

# Quiet CBF general assembly focuses on the future

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The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's new slate of officers are Joy Yee, immediate past moderator; Emmanuel McCall, moderator; Harriet Harral, moderator-elect; and Hal Bass, recorder. (Photo by Mark Sandlin)

## Quiet CBF general assembly focuses on the future

**By Greg Warner**

*Associated Baptist Press*

ATLANTA (ABP)—With a call to minister to a world in need, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship began its 16th year by appointing 19 mission workers, welcoming a new missions coordinator, adopting a \$17 million budget and contributing \$32,801 to a special human-rights offering.

The Fellowship's June 22-23 annual meeting in Atlanta was quiet—even by Fellowship standards—with little official business and no controversy. Almost unnoticed was a constitutional amendment that restored a mention of Jesus and the Great Commission to CBF's governing documents.

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## **Religious freedom threatened in U.S.**

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Hollyn  
Hollman,  
general  
counsel for  
the Baptist  
Joint  
Committee  
for  
Religious  
Liberty,  
welcomes  
guests to  
the 70th  
anniversary  
luncheon.  
(Bob  
Perkins Jr.  
photo)

## Religious freedom threatened in U.S.

**By Robert Marus**

*Associated Baptist Press*

ATLANTA (ABP)—Baptist historian Walter Shurden told religious-freedom advocates the principle of religious liberty is threatened as never before in American history.

Shurden, director of the Center for Baptist Studies at Mercer University in Macon, Ga., addressed supporters of the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty at a luncheon during the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

general assembly in Atlanta.

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# **Houston Baptist University names interim president**

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## **Houston Baptist University names interim president**

HOUSTON—Houston Baptist University trustees named Jack Carlson the school's interim president, effective Aug. 1.

Carlson, recently retired vice president from SYSCO Corporation and deacon at Tallowood Baptist Church in Houston, has served as an HBU trustee more than 11 years and currently is chair of the board's finance committee.

Diane Williams, chair of the HBU presidential search committee, announced Carlson's appointment at a June 28 university forum.

Jack Carlson
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HBU President Doug Hodo, who previously had announced his retirement effective June 30, will remain on the job until July 31.

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# Layman's passion for Brazil fuels missions partnership

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## Layman's passion for Brazil fuels missions partnership

**By Ken Camp**

*Managing Editor*

LUBBOCK—Jim Dulin fell in love with Brazil about 25 years ago, and he never got over it.

His passion for the Brazilian people and heartfelt desire to share the gospel with them has sparked a missions partnership linking churches in Lubbock Area Baptist Association and Caprock Plains Baptist Area to Baptists in Brazil.

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# African-American cowboy church defies stereotypes

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A Goliad congregation has started a Western Heritage church especially for African-American cowboys. (Photo by John Hall)

## African-American cowboy church defies stereotypes

**By John Hall**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

GOLIAD—As the summer sun sets each Friday in South Texas, bright lights come on and crowds gather to cheer every throw of a rope and buck of a bull at a local rodeo. And contrary to stereotype, many in the arena—participants and onlookers—are African-American.

Many have attended rodeos for years, honing their skills or learning the finer points of the sport. People bond through the events, building a

community.

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# **BGCT treasurer: No “financial crisis”**

July 7, 2006

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## **BGCT treasurer: No ‘financial crisis’**

**By Ken Camp**

*Managing Editor*

Contrary to Internet-circulated rumors of across-the-board Baptist Building cutbacks and “financial crisis” in the Baptist General Convention of Texas, year-to-date Texas Baptist Cooperative Program giving is up over 2005 levels and appears on track to meet the 2006 budget, said Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer David Nabors.

Texas Cooperative Program gifts through the end of May totaled more than \$17.8 million—6 percent greater than the first five months of 2005 and 97.5 percent of the year-to-date budget, he reported. Final figures for June receipts were not available, but Nabors said early indicators looked encouraging.

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# VP Vernon to be nominated for BGCT president

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## VP Vernon to be nominated for BGCT president

**By Marv Knox**

*Editor*

LEVELLAND—Veteran denominational leader Steve Vernon will be nominated for president of the Baptist General Convention of Texas this fall. If elected, missions will be the theme of his tenure.

Vernon, pastor of First Baptist Church in Levelland, is the BGCT's first vice president and was second vice president in 2001-02.

Steve Vernon
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# Hispanic convention elects new officers

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Newly  
elected  
officers of  
the  
Hispanic  
Baptist  
Convention  
of Texas  
are (left to  
right)  
President  
Baldemar  
Borrego,  
First Vice  
President  
Alex Ca-  
macho,  
Third Vice  
President  
Ruben  
Chairez,  
Second  
Vice  
President  
Carlos  
Alegria and  
Secretary  
Darlene  
Gamiochipi.

# Hispanic convention elects new officers

ARLINGTON—The Hispanic Baptist Convention of Texas elected a new slate of officers during its annual meeting.

Baldemar Borrego, pastor of Nueva Esperanza Baptist Church in Wichita Falls, was elected president of the convention after a run-off with Javier Elizondo, vice president of academic affairs for Baptist University of the Americas.

In nominating Borrego, Alex Camacho called him “a good pastor and a good friend” and a solid leader. Borrego has demonstrated courage in addressing controversial immigration issues, Camacho added.

Borrego, a former first vice president of the Hispanic Baptist Convention of Texas, member of the Convención’s strategic planning committee and president of the Hispanic Ministers Conference, has been in ministry 30 years. He has been the host of a radio program, “Jesus is the Answer,” and is a member of the American Association of Christian Counselors.

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# Partners sign church-starting agreement

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Baptist  
General  
Convention  
of Texas  
Executive  
Director  
Charles  
Wade signs  
a  
partnership  
agreement  
with the  
Cooperative  
Baptist  
Fellowship,  
Baptist  
University  
of the  
Americas  
and the  
Hispanic  
Baptist  
Convention  
of Texas.

## **Partners sign church-starting agreement**

ARLINGTON—Hispanic Baptist Convention of Texas, Baptist General Convention of Texas, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and Baptist University of the Americas leaders signed a partnership agreement to start Hispanic

churches across the United States.

The partnership is a renewal of an original partnership formally signed during the 2003 CBF General Assembly, which included the Fellowship, BGCT and His-panic Baptist Convention of Texas. The renewal formally includes Baptist University of the Americas.

According to the partnership renewal—signed at the Hispanic Baptist Convention of Texas annual meeting—the BGCT provides church-starting training and Baptist University of the Americas trains ministers to work in Hispanic contexts.

CBF recruits congregations that want to start Hispanic churches. And the Hispanic Baptist Convention of Texas and Baptist University of the Americas help identify individuals who may make good church starters. All entities help promote the partnership.

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# **President challenges Hispanic Baptists**

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## **President challenges Hispanic Baptists**

**By John Hall**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

ARLINGTON—God has given Hispanic Texas Baptists grace, and they need to share it with the rest of the world, President Alcides Guajardo told the Hispanic Baptist Convention of Texas.

By working together with a Christ-like spirit of service, Hispanic Texas Baptists can minister to the entire world, Guajardo said in his address to the convention at its annual meeting.

Frank Palos (left), interim director of Baptist General Convention of Texas Hispanic ministries, presents Alcides Guajardo with a plaque for his service as president of the Hispanic Baptist Convention of Texas.

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# Around the State

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Twenty-eight participants, nearly all over the age of 60, traveled from First Church in Richardson to Riga, Latvia, to build friendships and encourage senior adults from six Baptist churches there. The Richardson church has sent many teams to Latvia since the partnership began in 1997, but this is the first project focused on senior adults on both sides of the ocean. This gazebo was built by the Richardson team to provide more outdoor ministry space. The Texans also conducted a three-day seniors conference covering topics such as health issues—physical, emotional and spiritual—Christian encouragement, and the need for senior adults to continue blessing one another . They also offered activities such as choir, learning to play chimes and games. The group performed several musical pieces at a prison in the area and visited a school. They left the chimes with the Latvians as a gift.



# Around the State

- Paisano Baptist Encampment will hold its 86th consecutive general encampment beginning the evening of July 23 and running through noon July 28. Morning worship services will be held at 11 a.m., and evening worship will be at 8 p.m. Supper is served at 6 p.m. with choir rehearsal at 7 p.m. Childcare is provided during services. Camp pastors are Steve Wells and Milton Cunningham. Larry McGraw will be the Bible study leader. Between services, several activities are available. For more information, go to [www.paisanoencampment.org](http://www.paisanoencampment.org).
- Four Howard Payne University students have been chosen to receive the Hatton W. Sumners Foundation scholarship in the Douglas MacArthur Academy of Freedom honors program. Selected were Rachel Chapman of Grapevine, Jessie Goodwin of The Woodlands, Kelly Grewe of San Antonio and Johnnie Wiedman of Belton. The scholarship provides \$9,000 a year for two years.
- Dallas Baptist University has received two gifts totaling \$550,000 from the estate of Wynonia Pallmeyer. The gift will establish two scholarship funds for students facing financial hardship.
- Houston Baptist University has named its Student Foundation members for the upcoming academic year. The students serve as representatives in various activities and university promotional functions. New members include Ashley Hatchett, Alyssa Johns, Andrea Legare, Elsa Marquez, Sadiya Jamal, Edward Batinga, Diego Bello, Ashley Nunes, Derrick Owens, Cheri Wood, and Humair Khan. Returning members are Margaret Bowen, Edgar Gonzalez, Sidra Qasim, Karen Singh, Mon'Sher Spenser and Jessica Watson.



A \$26.1 million expansion of Tallowood Church in Houston's campus pushed forward the extraction of a lead box time capsule slated for removal in 2012. Pastor Duane Brooks read an inventory of the capsule that had been placed in the original chapel's cornerstone. The capsule contained the list of people present when the cornerstone was laid on Nov. 13, 1960, copies of that week's Baptist Standard, Training Union and Sunday school materials, and a Bible that included Pastor Russell Dilday's five-digit telephone number. Several charter members were present for the ceremony.

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# Baylor Choir sings in Australia

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The  
Baylor  
Religious  
Hour  
Choir  
performed  
in Sydney,  
Australia,  
and  
worked  
with local  
churches  
there.

## Baylor choir sings in Australia

**By Julie Carlson**

*Baylor University*

The Baylor Religious Hour Choir recently spent nine days in Australia, performing and providing service throughout the Sydney area.

“We worked with a local church and some of its sister churches,” said Maxey Parrish, faculty sponsor for the choir. “It was a small, suburban church that has been in existence a couple of years, but is starting to grow and trying to expand its outreach.”