

Walter Arties Appointed VOP Manager-Treasurer

Walter Arties, evangelism and field services director for the Voice of Prophecy, was named manager-treasurer at the March meeting of the ministry's executive committee.

Arties joined the VOP in 2001, following three years as human resources director for the Adventist Media Center and 24 years as producer for the *Breath of Life* telecast, which he founded in 1974.

"Walter walks tall! He casts a long shadow because of years of experience!" says Lonnie Melashenko, director-speaker. "Time has taught him well—not to jump to conclusions, but always to carefully weigh issues before passing judgment. He is the consummate gentleman and ambassador. And he knows how to manage and live within financial budgets. We couldn't make a better choice for Voice of Prophecy than to have Walter at my side to give this ministry the stability it needs to realize our dreams and accomplish huge initiatives in the immediate future."

James W. Gilley, chairman of the VOP Executive Committee, notes that "The Voice of Prophecy has had a long history of some very fine managers. I know that you are more than capable of fulfilling this position." He adds, "The best days of



Walter and Beverly Arties

the Voice of Prophecy are just ahead and even though the world scene is very difficult at this time, we may look back on this and call it the Voice of Prophecy's finest hour."

Pastor Arties is best known for his concerts and his seven recorded albums. He has wide experience in music for evangelistic meetings, including many appearances with Charles D. Brooks, Kenneth Cox, Billy Graham, and Graham's associate, Ralph Bell. With warmth and charm, Arties expresses the love of Jesus in his own inimitable style, and always with emphasis on the lyrics, "because," he says, "as a singer of sacred songs, the most important thing is the message in the song. That is what I want people to remember."

Karon Scott, a secretary at the Mid-America Union Conference in

Lincoln, Nebraska, describes Arties as "a legend." She wrote following his new appointment: "You bless me and thousands of others in your music ministry. It thrills me every time you open your lips, and the melodies just float out. My sister and I always call it 'silk,' God's gift to those who hear!"

In 1973, Arties was director of public affairs at KHOF, a radio and television station in Los Angeles, when he was inspired to create a pilot for a new telecast to be

called *Breath of Life*. Soon after airing on KHOF, the program became a ministry of the Adventist Media Center and Arties was appointed producer. He soon organized the *Breath of Life* quartet, in which he sang first tenor. His vocal range, however, extends through second tenor and baritone.

Arties has sung for Campus Crusade for Christ, Youth for Christ, Lutheran Youth Alive, the Salvation Army, "Expo '72," and in the Cotton Bowl. He has toured North America, Europe, the former Soviet Union, Africa, India, and the West Indies.

A native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Arties met his wife, the former Beverly Ruth DeShay, while both were students at Pine Forge Academy in southeastern Pennsylvania. He is listed in *Who's Who Among Black Americans*.

Hallmark Channel Schedules Segment Featuring Del Delker

Del Delker's 57-year ministry as Voice of Prophecy soloist is the topic for a segment on *Sowing Seeds*, on the Hallmark Channel sometime this summer. The half-hour program airs Sunday at 6:30 a.m. Eastern and Pacific Time, 7:30 a.m. Central Time.

A video production crew taped the interview with Del in mid-April.

Since Del joined the VOP in 1947, she has traveled to every continent except Antarctica, sung in 15 languages, and recorded 53 solo albums.

Produced by Faith & Values Media, the *Sowing Seeds* telecast regularly presents compelling stories about individuals and faith groups involved in service.

Faith & Values Media is the largest coalition of Jewish and Christian faith groups dedicated to media production, distribution, and promotion. Its mission is to use television, the Internet, and other media to promote the vitality of religious experience in everyday life and to give expression to religious diversity.



Evangelists "Share the Vision" at WestPoint Council



Rod Scherencel (top) was one of the song leaders at last December's WestPoint of Evangelism. Keynote speaker Ron Halvorsen (left) also presented seminars on "Taking Cities Through Prayer" and shared with individual participants, such as Pete Geli (center), pastor of the Santa Barbara Adventist Church.



Lonnie Melashenko (above) was among the plenary speakers at the annual event. "Christian Apologetics" was David Asscherick's seminar topic (right). Five persons received plaques honoring their lifetime ministry of evangelism. From left are: Lloyd Wyman, coordinator for WestPoint; Walter and Beverly Arties; Russell and Cynthia Burrill; Arnold Scherencel; Victor Contreras receiving the award for Eradio Alonso; Victor Pires receiving the award for Royce Williams; and Peter Prime, associate secretary of the General Conference Ministerial Association.



PHOTOS BY ELDYN KARR

WEBSITE HITS NOW 1.5 MILLION A MONTH

The Voice of Prophecy's primary website, www.vop.com, is now averaging 1,500,000 hits per month. Visitors to the site come from more than 100 countries each month.

Top areas of usage by visitors include free Bible guides, today's broadcast, previous broadcasts, children's broadcasts, and prayer requests.

Much of the recent increase in website hits may be attributed to indirect promotion by LifeTalk Radio. Persons who viewed their animation, "Every Eye Shall See Him," at www.lifetalk.net were given four choices at the end of the presentation, including the "vop.com" site and the VOP's Discover Bible Guides Online.

The VOP website had averaged a million hits per month from January 2002 to August 2003. With the push from LifeTalk Radio, it registered 1.7 million hits in September, nearly 3.7 million in October, and 2.1 million in November, before leveling off in December to a consistent average of 1.5 million per month.

Special Features

Among the special features at www.vop.com are a daily "Have Faith in God" verse by ministry founder H. M. S. Richards, an entire book of Wayne Hooper's male voice arrangements that can be printed out and duplicated, and a one-year Bible reading plan that introduces persons to narratives from both Testaments before approaching such books as Leviticus and Numbers.

A different Discover Bible Video is available for viewing each week. A number of other videos may be accessed in the website archive. Audio files of half-hour camp meeting sermons by H. M. S. Richards will be added soon.

In terms of hits, the top 25 countries in March were: United States, Canada, Australia, Brazil, United Kingdom, Trinidad and Tobago, South Africa, Netherlands, Singapore, the Philippines, Austria, Zambia, France, Switzerland, New Zealand, Japan, Italy, Botswana, Sweden, Mexico, Israel,



Germany, Belgium, Indonesia, and Tanzania.

Additional Websites

The Voice of Prophecy also operates specialized websites, such

as www.prophecyspeaks.com and www.africa2003.com. The "prophecyspeaks" site includes text, audio, and video files for all of Lonnie Melashenko's messages during last spring's evangelistic series by satellite, "The Voice of Prophecy Speaks."

The "africa2003" site has the text of all the sermons from Pastor Melashenko's satellite evangelism series, "Hope for Our Troubled World," as well as a video report and links to Bible courses in several languages of Africa.

A new website will be launched to coordinate with the "Exploring the Word" telecast that begins airing on ATN in October.

BIBLE SCHOOL DIRECTOR VISITS AFRICA OFFICES

Kurt Johnson, Bible School director, recently visited VOP offices in Nairobi, Kenya (top and center) and Abidjan, Ivory Coast (bottom photos). Communication, satellite, and VOP advisors attended his training seminar in Nairobi (group photo). Assisting him (right) was Jules Kitambala K. Lumbu, VOP director for East Central Africa. Those meeting with him in Abidjan were (bottom right) Taiwo Roberts (center), Sabbath School and personal ministries director, and Salomon Assiene, VOP director for Western Africa.



Pathfinder Camporee Includes Ministry's Stamp and Coin Project

More than 20,000 youth from the United States, Canada, and other countries will converge on Oshkosh, Wisconsin from August 10 to 14 for this year's "Faith on Fire" International Camporee for Pathfinders.

The Voice of Prophecy's Stamp and Coin Project will assist campers with their honor badges in stamps and coins, which are among dozens of honors offered.

"Pathfinders will have the opportunity to learn more about collecting stamps and coins, as well as their origin and history," says Harold Lyle, who directs the VOP project. Items available for purchase include packets of inexpensive worldwide and topical stamps, Lincoln cents (both Lincoln Memorial and "wheat" backs), Sacagawea and Susan B. Anthony dollars, and the new quarters commemorating individual states.

Lyle previously represented the VOP at the Pathfinder Camporee in Colorado about 10 years ago.

The Oshkosh event will include youth from North America, Brazil, the Caribbean, Europe, Africa, Hong Kong, Japan, the Philippines, Australia, and New Zealand.

The Camporee offers activities ranging from wakeboarding to rock climbing, from Native American flutes to sumo, from a hot air balloon launch to Dutch oven cooking. Besides stamps and coins, honors being taught will include CPR, rare knot tying, sign language, several on plants and animals, nutrition, a pinewood derby, and many more of the 250 total honors available to Pathfinders.

Organizers of this year's event have set a goal of collecting and shipping 100,000 Bibles to Africa and Asia. Each Pathfinder is being encouraged to bring a Bible and a dollar for shipping to each of five evening programs.

Further information: www.camporee.org.



Lonnie & Jeannie Melashenko



Walter Arties



Del Delker



Kurt Johnson



Mike & Diane Jones

Camp Meeting Appointments 2004

CALIFORNIA

July 18-24 – **Kurt Johnson**
Adventist Campground
1931 Old San Jose Rd., Soquel

IDAHO

June 11-12 – **Del Delker**
Gem State Academy
16115 Montana Ave., Caldwell

NEW YORK

July 2-4 – **Walter Arties**
Union Springs Academy
40 Spring St., Union Springs
(east off County Rt. 90)

NORTH CAROLINA

October 29-30 – **Del Delker**
North Carolina Baptist Assembly
100 Caswell Beach Rd., Oak Island
(follow State Rt. 133)

PENNSYLVANIA

June 18, 19 – **Lonnie and Jeannie Melashenko**
Blue Mountain Academy
2363 Mountain Rd., Hamburg

TEXAS

May 21-22 – **Mike and Diane Jones**
Cowboy Church Camp Meeting
Southwestern Adventist University
College Gymnasium, Keene



Dale Galusha

VOP SERIES BY ASSOCIATE EVANGELISTS

Dale Galusha
May 3-15 – Manila, Philippines

Jim Reinking
Sept. 10-25 – Chitungwiza, Zimbabwe



Jim Reinking