I. The Sam Youngs Celebrate Golden Wedding Anniversary

Don A. Roth <donaro@verizon.net> June 7:

Former Far Eastern Division and General Conference worker Samuel Young and his wife Janice will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on June 20 in two events scheduled for family and friends.

The sanctuary of the Los Angeles Chinese Church in Alhambra will be the venue of a service of celebration to which Southern California SDA Chinese and others have been invited to attend. After the worship-style celebration the second venue will be a vegetarian restaurant in San Gabriel to complete the hours-long event.

The Young's were married on June 7, 1960 at the San Francisco Chinese SDA. Officiating was Elder A. L.Ham.

The Young's have two sons and one daughter as well as eight grandchildren. They call Loma Linda their retirement home.

The majority of their 40 years of denominational service were either in Hong Kong or Taiwan in the former Far Eastern Division, but mostly in Hong Kong. They were called to the Secretariat of the General Conference in 1986 and then worked for the world church office until their retirement in 1996.

Dr. Young was first an educator and then an administrator. He was president of the South China Union College two different times, 1962-1968 and 1973-77. In 1977 he was elected president of the Hong Kong Conference and in 1981 he became president of the South China Island Union Mission.

In retirement he has been active in taking care of the affairs given to the church by a Hong Kong businessman, Chan Shun, and even today is chairman of two committees set up to assist students from Asia who wish to obtain higher education. His undergraduate degree was at Atlantic Union College and his Master's degree was at Pacific Union College He earned a doctorate degree in 1971 at the University of Maryland.

In the early days of his work in Hong Kong, he was instrumental in getting together a Chinese Church Hymnal which is still in use today although a new one is planned.

In 1982 he wrote the Sabbath School lesson quarterly for the denomination, "Law, Love, and Life," the only one ever written by a Chinese leader.

He is currently working on a centennial edition of the history of Adventist work in China, English version.

Good wishes and congratulations could be sent to Dr. and Mrs. Young at their home: 1163 Murphy Street, Loma Linda, CA 92354.

II. GC Education Dept Evaluates Myanmar School

John M. Fowler <FowlerJ@gc.adventist.org> June 6:
I have just returned after three weeks of accreditation visits in southeast Asia the first of which was to Myanmar Adventist Seminary. Though now a part of Southern-Asia Pacific Division, it still has roots and connections with Southern Asia. The seminary that produces some of the finest ministers and music teachers fared well in our rigorous evaluation and accreditation visit. In spite of many inadequacies, particularly in terms of finance and facilities, the leaders in Burma have done extremely well in keeping the church alive and moving forward. The seminary is a good propeller of such forward motion. Quite a few of its teachers, including its president, are graduates of Spicer, and they exhibit such fondness for what Spicer has done for them. Even their curriculum and bulletin are formatted somewhat on the Spicer model.

John M. Fowler
Associate Director, GC Education

III. Robert Frost To Retire

Don A. Roth <llugeneralconference@llu.edu> June 10:
Robert Frost, a former Far Eastern Division worker and currently Director of the Loma Linda University Foundation, has announced plans for his retirement starting July 1, 2010.

Frost, who served at one time as Treasurer of the Japan Union Mission, has been Director of the Foundation for 30 years. He joined Loma Linda as manager in 1987.

After he served in Japan, Mr. Frost served in both the Hawaii and Central California Conferences.

Even though he will be stepping down as Foundation Director on July 1, he will continue working full time until December 31 as Administrator over Real Estate and Retail Services and assist in the transition to his successor.

Robert Frost's wife Danetta is the daughter of Elder and Mrs. Duane Johnson. He was an Associate Secretary of the General Conference for many years and died shortly after he retired. His widow still lives in Central California Conference. The Frosts have been residents of Loma Linda since he joined the University staff.

The new Foundation director will be Angela Lalas who has been Director of Internal Audit from August of 2008.

IV. Adventist Review Article by ex-FED Worker

Don A. Roth, June 11:
A former Far Eastern Division worker, Lillian Guild, wrote an article that appeared in the June 10 edition of the Adventist Review about another former FED worker/physician, Dr. Charles Watson.

The three-page story, "Saved to Serve," is the story about Dr. Watson's childhood when he became very ill with polio and his physician predicted that he would die and if he did not die, that he would never walk again. During the time that he served in the Far East, Dr. Watson was the medical director of the Phuket, Thailand Mission Hospital. He and his wife are retired in Southern California.

Mrs. Guild and her husband Dan, now deceased, served in the Southeast Asia Union Mission. He first served as pastor of Singapore's Balestier Rd. Church and then became president of the Union. When they returned to the United States on permanent return, Elder Guild served as the manager of the "Voice of Prophecy." Lillian lives in retirement in Loma Linda.

V. Northern Asia-Pacific Division's "1000 Missionaries"

After 3 months of training a total of 109 missionaries from the 35th class of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division's 1,000 Missionary Movement training center left for their respective fields last month. These young people from 7 different countries left eager to serve. Among them was one who went to Mongolia, one of the most unreached places in Asia.
The center aims to take young adults from throughout Northern Asia, who want to serve, and prepare them to go back out into their communities and start new congregations. The intensive program gives them the tools to be self-sustaining for at least a year.

Thanks in part to the Adventist Church's frontline mission program, already many of the 1,000 Missionary Movement pioneers are holding evangelistic meetings and starting small groups.

In the near future the training center expects to start another class that will go out to even more parts of Asia.-- Global Mission's 20th Anniversary "Frontline Edition"

VI. APIU Opens New School Year with Record Enrollment

The Academic Opening Convocation at Asia-Pacific International University was held at the prestigious Kiti-Tasanee Auditorium on the morning of Wednesday, June 9, 2010. This formal event was the first academic assembly of the whole campus for the new school year of 2010-2011.

University President Dr. Warren Shipton delivered his address "What Happened to Wisdom", which proved to be a timely message for the beginning of this semester. President Emeriti Dr. Srirporn Tantipoonwinai stood alongside to translate.

There were also special music rendered by the students, and fascinating demographic facts of the University faculty and students presented by Vice-President of Academic Administration Dr. Wayne Hamra and Student Council President Mr. Skulchai Sangsuriya.

With over 80 teaching faculty representing more than 90 different nationalities from 80 universities across the globe, Dr. Wayne shared that the faculty of Asia-Pacific International University is 'an energetic bunch'. He added, "We are committed to help you succeed in your studies and your life."

In total, there are 958 students from 34 different countries, whereby the student body covers a wide span of ages. "I think we are in for a good time. I wish you a good year of study," commented Mr. Skulchai in closing his presentation. --APIU's

June 10 "Newsbyte"

VII. Indonesian Administrators' Spouses Hold Retreat

SSD Communication Department, June 8:

Church administration is no easy task. Many administrators lost a great portion of their time from home responsibilities because of the demands their functions call, and their wives take these left-out role of their husbands in the home. More than that, their being spouses of administrators seem to occupy a higher level of regard as perceived by their husbands' subordinates or even church members. These and many more make these wives vulnerable to physical and emotional breakdowns.

Indeed, what a treat for the 37 wives of administrators of hospital, college, and church offices of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in East Indonesia (EIUC), to meet for a 5-day retreat, March 17-21, at the Hotel Sedona, in Manado, North Sulawesi, Indonesia.

Themed "Renewed by God's Love," the retreat was held through the initiative of Ms Helen B. Gulfan, director for the Shepherdess International (SI) in the southern Asia-Pacific region (SSD). Knowing the participants' concerns, Ms Gulfan invited presenters who addressed various issues and needs that helped alleviate the above concerns.

Ms Sharon Cress, SI coordinator from the world church (GC), in keynoting the retreat, dealt on the topic "Leaders Living Together." She pointed out that "headship is an assignment while leadership is a gift." She further said that "both husband and wife may be gifted with leadership but respect and love find their proper places in the home."

On several instances, an administrator's wife is likened to a pressure cooker that cooks tough food faster, hence much is expected from her beyond
her usual self. The problem, though, rests on her being less appreciated and accepted which subsequently puts her life at risk. "Wives, Christ commends you. He provides the strength to make you able to cope with the grinds of daily life," Ms Gulfan assured the participants.

"The wives are often unappreciated," said Dr. Armand Fabella, a clinical psychology professor at the Adventist University of the Philippines, and one of the presenters. "But building up self-affirmation derivable from Jesus' commendation to the seven churches of Revelation buoys your spirit."

He further noted that "wives should take the honor and appreciation their husbands received as theirs as well." This, he added, is the essence of unity in the home.

In one of the sessions, Ms Poppy Lubis, SI coordinator of the church in West Indonesia (WIUM), delivered a topic on family finance. She said that right management of finance spells out joy in the family as it enables it to be used as a powerful instrument to glorify God.

On Friday evening, all participants went for a special celebration of the Sabbath, the Jewish way. Called Kiddush, the Sabbath evening meal was held, with Pastor Noldy Sakul, president of EIUC, taking the role as Patriarch and leading out in the commemoration.

In Tomahon, the Sabbath day church service was held with Sharon Cress as speaker. She exhorted the ladies with Jesus' declaration, "I know the plans I have for you. plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29:11).

In the afternoon of Sabbath, testimonies were heard from participants. Dubbed "Joys and Challenges," women talked about personal experiences that were reflective of their reactions to calls, assignments, work, and challenges. At this moment, they offered prayer for each other as they continue to face the challenges of their role.

One of the ladies voiced out: "Tomorrow we will be going back to the reality of our daily life and service, but I believe we have gotten the stamina to be willing and ready to be hurt by criticisms from fellow ministerial spouses and a lot others. Now it's time to embrace each other in prayer and resolve to exhort each other."

One of the highlights of the event was a one-day visit to Bukit Kasih Hill. And the walk up and down the 3000 steps leading to Bukit Kasih was a test of endurance but exciting. On the hill, the ladies had the opportunity to dip their weary feet on a warm sulfuric spring that also warmed their bodies from the rainy, cold and windy hours. [Novry Kaumpungan/AND]

VIII. New Gym/Auditorium at Chiangmai Academy

"Chiangmai Adventist Academy (CAA) was started during the year 1973 by Dr. John Dybdal and Pr. Chalaw Artamapadung. That's almost 40 years ago now. It started with a small group of students and has grown to a present enrollment of approximately 700 students. "We would like to thank current administrator, Mr. David Bell, for his good leadership over the past 10 years. Several buildings and many improvements have taken place including new boys' and girls' dormitories, a church, and new classroom buildings for both the high and the primary schools. The most recent addition is the gym/auditorium which was completed at the end of March. CAA is looking forward to being to make good use of the new gym/auditorium this new school year." -- the current SHINING LIGHT IN THAILAND.

IX. "The Day Margie 'Lost It'" -- a True Story

by Keith Heinrich <kheinrich@ssd.org> June 10:

May 28 started like any other Friday morning in the Heinrich house. We had just finished breakfast, morning worship and prayers when Margie, our housekeeper, said she had some exciting news to share. We asked what it was. She said that her sister was getting married on June 6 in Iloilo, Central Philippines. Yvonne asked her if she was going to go to the wedding. In her own sweet way, she laughed and said no they did not have the money for her
I looked at Yvonne and without saying a word we passed the message that we should do something to help her. I opened up my computer and went to the Cebu Pacific web site. I checked what flights there were from Manila to Iloilo. To my surprise there are 5 flights a day and the cost was only 1,100 pesos each way. Margie was standing in the kitchen when I asked her if she would like to travel on June 4. She looked at me and then at Yvonne and then burst out crying and began hugging Yvonne. I asked again and Yvonne said you can take all the tears as a yes.

I proceeded to book the ticket. When I asked her what time of the day she would like to travel she cried even more. When I asked her what her legal name was, she could not talk so we asked her to get her ID card in order for me to get her name correct on the ticket. She finally was able to locate her ID card in her purse and give it to me. I completed booking the ticket. She would leave Manila the morning of June 4 and return to Manila on June 13. Total cost including taxes was about 2,600 pesos or about 55.00 dollars for a round trip ticket.

By the time we had finished purchasing the ticket Yvonne and I were also crying. Margie's break down has a long history to it. She left home 22 years ago and has not been back to see her parents or her family members even once. I cannot imagine not seeing my mother and father for 22 years or my children for 22 years. Everyone shed tears of joy that morning.

Two students, Alvie and Eunice who are studying at Central Philippine Adventist College were visiting us for a few days before going back to college, watched the whole episode unfold. I asked Margie to bring the students by my office on her way home from work and I would print out her ticket and give it to her. When she came by my office I could see that her eyes were all red and tear stained. Alvie told me during lunch time that Margie cried all morning.

The next day, Sabbath, as we normally do, we picked up Albert, (Margie's husband) Margie and Jeff their son to take them to church. When Albert got into the car he had the biggest grin on his face. I thought that it might break his face if it got any larger. The first words out of his mouth were thank you for getting Margie a ticket.

Over the past two weeks I have reflected often on the day that Margie "Lost It." What I have come to understand more fully is that I take too many things for granted and do not give thanks to God for the blessings I enjoy often enough. What Margie "lost" that day I gained. That is, a better understanding and appreciation for those who are poor, who must endure great trials and heartaches here on this earth simply due to their station in life and how I need to do whatever I can to bring a little happiness into their life. In my ears the sound of 22 years of separation continues to ring and how little it took to solve it.

I will never forget the tears of joy that flowed freely that Friday morning.

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