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~~~~~~~~~~I. Letters

1. Pamela Chaney <thrasherchaney@hotmail.com> August 31:

I heard that Miss Feltus died in St. Helena where I visited her in 1974 or 1975. Miss Feltus was my favorite teacher ever, and the one that made the biggest difference in my life.

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2. Barbara S. Wyman <barbwy26@gmail.com> Sept. 6:

Here is a worthy student project for anyone(s) who’d be willing to help this young lady get her higher education. Her parent writes as follows:

Saw Thein <sawthein2009@gmail.com> Sept. 5 Dear Ma Ma Wyman;

Thank you very much for supporting our evangelism work. We believe that you may continue support our work. Your gifts are great blessings to Myanmar people.

May I have one more favor for my daughter please? My daughter, Hay Man Oo, studies at Myanmar Union Adventist Seminary (MUAS) for her second year in this first semester. In the month of May this year MUAS selected some quality students for the scholarship plan that provided and my daughter satisfactory passing of the English Proficiency Exam IELTS 5.0. Hay Man Oo submitted to Asia Pacific International University (APIU) her high school transcript (out of 10 subjects she received 9 A and 1 B grade) and diploma awarded and first year enrolment in MUAS (received all A grade). The University Admissions Committee has approved her admission as a provisional student into the English, International Program for second semester of Academic Year 2011/2012. Unfortunately later the message from the university informed the scholarship plan failed to provide this year for Myanmar students. I could not afford to support my daughter, so that I look for her sponsor in order to have a privilege to attend at APIU according to the date set up she needs to prepare to reach there before 12 October, 2011. Hay Man Oo received all documents from APIU for admission and applied her passport already. If you don't mind, kindly, please could you find some one who would like to sponsor my daughter Hay Man Oo? Thank you very much, if you may have convenient situation please informs us.

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II. Former Student Remembers the Waddells

Lee Chin Beng <leec@eis.ac.th> August 31:

I would like to share an email that I received from an alumnus, Dr. Lawrence Au, who attended the school started by Dr. Waddell at the mission hospital in Bangkok, Thailand. He graduated from that school in 1950. Many of our former missionaries must still remember the school which became the predecessor of the present day Ekamai International School. I want to share the email as it will bring cheers to many of our pioneers who had the vision to start the school at the garage of Dr. Waddell's house in 1946:

"Memorable experience at the Waddells' School in Bangkok, Thailand:

"I was there during its infancy at Dr. Waldell's residence. The pupils were mostly children of foreign missionaries and diplomatic corps - an international school indeed. The Waddells, certainly, were persons with visionary leadership! The
missionary teacher that impressed me daily in the class was Miss Feltus which left an imprint in my soul, paving the way for my lifelong dedication in ministry and community.

"After leaving the Waddell’s school in 1950, I went to the US to take up BS and MPA at the University of San Francisco. Then obtained MDiv., MABS, & DMin at the Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, and finally DD (Hon) at the Conroe Normal & Industrial College, TX.

"I have worked for many years as pastor, teacher, ombudsman, and several other positions in many countries including the US. Then I worked as a chaplain in the US military with the rank of captain. Later I joined the police department as a senior chaplain with the FBI and I am still active working as a county commissioned chaplain in San Francisco. I have also received many citations from the USAF, Justice Department (FBI), US Government and the State of California. -- Dr. Lawrence Au."

Lee Chin Beng
Ekamai International School
Bangkok, Thailand
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III. Dale & Reda Bidwell Retire, Again

From the current (Sept. 2011) Adventist Frontiers magazine:

"When my wife Reda and I got married 45 years ago, it was after a seven-month courtship. We have never regretted our decision. When I joined AFM 41 months ago, it was after a very short exposure to the miracles happening at AFM. I have no regrets for that decision, either, for God has continued to bless AFM. It is now time for me to retire a second time. Reda and I have moved back to Tennessee where we spent almost 19 years prior to joining AFM.

"Please welcome AFM’s new president, Conrad Vine, a former missionary who has most recently been serving as a pastor in the Minnesota Conference.

He was born in Ireland to missionary parents, holds citizenship in the UK and has recently come to the States.

"The support you have given me as I have served AFM these 41 months has been greatly appreciated. 'Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit says the Lord of Hosts.'

"Thank you for your continued commitment to the mission of AFM. Jesus is returning soon, and we have but a short time to help finish his work."

Writes AFM board chairman, Steve Fisher, in the same magazine:

"Dale Bidwell Has Been Quite the Runner

"When he joined AFM in 2008, he brought a lifetime of leadership experience and a wealth of understanding about finance; how organizations run and how they can run better. When God miraculously answers our prayers for a new missionary training center, Dale spearheaded the extensive project to make it a perpetual blessing for present and future missionaries. In a thousand other ways, he poured his boundless energies into preparing AFM for growth. Dale sprinted right up until the moment of his long-deserved retirement. Dale, from the bottom of my heart, and in behalf of AFM and the unreached people we all serve, than you for a race well run."

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IV. KID University in Bangladesh

KIDS IN DISCIPLESHIP (KID) is a prayer-based program to reach all families of the Adventist children in order to strengthen their faith as they testify of God’s love to others, thus giving them hope for a better future.

The SDA Church in Bangladesh (BAUM) recently conducted a KID University session that enlisted 70 participants from the mission fields, districts, and boarding schools at the BAUM headquarters.

Guest presenters at the session were Ms Miriam Andres, director of Children's Ministries (ChM) at the Adventist Church in the southern Asia-Pacific region, Ms Josie Calera, ChM director for the Church in Central Luzon in the Philippines, and two other ladies from Bangladesh.

The presenters taught the participants how to implement the KID in the boarding schools, districts, and local churches as a way to present the beauty of Jesus to the children.

In spite of heavy rains, the 3-day session was filled with activities that helped the delegates learn practical and innovative ways as parents and teachers to teach their kids to become good children of their home, church, and community and be able to reach fellow children in becoming good as well.— (Francoise Monnier) in Southern Asia Pacific's OUTLOOK ~~~~~~~~~ V. AWR Reaches out in Myanmar
Had it not been for Adventist World Radio (AWR) Htay Htay Myint and her three children would not have found Jesus and become Adventists.

She, her husband and their three children live in Ywarthargyi village, 20 miles from Yangon. The family had no way of learning Christianity, much more about Adventists.

Htay Htay Myint lived on a meager income, but had the opportunity to own a radio to listen regularly to news broadcasts to keep her abreast with what's going on in her country. Turning her radio for news and information, one day she tripped off the AWR radio frequency and began to hear things that weren't there before. She began to hear things she never knew before.

She was learning about Jesus for the first time!

Then, she tried finding out which Christian church this broadcast was outsourced and learned it was from the Seventh-day Adventists.

In her search for the Adventists, she discovered eight of them living in her village. She also found out that a lady broadcaster from AWR would come would come to their village on Sabbaths giving Bible studies.

Htay Myint introduced herself and joined the group in order to know more about things she was hearing over the radio.

Ms Hla Hla Myint, program coordinator of AWR Myanmar--the lady who frequents her community, started the Bible with her at the Adventists' meeting place.

Hlai Myint accepted Jesus Christ and became an Adventist in May 2009.

She started inviting her family to accept Christ, too. This led to the baptism of her three children into the Adventist faith.

"We recognize the difficulty of spreading the gospel here in Myanmar," remarked Maung Maung Chan, AWR Myanmar director, "but we thank God for AWR that opens the way to bring people to the feet of Jesus. We are glad that our message is heard even in remote villages.".-- (AND Staff) in Southern Asia Pacific's OUTLOOK ~~~~~~~~ VI.

Outreach to Mahayana Buddhists in Taiwan

Sue Lundquist <prayersamongbudhists@gmail.com> Sept. 1

Taiwan is a beautiful island with a population of 23 million, 95% are of Chinese origin. Religions from Chinese backgrounds dominate the island, especially Chinese Buddhism. In September 2010, the Buddhist Study Center launched a new effort to reach Mahayana Buddhists in northern Asia. This branch of Buddhism is also the majority in Taiwan.

Samuel Wang, a mainland-born native Chinese, was placed in Taiwan for the purpose of leading this new effort.

Invitations to the meetings

Close to one year after the Wang family's arrival, Samuel was invited to hold evangelistic meetings in the northern district of Taiwan especially for people with Chinese religious backgrounds. The meetings will be held in three cities with six Seventh-day Adventist churches. In view of a world filled with disasters, Samuel entitled his series "Listen to Revelation from the Classics in the Midst of Disasters". It is further divided into eight subtitles, each focusing on a specific topic commonly of interest when people want to know why. Each meeting is introduced through a familiar Chinese cultural gateway, but focused on the essentials of the present truth for this time.

Four Noble Truths of Life

One week prior to the meetings, 200,000 copies of Four Noble Truths of Life, a pamphlet to reach Buddhists, were distributed. People reported that these tracts were accepted even in Buddhist stores, and the church members passing them out were warmly greeted. This is unlike what they have experienced in the past when trying to distribute literature that was easily recognizable as Christian. These new pamphlets proved to be an easy way to approach people.

As this eNewsletter is being written, the first series in the capital city of Taiwan is finished. With limited budget, the meetings were held in two Seventh-day Adventist churches, but still many guests showed up. One student from Cultural University in Taipei (who is earning his second master's degree in Chinese culture) told Samuel that he now has begun to understand the true legacy of Chinese culture as well as the real purpose for life. Another non-SDA wrote in his email, "Nice to meet you all in Dr. Wang's meetings here in Taipei. I benefited a lot from them and was very impressed by his abundant and detailed Biblical knowledge."

Most of the Seventh-day Adventist members come from minorities which are only 3% of the island's population. In a way, the evangelistic meetings seem to be more like a demonstration for reaching the 97% majority and a training workshop for the church! Members were excited to find a new way to reach the Buddhist majority. There are still two more series scheduled in other locations. The first of these two starts September 1.
Please pray for Dr. Wang as he finishes up these last two series of meetings. Pray for his listeners, and that not one will stay away that should attend. There is still much darkness; so many many people who have not yet had opportunity to hear about our soon-coming Savior. Pray for those who came to the first two series of meetings, a couple of their responses were included above. Pray for our church members on the island to take the new tools they have received and reach out to the 97% Buddhist majority still unreach ed. Pray for Samuel’s family.

-- from Prayers Among Buddhists eNewsletter, September, 2011 ~~~~~~~~~ VII. Faculty of Science Honored at APIU

-- Ajarn Alwyn Chacko, Faculty of Science

Last week, the Faculty of Science at Asia Pacific International University met over dinner at the Klong Ngern restaurant as a gesture to say thank you by the Faculty Dean Dr. John Perumal for the hard work put in by the staff in the documentation process for QA and ONESCA.

The ‘Thank you’ was also extended to the Clausens for their kind contribution to the department. For the past one and a half years, they served as volunteers in the department and taught some of the important courses where offered (such as Principles of Biology, Systems Physiology, Anatomy and Physiology and more).

It is hard for us to say goodbye since the Clausens’ expertise is difficult to be replaced. Their friendship will be dearly missed by the students and faculty. The department wishes God’s blessings to the Clausens in their future endeavors.

The occasion was also used to formally welcome Dr. David Ekkens and his wife, Sharon. We are happy that they would serve us for this year. --Newsbyte, an on-campus newsletter, September 8, 2011 ~~~~~~~~~ VIII. SULADS Reopen Schools in War-ravaged Areas

IN TWENTY YEARS-- by Ranny de Vera

Tamparan, Lanao del Norte has been a war zone for many, many years.

Residents are used to evacuation experiences whenever fierce fighting would erupt between the government forces and the dreaded rebel group, MILF (Moro Islamic Liberation Front). For those many years, local residents’ children have had no education, the last school year was twenty years ago. Since then, the school has not functioned, houses were burned along with the school. It was only two years ago that the residents started to rebuild their homes with the help of the military, hoping to take back their lives and peace prevail in their land.

It was also about the same time that I met Sultan Kamlon Moner. He is the crowned sultan under whose jurisdiction Tamparan falls. In one of our many conversations, he expressed his longing with these words: "Sir, please give us programs and development to help my people. Because I don't want them to bear arms again." That meant he desired his people to cease from joining the rebels and instead live peaceful lives. He continues, "We are tired of war, tired of running and scampering for places of safety whenever gun battles ensue." Since that time, I have labored to negotiate for SULADS to re-open the school in that war-torn area that is feared by many. The mere mention of the place sends shivers down their spines even until today. Two years after, here comes the first batch of SULADS volunteers.

On May 31st, two truck loads of volunteers from the Adventist Churches around Lanao came in full force to do a "Brigada Eskwela" to rebuild broken chairs, paint them and build chalkboards in preparation for the opening of classes in a few days. The residents were so amazed that no words were sufficient to express what they were witnessing before their very eyes.

Christians, whom they abhorred and avoided and counted as enemies, were there in their village helping them rebuild their school! They felt an ambivalence of joy and shame - joy because would-be enemies were there helping them rebuild not only their school but their lives as well, and shame because they could offer nothing in return to express their deep gratitude.

So it was on that historical day that the people gathered together for a brief introduction introducing the AMR SULADS of the Seventh-day Adventist Organization, who had come to re-open their school so their children could learn to read and write. All the residents applauded heartily expressing their joy. The Alim (Muslim Educator) commented, "If you gave us a million pesos today, we would easily divide it among ourselves and in a few weeks that money would be gone. But today you brought us education, something that even the children of our grandchildren will be benefit from." Those short words summed up the peoples' sentiments to what they were witnessing before their very eyes, far beyond their wildest imaginations - in twenty years.

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