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--from the June, 2012 issue of the SOUTHERN TIDINGS magazine of the Southern Union, USA:
"The worship service at the Louisville, Kentucky Korean Church was highlighted by the official welcome extended to its new members on Sabbath, March 24 who had recently arrived from Myanmar. Due to language challenges, these believers will worship separately from the Korean congregation, but will enjoy the benefit of having a place to worship on Sabbath. The journey of the Karen Adventists from Myanmar has been a long and perilous experience.
"In 2005 the U. S. government officially granted refugee status to the Karen people of Myanmar who had been persecuted and driven from their villages along the Myanmar-Thailand border. Nearly 200,000 Karen people have been relocated to crowded, unsanitary refugee camps in Thailand.
"Myanmar and the Karen people are traditionally Buddhist; however, nearly 400,000 of a population of around seven million claim Christianity, and of that number, Seventh-day Adventists represent one of the largest Protestant denominations.
"Myanmar is the old country of Burma where Eric B. Hare pioneered an Adventist education and mission presence in the 1940s, and from his experiences wrote mission stories like 'Clever Queen.'
"In most cases it takes years for a Karen refugee to move from their native village to the re-settlement camps, and eventually to the United States. They usually arrive with no money, no readily marketable skills, and, of course, completely unable to speak or understand English. They desperately need and greatly appreciate the support and friendship of their American Adventist family.
"During the worship service, three Karen youth were baptised by John Moon, pastor of the Louisville Korean Church. Although Moon does not speak the Karen language, by patiently working with a translator during many weeks, he was able to study the Bible with them, and introduce these young people to God's Church.
"The Kentucky-Tennessee Conference is very grateful for the generosity and mission focus of the Louisville Korean Church who recognized a mission project in their own community, and opened their church doors and their hearts to welcome the Karen refugees." --by Steve Haley ~~~~~~~~~~~~ II. Family Reunion June 23rd in D. C. Area

Connie Tidwell Wuerstlin <iamconnie@gmail.com>

Come Help Celebrate Dad's Birthday
Please join the children of Dr. Charles Tidwell to come to our home, address below, and wish him a "Happy 90th Birthday" on Sabbath, June 23. We will have an open house from 3-6 PM at 12756 Rt. 216, Highland, MD 20777. Light refreshments will be served. Please, no gifts, just come with a warm handshake and a big smile. If you would like to make a contribution to education, a fund has been set up for needy students at Spicer Memorial College in the Tidwell name. Contact number for Connie is: 301-938-5553 [Thanks, Dad, for putting this in the newsletter! -- Connie.]

~~~~~~~~~~~ III. Remembering Beth James Robinson
Obituary
L. Beth Robinson, 88, passed away May 22, 2012 in Canon City, CO. She was born on June 18, 1923 in Warburton, Australia to Edgar H. and Florence R. James, who were China missionaries and were on furlough in Australia. After her birth, her parents went back to China where Beth grew up.
The family moved to America when she was in high school. Beth received her Bachelor of Arts degree in education and later on, to better equip her for ministry, took classes in Library Science and received her Master's Degree in Teaching English as a Second Language from Pacific Union College in Angwin, CA. On May 26, 1946, Beth was united in marriage to Arthur William Robinson II, in Angwin, CA. She became an American citizen in 1955.

Beth lived in 22 places and 7 countries during her married life. She was a missionary as well as an elementary and high school teacher and librarian. Her duties included teaching many students how to speak English in her special English classes. She started her career in San Jose, CA, and continued in Sri Lanka, Washington, Montana, Indiana, Guam, Singapore, Oregon, and Bangladesh.

Beth and Arthur moved to Canon City on January 7, 2011, from Tillamook, Oregon. Beth was a lifelong member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Ms. Robinson is survived by her husband, Arthur; daughters, Judy (Steve) Schwarz of Canon City and Julia (Gordon) Johnson of Salem, OR; grandchildren, Jana Johnson, Joa Johnson both of OR, Jonathan (Lauren) Schwarz of San Rosa, CA, Julianne (Travis) Timmerman of Morrison, CO; sister, Irene Bowers of Ramona, CA; many nieces and nephews; numerous friends, co-workers, and students around the world. She was preceded in death by her parents; sister, Joyce Rice; niece Beth Dana and nephew Stanley Charbonneau.

A memorial service will be at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 9, 2012, at the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canon City. Memorial donations may be made to Sangre de Cristo Hospice - West at 601 Greenwood Ave., Cañon, CO 81212 or to Lakpahana Adventist College and Seminary C/O 1025 N. Orchard Ave., Lot C, Canon City, CO 81212.

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1. June Peter-Fiorito <jfiorito@cauc.ca> May 31: Beth James Robinson, beloved to many, many Sri Lankan students who studied at Lakpahana and teachers who taught there, may her soul rest in peace! Her unreserved dedication and commitment to service alongside her husband, Pastor A. W. Robinson, will always be admired. She never looked for prestige or fame. She never looked down on any one who could not "make it" in life. Her soft words and kind disposition will always be remembered. I was fortunate to meet both of them in Canada when they visited our camp meetings in Alberta several years ago. May the Lord bless her family as they continue to carry the torch which she carried alongside Pastor Robinson. Judy, Julia, and families you can continue to reflect the love that your mom radiated throughout her life. When that day comes, we shall hear it said, "Well done thou good and faithful servant. Enter thou into the joy of the Lord."

June D. Fiorito, Ed. D.
Chair, School of Education
Canadian University College

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2. Augusta Malkanthie Ballowe <ballowes@aol.com> June 1: I was saddened to hear of Mrs. Beth Robinson's death. Even though I haven't physically seen her in many years, I feel as if she has always occupied a very important part of my life. As a little girl in Lakpahana in the 1960's, I came to love her very much. The Robinsons were on assignment in Sri Lanka where Pastor Robinson was the Administrator and Mrs. Robinson was the librarian and teacher. For me especially, she taught English and Bible. Many an evening she had a sewing class for girls, and I can still picture very vividly the dress I sewed with her gentle, loving guidance. Often she would walk into the girl's dorm to check on one of the girls who was sick or was experiencing other problems. She was always kind, soft, and gentle with every person she met and dealt with. The Robinsons were well known to almost all the SDA members in Sri Lanka and Mrs. Robinson will be missed by all her former students. When the Robinsons reached the end of their mission assignment in Sri Lanka, and were on their way to the US, word reached them that I had passed my GCE examination. In response they sent me a brown handkerchief with two cats embroidered on it. It is still one of my most cherished possessions. The Robinson's kindness and generosity to me are memories I will treasure the rest of my life. With great joy I will be looking for them under the Tree of Life. Our condolences are with Pastor Robinson, Judy and her family, and Julia and her family.

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IV. GAIN Forum Meets in Hong Kong
28 May 2012, Hong Kong, China [Ansel Oliver/ANN & tedNEWS]
About 160 participants from around the world gathered for the eighth Global Adventist Internet Network [GAIN] forum, held this year in Hong Kong. The forum is held in different world regions each year to better accommodate local church administrators and members. Compared to previous conferences, this year’s forum includes greater delegations from the denomination’s Northern Asia-Pacific and Southern Asia-Pacific divisions, based in Seoul and Manila respectively.

This year’s Global Adventist Internet Network forum offered several days of presentations on a mix of technology- and communication-related practices as the Seventh-day Adventist Church continues to bolster and further integrate its online presence. But amidst the programs and workshops, many attendees say that key learning happens at meals and other sidelines of the conference.

"That's where the real networking gets done," said Andrew King, Web manager for the Adventist world church's Communication department, while leaving the buffet Friday morning.

V. An FM Considers Himself an LM

The following letter from a student missionary (FM) in Cambodia is from the June, 2012 issue of the SOUTHERN TIDINGS magazine of the Southern Union, USA:

"Learner Missionary"

"The term student missionary (SM) implies taking time off from your own education and goals to spend a year serving God before you finish college, but that doesn't begin to describe what actually takes place.

"My SM year was a once-in-a-lifetime internship in the science of salvation. I had a chance to shadow Greg Timmins, an expert missionary who for years had been pouring his soul into building up a strong foundation for a future well-instructed, well-adjusted body of Great River Christians. If he picked up a board, I was on the other end. If he was stuck, I was digging. If he needed to find out what was at the bottom of a well, I was swimming. When we were arrested at a conservative Muslim Camp Meeting, I was smiling, listening, and learning. When we were at an important meeting negotiating with the hierarchy of the Cambodian public school system, Greg said, 'Let me handle this,' and I was glad to.

"Though I am on my own now here in Cambodia, I still consider myself a learner missionary. The Great River People is an oral, semi-transient culture of tightly guarded communities. They are converts to Islam but still practice shamanism when they need hands-on spiritual power. Greg taught me that this is called syncretism: when new beliefs are external decorations, and spiritual motivations and worldview remain the same. Greg and his wife, Molly, wrote a culture study of this people group as a toolkit to avoid the pitfalls of syncretism as people come to Christ.

"Learning from the Timmins family turned my modest little bundle of Western ideas about evangelism inside out, and began to broaden my vision of what complete Christian culture for believers here will look like. We wrestled with questions like how to keep people from falling away once they have knowledge of salvation, and how to measure growth on the long road that will eventually lead to baptism. Greg and Molly’s patience rubbed off on me. From wishing it could all be done at once, I was brought to the point of being willing for growth to be in God's time and in His way.

"I took over Greg's baptismal studies with Navee, who will soon be the first baptized Adventist of his people group. We have to drive to a secluded spot to open our Bibles, or we would bring down the wrath of his family and village. He has no idea about other people in the world who believe like him--the Pathfinder camporees and churches full of people singing, praying, and adoring Jesus. Someday, I hope he will understand more about the body of Christ he is joining.

"While studying business at Southern Adventist University, I had several exciting job offers. First there was Aflac with a big crowd of hopefuls around their booth at the job fair. A diamond store nearly begged me to join their sales team, and a tax assessor from Mississippi tried to set me up as a business manager. Instead, I am in Cambodia. Last night I was sitting on the floor reading the creation story to a grandma who had never seen a Bible before. I chose to let God direct my education, and He made me a student missionary. Thanks, Pastor Greg. Thanks, Molly. Thanks, Hannah and Caleb. I miss you guys." -- by Josh Hooker who served as a student missionary with Adventist Frontier Ministries.

VI. Spirit of Prophecy Books in Karen Language

Phanom Phoophichitprai (Aw Gaw Paul) <steverawlings8@gmail.com>

We have decide to translate 5 Spirit of Prophecy books into the Karen Language. Our deadline for "Great Controversy" and "Last Day Events"
VII. More Doors Opening for SULADS in Philippines

By Daryl Famisaran, Field Director, SULADS Philippines -- June 2012

I have just arrived from Mindoro spending a week there arranging with the Municipal Mayor, LGU (local government unit) and DepEd (Dept. of Education) for our SULADS extension work there. The DepEd Administration was searching for licensed teachers among their employees who would have a heart to leave their comfort zone in the lowland to be assigned in the hinterlands where many members of the Mangyan tribe still live in their primitive ways wearing nothing but g-strings. This was a special project of DepEd in that Davison offering extra benefits including hazard pay, travel allowance, etc.

to make the work very attractive. Nobody seemed interested.

The word spread to the rural schools where usually teachers seek promotions to be transferred to the town proper where they see life easier.

Here in this rural area of Pag-as a licensed teacher who was a graduate from Mountain View College. Peter Barolo graduated frustrated because he never had experienced to be a SULADS Missionary. He enjoyed climbing mountains to visit Mission Schools with SULADS missionaries. He dreamed that after his graduation he would join the team but never had a chance because his parents were hurrying him home.

When he heard of this news he went straight to the office of the Department of Education and volunteered himself to be assigned in the mountains. "Are you in your right mind, Peter?" his co-teachers asked when they learned of his interest.

"Nobody else is going and so I will. I will give it a try," he declared.

Peter told me later, "They didn't know that deep in my heart I was about to fulfill my dream to be a SULADS Missionary. If I could not do it in Mindanao then here in these mountains in Mindoro I could be a SULADS Missionary."

It was during our training time for the new batch of Missionaries when Peter and his wife came to Mountain View College and told us about his good news. He came straight to me with sparkling eyes that seemed to say, "Can you count me in, Sir Daryl?"

"It has long been my dream to extend SULADS to my very own people back in my boyhood home place in Mindoro," I told him. His eyes sparkled brighter!

"I can see this a perfect time to dedicate you now with your wife along with the new batch of Missionaries and assign you there among the Mangyans. No money will come from SULADS. You will be in the DepEd payroll doing SULADS work."

"Please note, Sir," he said further. "DepEd needs more licensed teachers and they can't find anymore. My boss designated me to look for licensed teachers who have hearts like mine prepared for the challenge in the mountains."

I asked to the group, "Who would want to accept this challenge."

Many hands went up but we found only three who were licensed. As of this writing one SULADS licensed teacher, Romaly Beligerdo, is on his way now going to Mindoro.

Next week the couple Jesse and Ann Rocacorba will follow after arranging all needed papers for their license as they have just passed the recent board exam. God indeed is OPENING MORE DOORS ~~~~~~~~~~~ To remove your name from the mailing list of this newsletter, simply reply to this e-mail and put "REMOVE" in the Subject line.
END-ANTISPAM-VOTING-LINKS