I. Two Deaths
   1. Benjamin Bandiola
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II. Season's Greetings
   1. Wendy Guptill Harris
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~~~~~~~~~~ I. Two Deaths
   1. Benjamin Bandiola
   "Benjamin Bandiola, 84, passed away Monday, December 27, 2010, in Orlando, Fla.
   "He was the son of the late Ambrosio Kanja Bandiola and Hortencia Cruz Escaner Bandiola and was preceded in death by three brothers and two sisters.
   "He was born in Valladolid, Negros Occidental, Philippines, on October 11, 1926. He graduated with honors and was president of his senior class at Negros Occidental High School.
   "He received his bachelor's degree (elementary education) in 1953, his master's (psychology) in 1959, and his doctorate in 1961.
   "He served in numerous educational positions throughout his career.
Dean, School of Graduate Studies, Philippine Union College.
   "He was a professor of education and psychology at Union College [Lincoln, Nebraska] from 1969-1984, professor and chair of the Department of Education and Psychology at Southern College of Seventh-day Adventists from 1984-1992 and adjunct psychology faculty at the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga from 1992-2002.
   "He was also a visiting lecturer at Mission College in Muak, Lek, Thailand as well as a lifetime member of the University of Iowa Alumni Association and the Philippine Fulbright Scholars Association.
   "He was a member of the Collegedale Seventh-day Adventist Church.
   "Survivors include his loving wife, Anita Bandiola, of Collegedale, Tenn.; five children: Vivien Ann Bandiola, of Palm Springs, Calif., Rene Arthur Bandiola, of Reseda, Calif., John Alden Bandiola and Lillian Ruth Gibson, both of Lincoln, Neb. and Ivan Oliver Bandiola, of Salt Lake City, Utah; 13 grandchildren, a great-grandson, a brother, Eliseo Bandiola, three sisters, Elena Martinez, Pacita Timonera, Eva Pueblo, all of the Philippines. and several nieces and nephews.
   "Funeral services will be held at 3 pm, Saturday, at Collegedale Seventh-day Adventist Church." -- from the Chattanooga Times/Free Press, January 2, 2011

2. Untimely Death of Paul Jensen
   Mel Lyon <<LyonMel@wmconnect.com >> December 29:
The following releases were issued by the Publishing Department of the Southern Union Conference, Decatur, GA
   A Great Prince in Israel has Fallen! It is with great sorrow that we inform you that Paul Jensen died last night [December 21] from injuries sustained in a car accident. He and Shirley were hit by a drunk driver.
   Shirley stated it was foggy and the car came out of nowhere and crossed into their lane and hit them. She is bruised and hurting, but her life was spared.
   A private family burial will take place within the next few days with a memorial service at a later date. We will keep you informed when new information is received.
   We will trust in the Lord during the difficult days ahead. Please uphold the Jensen family and the publishing family in your prayers.
   "At all times and in all places, in all sorrows and in all afflictions, when the outlook seems dark and the future perplexing and we feel helpless and alone, the Comforter will be sent in answer to the prayer of faith. Circumstances may separate us from every earthly friend; but no circumstance, no distance, can separate us from the heavenly Comforter.
Wherever we are, wherever we go, He is always at our right hand to support, sustain, uphold, and cheer." Desire of Ages, 669, 670

Update December 29, 2010

Memorial Service for Elder Paul Jensen

The Memorial Service for Paul Jensen will be held Sunday, February 6, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. (Central Standard Time) in the Crossville Seventh-day Adventist Church, 2335 West Avenue, Crossville, TN. 38557.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the "Free Literature Fund," for literature evangelists to place small literature in the hands of their contacts gratis. Donations may be sent to:
Home Health Education Service
PO Box 1147
Decatur, GA 30031
and designated as "Free literature - Paul Jensen Memorial." A card acknowledging your donation will be sent to Paul's wife, Shirley.

Condolences may be sent to Shirley at 980 Colby Circle, Crossville, TN 38571.

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." 2 Timothy 4: 7

Mel Lyon continues:

Note: If any of you have pictures of Paul or of Paul and his wife and/or family that you could share for the enhancement of a power point presentation at the Memorial service, please send to Melvin Lyon, PO Box 336, Silver Creek, WA 98585-0336 or by e-mail to LyonMel@wmconnect.com. If you wish a brief textual message of condolence to be presented on your behalf at the service, please send to me by mail or e-mail.

Paul served overseas in publishing leadership in Pakistan and Africa. In 1967 and 1968, Paul and wife, Shirley, relocated to Japan where Paul served as the Japan Union Publishing Director.

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II. Season's Greetings

1. Wendy Guptill Harris <wr guptill@gmail.com> December 30:

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year everyone!

Hope you're all enjoying your holiday time with loved ones. We're here at AIIAS with my parents, enjoying watching the blizzards, ice storms, and floods from afar! Glad to talk to many of you and know that you're safe and sound.

Land

Things have been moving slowly still on the land purchase, BUT we have made some significant progress! After God provided a donation to purchase the land, we then were waiting on the final paperwork to go through for our non-profit corporation to be officially incorporated. But, just before we came down for Christmas last week, we finally got the papers! So, now we can purchase the land under our official corporation, PAMAS (Philippine Adventist Medical Aviation Services). Dwayne will be able to start that process when he gets back up there in a few weeks (see below). Please pray now that the land purchase will go smoothly as, some of you know, there are many problems and land issues that often arise in this country even with the best precautions. It's all in God's hands, though!

Visit to Rice Terraces

Before we came down last week, we decided to take a day trip over to the famous rice terraces (supposedly they were starting to be built 2,000 years!), which are only a few hours drive from our place now, on a shortcut, dirt road. We had a great time! It was a perfect, clear day and such a beautiful drive. We ran into some landslides--one that held us up a couple hours, but not too bad. And we were glad for our 4 wheel drive in several places where it was very muddy, But, it was a grand adventure to explore new areas. We took a hike down to a beautiful, little native Ifugao village where the views of the rice terraces were amazing.

FCA Indonesia!

Next week we head to Indonesia, where we will be speaking at the first Faith Camp Asia in Indonesia! We will also help with some of the afternoon break-out sessions and anything else we can do to help support. It seems God has something special planned for this event. Besides the unexpected miracle that we received when some of our dear relatives offered to pay our way as a Christmas gift, we have heard of many other miracles in relation to this program.

Visit to Palawan

Then, as soon as we get back from Indonesia we will head to our Palawan project. We have some new missionaries arriving and other visiting nurses coming to see what missions is all about. Dwayne has some things to check on and things to do on the helicopter. He will probably just stay a few days, but I will stay another couple weeks. I will do a little medical training and then we will also hold a "medical mission" (as they call it here) down in Balabac, the southern most islands of Palawan. One of the PFM (Philippine Frontier Missions) projects will be doing their first evangelistic meetings
and they've asked us to do a couple days of free clinics and health education before it starts. Our missionaries in Palawan just did another one like this the other day in another PFM project. You can read about their exciting adventures on their blog on our website pamasmission.org (bottom left under "Blogroll" and "PAMAS missionary blogs"). This was their first real medical mission without us—and for some, the first one ever—but sounds like they did a great job :) You can imagine our need for a larger helicopter since at the moment we can only take one or two other small people besides the pilot!

God will provide

We thank you so much for your prayers for the project in Palawan as well as the new project in northern Luzon. We know that God will provide as He always has and in His perfect timing! We will be ready to start building again (another hangar and adjoining housing, just like before!) in a very short time. So, we appreciate your prayers for the funds needed for this exciting new project as well.

Aircraft update

We are still waiting for God's timing and provisions for new aircraft.

Our first priority is a helicopter for this new Luzon project and a bigger one to replace the Palawan helicopter. We also need an airplane for longer distances and inter island use.

We have much to praise God for as this year comes to a close. One of our biggest blessings is each of you--our dear friends and family who pray for us and support us in so many ways! This means so much to us and really does keep us going.

We hope you have a restful holiday season and a blessed New Year. Though this world is full of pain and uncertainty with things only getting worse each year, praise God for the hope we have of His soon coming and an eternity of perfect joy with our Saviour! May we each be ready for this fast approaching day.

Love,
Dwayne and Wendy

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2. Edwin & Connie Reynolds <reynolds@southern.edu> January 2:

Dear Family and Friends,

This has been a momentous year for the Reynolds family, with lots of new developments. We began in January by enrolling Brandon in the county adult high school to help him finish high school. He only had four classes lacking for graduation. Edwin had to drive him back and forth to school every day, but with minimum fanfare we finally got him to graduation in May. Then he and Connie headed off to Oklahoma to work at Wewoka Woods, the summer camp where David and Tiffany work. They spent about a month there and returned just in time for General Conference session in Atlanta, where we spent several days enjoying reconnecting with many old friends from around the world. What a wonderful experience that always is!

Tuesday was special in that AIIAS had a reunion in the evening with literally hundreds of people from all over showing up to reconnect. We had arranged things so that we had a reception for Beth and Jeremy in advance of their wedding the next week for many people who had known Beth growing but would not be able to attend the wedding. It was perfect. Of course, Beth and Jeremy came down from Maryland to be there. Jeremy was a little overwhelmed with all the people that he didn't know, but he held up like a trooper. David and Tiffany came back from Oklahoma for the second weekend and enjoyed getting to meet many of the same people by hanging around the AIIAS booth and wandering through the exhibit area where everyone goes to look for friends. Unfortunately, Beth and Jeremy had to leave before the weekend in order to get up to Virginia Beach to sign in for the beach house and get things ready for the wedding.

The Wedding was the next major event! Beth and Jeremy wanted to have a beach wedding, so they booked a beach house in Virginia Beach where a number of Jeremy's relatives live. On Wednesday, July 7, the immediate family and a few close friends gathered on the beach at sunrise (about 5:30 a.m.) to celebrate a personal exchange of vows between Beth and Jeremy. It was very beautiful, with the red morning sun rising in the background behind them, although it wasn't easy to hear with the waves crashing on the beach. Then we went back to the beach house and had breakfast. After breakfast we headed over to the church in Norfolk where we had a public ceremony for the benefit of a larger group of relatives and friends who had come into town for the wedding. Jeremy's three brothers stood up with him, and David, Tiffany, and Brandon stood up with Beth. There was a beach theme for the wedding and reception, which were both held in the fellowship hall. Edwin had taken his shell collection, and we decorated the tables and the cake with shells.

Brown sugar and cinnamon sprinkled on the tables and cake created the look of sand. Orchids (graciously provided by Edwin's cousin Mary), bamboo, gardenias, and other oriental flowers graced the tables. Connie had made the cake from her famous banana bread recipe. It was really a unique and memorable wedding, just what one would expect from Beth.
Of course the reception meal was Filipino food as Jeremy (Villanueva) is a Filipino-American. His family was very happy with the Filipino flavor of the wedding. Interestingly, Jeremy has never been to the Philippines nor does he speak Tagalog. When he promised Beth to take her to the Philippines, she told him that she would take him, as she can introduce him to his heritage!

When Jeremy’s mother asked him if he was marrying a Filipina, he replied that he was doing his best. His family was quite happy with Beth’s approximation of Filipino culture. She had even been sleeping on the floor for the past several years. She didn’t even own a bed! Jeremy had to introduce her to the American culture of sleeping in a bed again. We wish the very best for Mr. and Mrs. Jeremy Villanueva!

In late July we enrolled Brandon in Southern Adventist University for Smart Start, a summer session which Southern offers tuition-free to new students who will be enrolling for classes full time in the fall semester.

He moved into the dorm and took Earth Science for four weeks. In August he began his freshman year, starting out as a Graphic Design major. He soon discovered that that was not going to be his forte, and he switched to an undesignated major. It didn't take long for Brandon to find that he really had no interest in school at all, and so dropped out entirely in the middle of November. Beth and Jeremy came down to Collegedale just after that for Thanksgiving and Brandon's 20th birthday. It was good to enjoy several days with them. Since then Brandon has applied for work in Ooltewah, but nothing has developed yet. He spends his days doing small jobs around the house and enjoying his computer, guitars, and TV. We hope that the new year will provide some new opportunities for him to learn to work so that he can support himself in his new-found independence.

We were delighted in October when David and Tiffany learned that they are expecting a child, our first grandchild! In December they learned that it will be a girl, due on or about May 26. For Christmas we drove to Oklahoma and spent a little over a week with David and Tiffany. It was fun decorating the lodge for Christmas, working around the camp, helping them fix up their little apartment, playing games together, shopping, visiting the science museum in Oklahoma City, cooking, eating, and generally enjoying each other’s company. We picked up some maternity clothes for Tiffany as well as some baby items to help set the mood for the changes coming in their lives. They are very happy in their situation there at the youth camp, even though their housing arrangements are temporary and uncertain. Currently they are staying in the little apartment attached to the Adventist Book Center (ABC) building. It belongs to the ABC and is occupied every summer for a week by the ABC manager, so they have to move out before campmeeting week and relocate somewhere. Since it is not their own place, they are limited in what they can do to the place to make it livable, and since it is small, they have a lot of things in storage. But we helped them to organize things so it is more pleasant. They really need a permanent place to live, but there isn’t a place on the campground that is just for them. Everything gets occupied during the summer, so then they have to fend for themselves.

They are not sure what the solution will be, but, hopefully, they won't have to stay in a tent with a newborn!

Connie has been promoted to teaching fourth grade this year instead of second grade. The net effect is more work to take home every night, but she is enjoying it nonetheless as she has mostly students that were with her two years ago in second grade. She still helps out a bit with Pathfinders, although she had to give up her leadership role because of the pressures of school responsibilities and having Brandon living at home again.

Edwin had a sabbatical the first half of the year and was able to do some research and writing on a textbook for Revelation. However time passed quickly, and because he had to teach a class as well, he didn't accomplish as much as he would have liked, leaving him to complete the rest while he is teaching full time. Needless to say, it will be some time before he will be able to see the project to completion. He continues his teaching responsibilities at Southern and his work with the Ooltewah church.

In December we learned of the passing of a very dear friend, Jack Krall, whom we worked with at Solusi and have continued to maintain a close relationship with. Earlier in the year we had learned of the passing of Jim Bradfield, our principal when we were at Solusi. It seems that this old world is taking its toll on our family and friends more and more each year.

We long for the time when Jesus will come and put an end to sin, suffering, and death, and will restore us to the perfect plan He had when He created this world. This season reminds us of what God has done to make provision for this possibility. We are grateful for His love and mercy. As the New Year begins, we trust that God will bless you and give you peace and joy.

Love and best wishes,

Edwin, Connie, and Brandon

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III. Dr. Muriel Chapman Endows Nursing Scholarship
Muriel Chapman began a life-long dedication to health care when she graduated as a nurse in 1937. One of her early assignments was caring for Appalachian Mountain people, at times parking her car at the end of the road and walking up the "hallow" to see her patients.

Later she graduated from Walla Walla College with majors in nursing and biology. Later she obtained a masters degree from Emory University and then a doctorate in education from Colombia University. She was employed by Andrews University as chairman of their nursing education program, and then at the General Conference organizing their Nursing Archives. In 2000 she published a book, "Mission of Love, A Century of Seventh-day Adventist Nursing."

Muriel retired in 1985 after a full career and began her life as a missionary. For three years she lived in a leaf and bamboo house on the Thai-Burma border where she taught a program for the village health workers. She later moved to Berrien Springs, Mich. to enjoy her retirement.

At Walla Walla University the Dr. Muriel Chapman Endowed Nursing Scholarship provides scholarships for nursing students (sophomore or above) based on financial need and academic merit.

[The above is summarized from an item in the current WWU's alumni magazine, WESTWIND] ~~~~~~~~~ IV. Gerald Christo's Memoirs: Return to Mongolia, Part 1 of 2

[Gerald J. Christo, retired former president of the Southern Asia Division, volunteered for pioneering work in Mongolia. The following is from the last chapters of his book, "Out of the Clay Pit," which is being serialized in the SUD e-News, a letter similar to this for those interested in the old Southern Asia Division. Perhaps readers of this newsletter will find points of interest in the work in Mongolia which is now a part of what used to be the Far Eastern Division.]

Return to Mongolia, Part 1 of 2

In the year 2000, the General Conference session was slated to be held in Toronto, Canada. How could we not attend the session when it was being held in a city where three of my sisters had been living for almost fifty years? We applied to the Division officers to include us in the Southern Asia Division quota and had our passports and visas ready. Then early in May, the telephone rang. P. D. Chun, president of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division was on the line. "Pastor Christo," he said, "Would you be interested in coming to Mongolia again? Dale Tunnel is a delegate to the General Conference and is also due a four-month furlough. We need you for another five-month period." Birol was standing nearby and heard the conversation: she nodded her head in assent. I didn't need another invitation and without hesitation, I asked, "When do you want me to come?"

"As soon as you are ready," he replied. There went our trip to Toronto.

We were all excited. We had kept in touch with our young friends through the three years we had been absent and they shared our excitement also. The first time we had gone to Mongolia in 1997, the Mongolian field was under the supervision of the Hong Kong Mission. Soon after our visit, the Far Eastern Division was reorganized as the Northern-Asia Pacific Division and Southern-Asia Pacific Division. This time, our journey took us through Seoul, South Korea, where we spent the night. The Division officers were busy in a heatbed committee session. We were met the next morning at the Ulaanbaatar airport by Dale Tunnel and a couple of other workers from the office. We drove to the site of the new three-story building, which had a residence for the director on the ground floor, the Adventist Mongolian Organization office, a worship hall, and the English Language School on the second floor, and the ADRA office on the third floor.

Dale and Cheryl Tunnel shared their apartment with us for a week. When they left for the General Conference session and a well-earned furlough, we lived in their home. We soon got into a busy schedule. Bold and Otgoh had married in the meantime and were located in Darkan to look after the growing church there. Nyamdava went as a missionary to Edernet. Byra had gone as a missionary to her home town. Enkhebayar, a Bible worker, was in charge of the church in Ulaanbaatar. Tamira was the office secretary, and I took over as the leader of the Church of Mongolia, as well as the treasurer, a task that Cheryl had been doing.

The year before, Dale Tunnel's father had held an evangelistic campaign in Ulaanbaatar. Korean volunteers had started work in Darkhan and Edernet.

The young people were very enthusiastic. The English Language School was attracting quite a few students. Two volunteers from the United States and one from Hong Kong were running the school. Enkhebayar and I had a schedule of Bible studies. Munkjagral was busy translating books. Pastor James Wong and his wife of the Adventist Youth Department spent a weekend with us conducting leadership classes. He brought a couple of cases of soy-protein foods to supplement our diet. We appreciated that!

We started attending the International Christian Fellowship on Sunday mornings. They were a group of English-speaking Protestant volunteers representing the Commonwealth and the United States. We were the only Indians. A couple of Mongolian Christian families also attended the services. The organizers were happy to have us worship with them. During the four months that we worshipped with them, I had the opportunity to speak to them on two occasions. The first time, I spoke on the subject, "Why I am a Seventh-day Adventist Christian." Pastor Gibson from England was
married to a Mongolian woman. He had been in Ulaanbaatar for many years and was acquainted with Brad and Cathy Jolly. The majority of the American Christian churches had translated the name of "God" as "Burhan" a derivative of "Buddha." He opposed this translation because God can never be equated with or compared to Buddha. Pastor Gibson was instrumental in establishing the Mongolian Bible Society, whose work has the blessing of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

One evening, after office hours, we went for a walk on the street in front of our apartment. The streets were deserted. As we approached the corner of the street, I carelessly stepped on a cast-iron manhole cover. It flipped open. I lost my balance and as I started falling down into the manhole Birol caught hold of my hand, but try as hard as she could, she could not pull me up. Just then she noticed a well-dressed man coming out of a building with his secretary. They proceeded to a car parked by the curb.

Fearing that she couldn't hold on much longer, Birol shouted as the couple started to get into the car. Fortunately they heard her. Sizing up the situation, he was by her side in a moment and helped her pull me out. The flipped iron cover had made a gash just below my knee, and it was bleeding profusely. The blood was running down my leg into my shoe. The woman could speak English. Her boss, a Korean executive, had a first aid box in his car, and he bandaged the wound and rushed us to a nearby government hospital. A nurse attended to me immediately, gave me a shot, stitched the deep cut, and placed a dressing on the wound. For three days, I went to the hospital every day to have the dressing changed. After the third day, the nurse kindly stopped by our apartment, and dressed the wound. She kept coming until the wound had healed. God had placed the Korean gentleman right where and when we needed him. We thanked God once again for providing help when we needed it, and for the excellent care and medical facilities in Ulaanbaatar. [End of Part 1 of 2] ~~~~~~~~~~ To remove your name from the mailing list of this newsletter, simply reply to this e-mail and put "REMOVE" in the Subject line.

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