming Kim

“Hectic, but worth it.”

Karen Vallado

SVA’S SENATE

MARCELINE NDAHAYO

This year Shenandoah Valley Academy is going through a lot of changes. We were blessed with two amazing new principals—Dr. John Wagner at the beginning of the year, and Dr. Dale Twomley second semester, as well as other new additions to the SVA family. As a school we are trying to continue this positive streak that we are currently in. In order to do this we must not only ask for positive ideas from the administrators and other faculty members, but we must involve the student body. This is where Shenandoah Valley Academy’s School Senate comes in. The Senate officially began this year and we are working together to propose ideas and follow through with them in order for our school to run smoother than it ever has before. The primary purpose of the Senate is to understand the opinions and the needs of SVA’s student body and to communicate them to the Administrators of our school. Our school really needs an active senate because it is important for the students to feel as if they do have a voice when it comes to things that affect their own student lives.

The Senate usually meets every Monday during lunch period and is led by the students. Mrs. Dodge and Mrs. Griffin are the sponsors of the school senate and are both very involved and help the group with each idea it proposes, giving suggestions along the way. Each class has a number of representatives in the senate.

The senate believes that, in order for the school to make any positive changes that will really last for years to come, we need to focus on the base of all problems, which lies in our financial status. We as senate members feel that if we are to bring SVA to a state in which we are financially secure, more positive changes will follow. We have come up with multiple ideas that will hopefully make this suggestion a reality. Another thing that we as a group has decided is very important is the number of students that we have at Shenandoah. It is always better to have a lot of students at a school than just a few, and because we feel this way we want to work on recruiting students from all over the country. We are aware that it is impossible meet in person and reach all the people that we would like to, so we want to make videos and send them all over the place. These videos will show future students how amazing SVA really can be. With more students the school will have an opportunity to do more things. I personally feel like students will be more excited about the school that each of them has been blessed to attend. Student morale will increase, and the environment of Shenandoah Valley Academy will be an enjoyable environment for all.

The senate includes:

Senate President
Marceline Ndahayo
SA Representatives
Gabriela Whonder - SA President
Julie Nam - SA Secretary

Sophomore Representatives
Noe Grady- Sophomore Class President
Madeleine Ndahayo - Sophomore Class Vice President
Karen Cruz-Cruz - Sophomore Class Senator
Barry Armstrong- Sophomore Class Senator

Senior Representatives
Austin Plank- Senior Class President
James Matthews- Senior Class Vice President
Krisi Koliadko- Senior Class Senator
Trace Wilkens- Senior Class Senator

Freshman Representatives
Jasmine Carcamo - Freshman Class President
Valery Vergara - Freshman Vice President
Bethany Edwards - Freshman Class Senator
Aaron Amaya - Freshman Class Senator

Junior Representatives
Katheryn Savenago- Junior Class President
Amber Lawhorn - Junior Class Vice President
Ming Kim- Junior Class Senator
Andrew Moore- Junior Class Senator
Paola Nago- Junior Class Senator

GIRLS’ DORM RETREAT

KARINA RUIZ

The Girls’ Dorm, also known as Hadley Hall, had its dorm retreat on October 3 & 4. This retreat was planned by the deans and girls’ dorm officers.

Dinner on Friday in the cafeteria was only for the girls. Later, instead of vespers in the church with everyone, the girls welcomed Mrs. Griffin as the speaker that night. This took place in the chapel of the girls’ dorm. It was meant to be a relaxing environment, and to give everyone a chance to cool down. Mrs. Griffin spoke for about an hour on self-confidence. The girls enjoyed what she had to say and were very attentive. At the end of her talk, she gave each girl a small hand-mirror with a quote on the back by Eleanor Roosevelt saying, “No one can make

you feel inferior without your consent.”

The night ended well, with smoothies made by Mrs. Griffin and Dean Rita and long chats amongst the girls.

The next day, on Sabbath, the officers prepared breakfast in the dorm for the girls. After breakfast, we all got ready for church. Once the sermon was over, whoever wanted to go on a home could get ready to go. If not, the afternoon was free to go right outside the dorm and enjoy the beautiful weather. That night, the gym was open to only the girls. Those who did not wish to go could play hide n’ seek in the dorm.

It was a good weekend to spend time with friends. Thank you to the deans and the dorm officers for planning this event.

SVA started second semester with class parties on Saturday night, January 10. Some classes went off campus and others bonded on campus. The freshman class ventured out and went bowling. They had a fun night of laughter and hanging out to start off the new semester. The sophomore class had a fun night of shopping at Fair Oaks mall in Fairfax, Virginia where they roamed the mall with friends, eating and shopping. The junior class stayed on campus, and took over the student center. At their party they played games, bonded with each other, made memories, and ate food.

The seniors also left campus. The class of 2015 went to a laser tag warehouse in Winchester, Virginia. There we split up in different teams and commenced to play. It was very cold inside the warehouse, but it was very fun. There were two sides, so two games could be played at the same time, with two teams on each side trying to terminate the other players. It was very fun and exciting to run around with a laser gun chasing your classmates. After playing we loaded the bus and headed to Cici’s Pizza where we stuffed our faces. After eating and hanging out we headed back to SVA and ended our night on the town.

CLASS PARTIES

BY ANDREA HERRERA



ACADEMY DAY

DANIEL REYES

As the buses pulled into the front of the Ad Building on October 20 and the 7th and 8th graders from all over the Potomac Conference unloaded their things and came in to register for the annual Shenandoah Valley Academy Day, all you could do was sit back and take in the sounds and the sights. I have personally never seen so many middle schoolers huddled together in such a confined space at the same time. “Great,” I thought to myself “These kids are going to drive me insane today. I’m not ready for today,” I thought to myself with a sigh as I unpeeled my name tag and pasted it to my bright yellow shirt. This year was my first Academy Day working as an ambassador, and I by all means was not ready. I had a massive headache from the night before due to the fact that I had gone to bed at a time that I can’t disclose publicly for fear of getting in trouble with the staff at Shenandoah

Valley Academy. That’s not the point. The thing is that I was not looking forward to this particular day. As soon as all the kids were rounded up and registered it was time to move to the gym. Drama opened things up by performing two skits, and both orchestra and Shenandoans performed for the crowd. The atmosphere was full of energy and you could sense the excitement of many of the kids. One of the kids in my group tapped me on the shoulder and said, “This is so cool! How much do you guys practice?” I gave him a cranky reply that the music department met every day while the show continued. When all the concerts and skits, announcements, and worship finished it was time to go to lunch. Allllll of the Academy students and visitors made a long line and filed into the cafeteria. It was nice to see the cafeteria completely full and so talkative and full of energy. As I sat there observing

all of the different kids sitting at the tables, I noticed that something had changed with these kids. Many of the students that morning had not been talkative; they had had the same shy look that I had had on my first day of high school. And who can blame them; it’s a scary thought to think that in a couple of months you have to leave the comforts of being looked up to and admired by the rest of the elementary school, to move on to high school where you are at the bottom of the food chain again and you have to start fresh. But these kids had changed. The shy, wide-eyed kids that I had gotten weren’t looking around like they were lost. They were talking! They were laughing! They seemed right at home. It felt so great to not be the only person talking for once. As an ambassador I sort of felt obligated to make conversation and put up a sort of tour guide act. But I didn’t have to anymore. The guys and girls

in my group were firing questions at Iverson (the other ambassador) and me faster than we could answer. It was hectic trying to keep up with them but for the first time in the day I realized I was having fun. Lunch finished and the ambassadors gathered their groups up and went to classes. Each teacher put on an exhibition for the students and showed them what a regular period looked like in his/her class, the kids absorbed everything like a sponge and were so into the activities and lectures that even the teachers were surprised with the attentiveness of my group. The visitors finished up the tour with visits to both the guys’ and girls’ dorms and the music department. The students then proceeded to come together in the gym and have games. The games were competitive and my yellow team worked beautifully and cooperatively and managed to win second place overall.

To end the day, everyone went out to the flagpole area and enjoyed a great dinner and ice cream bar, courtesy of the SVA cafeteria. As I sat down and watched all the kids from different schools like JNA, Sligo, Beltsville, Mt. Aetna, and TLC Prep, among others, I chuckled at the energy of those middle schoolers. “I wish I had that energy,” I thought to myself. It had been a good day. I had enjoyed the day more than I thought. And I had a feeling that the kids had enjoyed themselves as well. If I hadn’t known better I would have assumed that they went to school to SVA because they were so comfortable here. They fit right in. And something else that’s funny? The headache that had been pounding in my head? It had been gone for hours. It was a great Academy Day. Nobody could deny that.



GIRLS’ AND BOYS’ CLUB BANQUET

AMAIA BELGRAVE

January 11, 2015, was a highly anticipated day for many and it was the most obvious in the girls’ dorm. The smell of burning hair was potent in the air and many girls were running around, looking for last minute touches to add to their outfits. The event that was causing mass chaos was the Boys’ and Girls’ Club Date Night. This year’s theme was A Night in Paris.

At 5:00 it was the girls’ time to shine. Dean Susan Finlaw was there to greet all the boys in the girls’ dorm lobby. She then announced it was time for girls to come and greet their dates. It was then that boys got their first looks at their dolled up dates. Girls then paired up with their dates and made their way to the café, which had been transformed into a Parisian restaurant with lights on every flat surface and tables covered in elegant tablecloths. Junior

Bea Roca said, “The lights in the cafeteria made me feel like I was really in Paris, The City of Lights.” She, a romantic at heart, also noted that “Although there were many lights, nothing could dull the sparkle in my date’s eyes.” The mood was set with French music playing softly in the background.

A maître d’ led guests to their seats, where salad, bread, and champagne (sparkling grape juice) awaited each person. Guests were free to chat while everyone came in, and once everyone was settled in there was a brief welcome and then the second course was served. The second course consisted of French Onion Soup, which offered a unique look into French Cuisine. During the second course the photo booth, run by Mrs. Janel Ware, opened for business. The third course was an entrée which featured

quiche, a baked potato, and vegetables. People continued to eat, take pictures, and enjoy each other’s company. They then were served the last course, a chocolate crepe with strawberry sauce over it. When asked about the food, sophomore, Karen Cruz-Cruz said “The food served as an interesting way to see what the French eat and was delicious.”

Many people liked playing the games during the banquet. There was an SVA edition of Jeopardy, hosted by Carter Ware, which was fun and interactive. An array of different people commented on how involved they felt when they played the games. The Jeopardy provided students with a new look at their faculty. Lots of fun information surfaced about the staff of our school, such as the fact that Dean Cassie sings and makes lots of covers of

popular songs. The other game played at banquet was led by Iesha Soto and Darrick Velasquez. In “How Well Do You Know Your Date?” three couples were pulled onto stage and asked questions about their dates. The object of the game was for both parties to get the same answer. When talking to friends about banquet, the games were what really stuck out to a lot of people. Sophomore Tatyana Vega said, “The banquet was fun, but I really enjoyed the games. Even though my date and I weren’t on stage we tried to see how many of the questions we could answer about each other.”

A staple of banquets is a movie relating to the theme. The movie shown at this banquet was Ratatouille, an animated comedy and instant classic. Many who attended the banquet commented on how much fun the movie was.

Sophomore Maddy Ndahyo said, “The movie was fun and emphasized the casual atmosphere of the event.”

The Girls’ and Boys’ Club Date Night this year was a success. Many people who did not originally plan on going went because of the lack of pressure to dress up. Sophomore president Noe Grady commented on her overall datenight experience: “It was fun to talk with my friends. The chill of it all helped me bond with my friends. I definitely enjoyed datenight.” This year, many people enjoyed the more casual atmosphere of a date night. Freshman Bethany Edwards said, “It was fun to be free from the pressure of dressing fancy for banquet and to be able to focus on having a fun night with my friends.” A big thanks to the officers and deans who made the evening a success!





COLLEGE FAIR
MADAI VILLA

As a Junior, I took part in the 2014 College Fair here in SVA's gymnasium on Wednesday, November 29. When I entered the gymnasium, I was greeted by Mrs. Dean and then went on and saw so many people interacting about their possible college selections.

Then, Carlos Vanegas joined me as we explored each college that was present. Since he is a Senior, he has access to apply to all the colleges for free. First, we went to the booth of Kettering College located in Dayton, Ohio, where we learned that the program of study for the Bachelor of Science with a major in Human Biology is the "3+2"-year accelerated curriculum leading to the Master of Physician Assistant Studies. A student with an excellent academic record for the first three years as a human biology major desiring to prepare for the physician assistant profession may be given early admission to the two-year Kettering College physician assistant graduate program. Therefore, you get out of college earlier with their accelerated curriculum. They gave us a pen and some pamphlets.

We went on to visit with representatives from Oakwood University, located in Huntsville, Alabama, where we also grabbed a cool pen and some pamphlets elaborating on financial help that the

school gives for those with a high GPA. We advanced to La Sierra University (located in Riverside, California), where my sister is a Senior, majoring in Biochemistry. The representative told us about their beautiful campus, which included their nice weather, palm trees, and beaches where we could go surfing. La Sierra is within one hour's drive of Los Angeles, where we could go snowboarding, hiking, shopping, rock climbing, surfing, attend concerts and sports events, or even go to Disneyland and other theme parks. He reminded us of the gorgeous Southern California sunsets by showing us pictures. He stated that their classes average just 20 students, so that our professors can get to know us and make time when we need extra help. Then he gave us a pamphlet with a list of their majors and financial help and a pen.

We went on to talk with staff from Southwestern Adventist University, located in Keene, Texas. The representative greeted us and, when we asked about their campus, she said students have the chance to learn more about other countries, with over 20% of the student body composed of international students. Then she gave us a pamphlet stating more information. We then progressed to Southern Adventist University's booth. SAU's representative told us

about their biggest program there: nursing. He explained that they have great professors and that it's their strongest program there and encouraged us to explore our options on what we wanted to study. He then gave us a pen and a pamphlet.

Then we walked over to visit with Walla Walla University, which is located in College Place, Washington. Carlos was somewhat interested in aviation and we learned that this university actually offer Bachelor's degrees in Aviation Management and Aviation Technology, and Associate's Degrees in Aviation. They also offer Health Science, Physical Therapy Assistant, and Fitness Management which also interested Carlos. I was very undecided on what I wanted to do, but one of my considerations is architecture since my dad is an architect and I've learned a lot of AutoCad designing from him. I enjoy it a lot and I learned that Walla Walla offered it. Many other colleges do not offer these careers. So, we were both glad that Walla Walla offered what we were looking for. We grabbed a pen and a pamphlet and walked away.

As we walked toward Union College from Lincoln, Nebraska, we read the pamphlet, pointing out interesting pieces of information to each other. When we arrived at the stand, my friend Karen

Vallado was there and told us the representative used to be the volleyball coach at her old academy, Newbury Park Adventist Academy located in California. She was her older sister's coach when her sister attended the school. The representative then greeted us and told us that Union College is ranked in the top tier of schools in its category and region in U.S. News America's Best College's 2007. We learned that their student body is much smaller than most of the other Adventist colleges. She told us about their financial aid for those with a high GPA and gave us a pamphlet and pen.

We then moved over to Washington Adventist University, which is located in Takoma Park, Maryland. This is the university nearest to our school. We already know a lot about this university so we took a pamphlet and read through it. The representative gave us a pen and told us that they are a living and learning laboratory since they are near Washington D.C and the Seventh-day Adventist Church world HQ.

We then moved on to Adventist University of Health Sciences, located in Orlando, Florida. The representative stated that it is in the heart of Orlando, where palm trees are plentiful and the beach is only 40 minutes away. As we looked through

the pamphlet, Carlos pointed out that they offer Pre-Nutrition and Dietetics, something he was also interested in. We viewed the pretty pictures of the campus surrounded by palm trees and sunshine. We got a really cool pen at this booth; it had a little silver ball that moved through a maze.

We proceeded to Pacific Union College located in Napa Valley, California. Here, I discovered that they also offer Aviation and Exercise Science, which was another option for Carlos. We saw pictures of their campus and were astonished by how beautiful their location was. The representative told us that they had a lot of student-run outreach activities and encouraged us to join. He handed us a pamphlet and some pens.

We then walked over to Andrews University, located in Berrien Springs, Michigan, where we were handed a pamphlet and some pens. The representative asked if we had any questions and so I asked if they offered anything in Aviation. He confirmed and told me there was Aviation: Flight (AT), Flight/Business (BT), Flight/Maintenance (BT), Maintenance (AT), and Maintenance/Business. I also discovered they had Architecture. Then he asked Carlos what he was interested in, and showed him all the careers he said were available,

such as Health and Fitness, Wellness: Fitness, Wellness: Nutrition, as well as Nutrition and Dietetics, and Physical Therapy. He reminded us that this college is close to our homes and would suit us. Yet, there is still time to make a decision. That was the last college there and we saw people filling out forms. That's when I remembered! All the applications were free for the seniors and so I encouraged Carlos to sign up for every college since it is free.

There was little time left and so we rushed to each table and picked up an application. I helped him fill out forms for Andrews University, La Sierra University, Southern Adventist University, Pacific Union College, Southwestern Adventist University, and last but not least, Walla Walla University. All of the other colleges had already packed up and left and so we were the last ones there, filling out each and every application we could as fast as possible. La Sierra's representative even waited for us a little and so we thanked him.

Overall, this was a great learning experience and encouraged all students, even the ones that don't want to go to college, to engage in an Adventist college where we can all grow spiritually as well as academically, for a brighter future.



A few of the photographs we recieved for this issue of the Shen-Val-Lore, as well as every other issue, are from the Shenandoah Valley Academy Yearbook Staff. If you are interested in who took these pictures please contact Mitzi Bame, the Yearbook Sponsor, and she will have her staff get back to you as soon as possible. The Yearbook Editor that allows us to use these photographs is Sarah Davis. Please contact either the editor or the sponsor, if possible, before using these photographs for anything other than personal use and enjoyment.

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