I. Letters
   1. Dayton Chong
II. Death of E. Jean DeHaven
III. Life Sketch of Lois May Watts
IV. "My Kind of Christmas" -- by Zach Tan V. Season's Greetings
    1. Dorothy Minchin-Comm
    2. Abel & Ofelia Pangan
    3. Doris A. Roth
    4. Audrey & Wendell Wilcox

I. Letters
   1. Dayton Chong <Daytonch@aol.com> December 6:
      Christian Greetings! Yvette Chong, my wife, attended her the first meeting of the Executive Committee of the Central California Conference last Sunday. She was elected as a Conference Committee member for the next four years as a Lay Representative for all the Asian Laity in the Conference, and also a Representative for all the Fresno County Women members during the Conference Constituency Meeting about three weeks ago. In January, Yvette and I will start the publication of the "Asian Voice" for our Conference Asian Laity, reporting news of soul-winning activities, major events, etc.
      in all of our Asian churches throughout our conference, in order to facilitate better communication. The newsletter will come out quarterly initially. Most of the editorial staff will come from the Asian church members.
      Last weekend, I started a Bible study with the National Guards' Commander in Fresno. His family also participated in the Bible study. They were so interested in the study. Please continue to pray for us. Thanks! I am also now serving as the Head Elder for the Fresno Asian and Community Seventh-day Adventist Church for my third term of two years. While Yvette is serving in her 16th year as an Elder for the same Church. The Lord has blessed our church, when three weeks ago, we baptized another 16 souls for Jesus Christ!

II. Death of E. Jean DeHaven
    from the Adventist Review, November 24:
    2011, Sequim, Wash. She served with her husband, Winston, in three California conferences, the Canadian Union, the Far Eastern Division, and Walla Walla College (now University). She was predeceased by her husband and her daughter, Cherie Pinkard. She is survived by a son, Greg; a brother, Edward Haight; four grandchildren and one great-grandchild."

III. Life Sketch of Lois May Watts
    Penny Shell <oregonrancher@usfamily.net> December 6:
    Lois May was born to Mildred (Blackstone) and William Lloyd Shepherdson on May 15, 1919, during her father's final exams for his doctor of osteopathy degree in Kirksville, Mo. Her sister, Barbara Belle, was born February 20, 1923, and completed the family. As a teenager, Lois May became a Seventh-day Adventist along with her devoted mother, Mildred, through the sweet influence of her paternal grandmother, Ida Belle (Jenkins) Shepherdson. "Dr. Ida" taught a Sabbath school class at the Stevens Avenue Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and practiced osteopathic medicine with her husband, William Van Pelt Shepherdson.
Despite hard times in the family and the Great Depression, Lois May enrolled at Union College, Lincoln, Nebraska, to take teacher training.

There she met Carl B. Watts who was studying for the ministry. Lack of finances forced them to drop out of school in 1941. They married in Topeka, Kansas, on May 10, 1942, where Lois May was teaching church school, and Carl had become publishing secretary for the Kansas Conference. Daughter Kit was born there on Dec. 5, 1943. When they returned to college, son Howard was born November 19, 1945, in Lincoln. They graduated from Union College in 1949 and worked in the area until 1951.

Next, they spent four years in the Missouri Conference where Lois May taught school again briefly in St. Louis and worked in the Bible correspondence school at the conference office in Kansas City. Carl directed literature evangelists and was ordained as a gospel minister. In 1955, they accepted a long-hoped-for invitation to become missionaries. The family made up half of the eight passengers on a tiny freighter, crossing the Pacific Ocean from San Francisco to Yokohama in 16 days. In Japan and Okinawa the Lois May and Carl served in teaching, publishing, and administrative roles for 18 years.

While Carl was mission president in the Okinawa Mission, Lois May and he hosted scores of American GI's in their tiny mission house. Hostilities in Laos, Cambodia and Viet Nam heated up (1960-1966) and thousands of U.S. military personnel were based in Okinawa. Lois May often had 10 to 15 GI's show up unannounced for Sabbath dinner. Many stayed for supper, and sometimes slept on the floor over night to enjoy friendship, hospitality, and spiritual encouragement. She also taught mission and military children in a one-room school. At times, there were six or seven students in six or seven different grades. Back in Japan, Carl became president of the union and Lois May often did his official English-language correspondence. She also taught English to young Japanese people, and hosted missionaries and other church leaders traveling in the Far Eastern Division.

In late 1973, Lois May and Carl returned to the United States and settled in the Southeastern California Conference where Carl became senior pastor of the Anaheim and Escondido Churches, respectively. For several years Lois May worked in the Child Evangelism Department at the conference office. For the first time in her life she had her own car, a blue Ford Pinto, and commuted between Anaheim and Riverside. Their grandchildren, Kandice Michelle, born May 1, 1974, and Travis Daniel, born April 26, 1985, brought them much joy. At their rural home in Escondido, Kandice enjoyed riding Ginger the pony. Travis soon found the berry patch that grew near the front sidewalk.

In retirement, Lois May and Carl accepted Kit’s invitation to move East in 1989-1990. They designed and built a home on 14 acres of woods and streams in Berkeley Springs, West Virginia, and were active volunteers in the local congregation and church school. They returned to California in 2001, choosing a small home in Riverside, and becoming members of the La Sierra University Church.

Their marriage endured hardships but also provided many adventures including: riding a motorcycle with Kit strapped in a box on the back, flying with two children and the family dog, Bouncy, in Carl’s two-seat Taylor Craft airplane, traveling around the world and visiting five continents, climbing Mt. Fuji and Mt. Sinai.

Their partnership was grounded in extra-ordinary love, commitment, and faith in God. As Lois May's health declined in recent years, Carl prayed that he could outlive her and care for her to the very end. This he has done. Together, they shared 69 ½ years of married life. In October 2007, they sold their home and moved to The Palms (now Emeritus), a retirement center in Loma Linda, California. Lois May's memory was episodic, and repeated infections, falls, and hospitalizations took a toll. She passed to her rest on Sunday, November 13, 2011. She was 92.

A private burial was conducted at Montecito Memorial Park on November 18 in Colton, Calif., by Pastor Halcyon Wilson. A memorial service was held at Corner Chapel in Redlands, on November 20, by Dr. Lou Venden.

Survivors include: husband Carl B. Watts of Loma Linda, Calif; daughter Kit Watts of Milton-Freewater, Oregon; son and wife, Howard T. and Sandi Watts, of Grand Terrace, Calif.; granddaughter Kandice Watts of Malibu, Calif; grandson Travis Watts of Los Angeles, Calif; her sister Barbara’s children–Carolyn Ytreval, of St. Paul, Minn; David Weber of Waukesha, Wis.; and niece Dianne Stevens of Anchorage, Alaska; and Watts nieces and nephews in Iowa, Kansas, and Colorado.

Contact: Carl B. Watts, Emeritus #127, 25585 Van Leuven Street, Loma Linda, CA 92354.

IV. "My Kind of Christmas" -- by Zach Tan

The following is from the November 24 Adventist Review:
"My name is Zach Gabriel Tan and I am 9 1/2 years old and in the 4th grade. I live in Australia with my parents and three-year-old sister, Zoe.

I was born in the Philippines and moved to Singapore when I was four. When I was 7 we moved to Australia. I have celebrated Christmas in all three countries.

"In the Philippines parents wake children up at midnight on Christmas Eve to enjoy 'Noche Buena.' Noche Buena is the midnight feast, and it's like a midnight party. Other family members come and bring food, and we eat together. After the Noche Buena feast we open our gifts. We are allowed to stay awake until early morning on Christmas and New Year's Eve.

"In Singapore, Christmas is celebrated differently. Actually, Christians are the ones that celebrate Christmas most. The main street, Orchard Road, is well decorated and lighted. It is the tourist area. Singapore is a wealthy country, so there are lots of gifts and toys to buy in stores. At home we set up a small Christmas tree in the corner of the living room and have lots of food. We still do our Filipino tradition of eating Noche Buena and opening gifts at midnight.

"In 2006, our last Christmas in Singapore, we went on a biking trip in Pulau Ubin, which is one of the islands near Singapore. Then we ended the day with a party at a friend's home. At church we have a Christmas program and many of our older church members, whom we call auntie and uncle, give the kids lots of small Christmas gifts.

"In Australia we don't have snow at Christmas. It's summer and very, very hot. In Australia snow comes in July, so July sometimes feels like Christmas to me, which is kind of weird. But in December, when it is summertime and hot, we do different things. We don't have Noche Buena but we do have a Christmas lunch with friends. We go to the beach and cool down, and oh, boy, is it crowded with people. . . ."

~~~~~~~~~~~~

V. Season's Greetings

1. Dorothy Minchin-Comm <otmcomm@msn.com> December 5:

To All of My Dear People: Christmas Greetings 2011 COMING IN

Visitors: Kelvin and Rosemary Minchin, and Vic Minchin (New Zealand and Australia), lifetime friend, Annamarie Liske (stayed three weeks while caregiver Cindy was out of town). Mary Thompson (Cayman Islands), certain American cousins, an assortment of Canadians, former students, and (occasionally) Larry, Lorna, and grandsons Gary and James.

Daily phone calls and emails—my window on the world.

Occasional requests for writing and editing work.

Everyday help from Cindy (I can no longer even drive my car.)

Perpetual devotion from Bugsy (my dog).

ARRIVING SOON

"Three Homes for the Heart" by Dorothy Minchin-Comm


Web: http://www.trafford.com Phone: 1-888-232-4444 (ask for Trafford, Order Department) Amazon.com (about May 1, 2012) GOING OUT

To Tamarack for our favorite beach-week, with Larry, Lorna, and my sister Eileen.

To doctor and dentist. (Cataract surgery thrown in this year for variety)

To church and its events (like potlucks, a mountain retreat in the spring, and "Dinner with the Classics" at Christmas), my Book Club, and some academic and alumni celebrations.

Not swimming (50 miles to the nearest pool with a lift), and virtually no shopping.

Departing loved ones. Five very dear friends left me this year.

STANDING BY

To receive your year-end news,

To send you my love for the present, and to remind you all of our hope for the future.
2. Abel V. Pangan <abelfelpan2734@sbcglobal.net> November 29:

Dear Friends & Loved Ones,

We praise the Lord for blessing us this year in many wonderful ways:

1) Abel finally retired when he turned 77 in March. He served for 52 years as a ministerial intern, district pastor and departmental director in Laos and Thailand; school teacher and church pastor in Canada; church pastor, associate executive secretary, and Griggs University affiliate administrator in Central California.

2. Abel and Ofelia attended their grand nephew's (Sheldon Imperio) college graduation at the Adventist University of the Philippines on March 25-27.

3) Flew to Bangkok on March 30 for a week trip to Thailand. We were delighted to visit friends in Ekamai, Bangkok, and Asia-Pacific International University in Muak Lek.

4) Attended granddaughter's (Rachel Scales) 8th graduation on June 2. We congratulated her for being class vice president and valedictorian.

5) We flew to Baltimore, Maryland, on July 26 to help Ofelia's sister, Mary Aquino, in selling her house. She decided to move to California and stay with us. We started driving from Baltimore on August 3 on our way back to Fresno with a three-day stopover at Flower Mound, Texas, to visit our son Dale. With God's protecting care, we safely reached our home in Clovis on August 8.

6) We were privileged to attend the church organization of the Bakersfield Asian Adventist Fellowship Church on October 8. (Abel gathered the Asian believers there and organized them into the Asian Adventist Group in March, 2002.)

7) The Fresno Asset Creations, a Financial Advisory Group, awarded us a Mexican Riviera Cruise aboard the Carnival Splendor from Sunday, October 9 to Sunday, October 16. It was the most enjoyable and relaxing 7-day vacation we ever had. During the cruise we became instant celebrities when we joined a family program where we were televised and declared the best couple with outstanding family values. There were 3,444 passengers plus over 1,200 staff/workers on the ship.

8) This year we celebrated Thanksgiving Day together with our three children and their respective spouses, ten grandchildren, Pierre's mother, Jackie, Teresa's dad, Tom, and Mary Aquino.

9) God willing, our long-time dream will be fulfilled on December 21 when we go to spend a 3-week vacation in New Zealand and Australia.

We wish you all a most joyous celebration of John 3:16 and a more intimate relationship with our Savior and soon-coming King.

2552 Beverly Avenue
Clovis, CA 93611

-------------

3. Doris A. Roth <dorisaroth@gmail.com> or <donaroth@verizon.net> Christmas greetings to my dear family and loyal friends,

Since December 2010 the entire Roth family has been caught up in a whirlwind of activity. Don and I prepared for our move to the Linda Valley Villa (Loma Linda, CA), which took place the week after Christmas. Our children, grandchildren, other relatives and friends helped us move after a wonderful extended family reunion just after Christmas.

One year ago this month, Don was diagnosed with end stage renal disease so he began going for kidney dialysis treatments.

Our last out-of-town trip was the first week of May to our grandson's (Chaz Castle) graduation from Washington Adventist University in Maryland.

During the same trip, Don was honored by the General Conference for 61 years of continuous service to the S.D.A. Church. He officially retired from his part-time job with the General Conference/Loma Linda on May 31, 2011.

The decline of Don's health was rapid and painful where he could not walk, stand or sit comfortably due to a rapid disc deterioration. He faced living the rest of his days in bed, which was hard for him to bear the thought of doing, being the active person he has always been for 84 years.

Near the end of his 19 days in the Redlands Community Hospital, Don decided to discontinue kidney dialysis and he spent the last 10 days of his life at home under hospice care, and the wonderful care of our daughter, Diane and myself. He was surrounded by hundreds of supportive family, friends and work associates. It was a marvelous outpouring of love and affection like I've never seen before.

He died peacefully surrounded by family and friends on July 26. The next thing he will experience will be the second coming of Jesus and being reunited with his loved ones and friends. How we yearn for that day to come soon!
I am coping pretty well with the help of our three children, (David and Dan live in the greater Los Angeles area, Diane lives in McAllen, TX now where I will be spending the Christmas holidays). Our wonderful friends have been tremendous support and encouragement. It is so nice to live in a community of caring people here at the Villa.

My life here at the Villa is great! I no longer have to cook, as three delicious vegetarian meals are served each day. My sister, Joan, and her husband George, live up the street, and Cindi (and her husband Ken), my niece, lives just a few miles away. David (Orange County, CA) and Dan (Simi Valley, CA) come help me work through the paperwork transition process and spend quality time with me. My two bedroom apartment is cleaned every Tuesday, and I feel safe and secure in this wonderful environment. There are many enjoyable planned activities here at the Villa - I wish we had come here sooner than we did!

It is difficult for me to read email, although David is teaching me how to use my iPad to do so. I have macular degeneration and can only read well-lighted large print. I communicate best these days by phone, so I invite you to call me on my home phone which is 909.796.4730 - it would be delightful to hear from you! I have a "Video Eye" which allows me to read anything.

I appreciate so very much for those who wrote, called, texted or emailed their remembrances of Don and your concern for me.

Our God is so faithful, caring and loving, and a very present help in trouble. Don and I were together for nearly 63 years, and I miss him so much, but I am thankful for the Lord's promise found in John 14:1-3.

Christmas blessings to you and yours, Doris A. Roth
11075 Benton Street #116
Loma Linda, CA 92354
Phone: (909)796-4730
E-mail: <DorisARoth@gmail.com>

4. Audrey Wilcox <audreyandwendell@att.net> December 7:

MERRY CHRISTMAS 2011 & HAPPY NEW YEAR 2012

Dear Friends and Loved Ones:

Another year has rolled around, and hope this finds you well. You're in our thoughts and in our prayers, more than we can tell. We're getting older day by day; but still want you to know, That we think of you from time to time, and want to tell you so.

This year has been a busy one, by moving twice, you see; In May to Idaho we went and in October to Tennessee. We spent 5 months with daughter Deb, and Karl and Collin, too. At their house out on the plains, in Grangeville, Idaho.

We spent time with Olivea, our only great-granddaughter; Such fun to watch her antics, and hear her lively chatter. She called us "G-Pa" and "GG" when she came to our "digs" To look at all our treasures, or run outdoors in the twigs.

She'll be 3 years old at Christmas, But seems grown-up somehow As she tells us what she's doing, when on the phone they call.

She loves stories, doesn't like some foods, but Grammy isn't shirking, As she watches Olivea from time to time, while Mommy Erin is working.

After singing in Portland, Paul and Rob to Idaho did come, To help load the U-Haul truck going to our new home. But all work and no play is really not much fun, So we had a picnic, looked through houses, and went to church with our son.

It was so nice to have our two kids together, up there in Idaho, But then the time did come when our separate ways we did go.

Deb and Karl drove the truck across the USA, Arriving here safely in Tennessee, upon the fourth day.
To Portland with Paul and Rob, we took 2 days on the way, Then flew across to Knoxville on Oct. 4, a Tuesday.
Wendy and Greg met us and at their house we did stay, For just a couple of nights, until our "move-in day".

October 6 you should have seen how everybody worked, Though they sweat gallons, Dan, Kat, Brandi, Wendy, Deb & Karl did not shirk, But made short work unloading the truck and hanging our clothes in the space In the tiny 3-room apartment we rented here at "Wellington Place".

It was so nice of Dan and Kat to come from New York where they live, As did Brandi from North Carolina, much help in unloading to give.
Shawna in NC is expecting in March, so they could not join us As we lifted and carried the boxes of stuff and made a big fuss.

We enjoyed having 3 of our children together, but soon it was time to part; They to return to their homes and work, and we a new life to start.
Wendell is still doing quite well, though his memory is bad indeed.
He doesn't know what day it is, but he knows when it's time to eat.

He can't pick out his clothes, and he gets lost wherever he roams.
If he opens an outside door an alarm alerts someone to come, We're glad they're so kind and gentle as we're living here at this time.
If he needs help, they are here in a jiffy, with words that are really sublime.

I'm doing fine, and am grateful that I can still drive and take us places, Like church each Sabbath, and to shop or over to Wendy and Greg's spaces.
We enjoy the worships, programs of hymns, and many another activity To help our days pass by bowling or golf, that we play here on the Wii TV.

We love it here, and feel right at home, as other residents we greet, To share our past, as well as our hopes, and the things we all must meet.
The staff and residents are wonderful Christians, though not SDA, We enjoy playing games prepared by those who love to come our way.

May God bless you all, we think of you often, and love to hear what you're doing Do keep us in your prayers, as we do you, and write in the time ensuing.
So take down our address, for we'd love to hear from you so we can keep in touch, For we’d love to see pictures or chat with you, as ones we love so much.

As we face another Christmas here in Tennessee,
   Our hearts long for Jesus' return
To take us to Heaven where we'll live with Him
   And hope that it will be SOON!!

May we all be ready when He comes back, to meet Him in the sky And go to Heaven to live with Him there, in the 'Sweet By and By'

Lovingly,
Audrey and Wendell Wilcox
Our address is:
155 Serral Drive
Greeneville, TN 37745
Phone: 707-363-6554
~~~~~~~~~~~~

6
To remove your name from the mailing list of this newsletter, simply reply to this e-mail and put "REMOVE" in the Subject line.

--
BEGIN-ANTISPAM-VOTING-LINKS

Teach CanIt if this mail (ID 0aG8ksUE) is spam:
Spam:    http://www.andrews.edu/spam/b.php?i=0aG8ksUE&m=ab2baab021a0&c=s
Not spam: http://www.andrews.edu/spam/b.php?i=0aG8ksUE&m=ab2baab021a0&c=n
Forget vote: http://www.andrews.edu/spam/b.php?i=0aG8ksUE&m=ab2baab021a0&c=f

END-ANTISPAM-VOTING-LINKS