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I. Rawlings Family Report from Thailand

Steve Rawlings <rawlings@leadingtothelight.org> August 21:

**Flood Update

We are happy to report to you that many have not only been praying, but also sending financial support for the Ta Lod Village flood relief.

$1,200.00 has been sent to pastor Phamor at Education Opportunity Foundation to bring food, water, and shelter to the dorm children and villagers who have lost all of their belongings. We will continue to accept financial support for the rebuilding of our destroyed dorm. I will let you know our funding goal after pastor Phamor is able to go and assess the situation.

Thank you for your continued prayers for these poor, but hard working people of Asia. Our prayer is that this joint effort to meet their needs will allow the light of Jesus to penetrate this small village on the Thai/Myanmar boarder.

**U.S. Travels

We were blessed to stayed with a lovely retired Thai couple in Redlands, California, whom we unceremoniously "adopted" into our family. On Sabbath, we drove to the Thai church where Steve was going to share about God's great faithfulness. My heart skipped a beat as we pulled into the parking lot and I saw the familiar arched Thai characters over the doorway. We were warmly welcomed by this church family as we exchanged the usual Thai greetings. Sinking into the pew, I felt connected and at home. I was truly surprised at my reaction. Your support of our "Thailand Projects" allow us to encourage and assist God's committed workers in Thailand.

**September

07 - Michiana Fil-Am SDA Church, Berrien Springs, MI
14 - Berkley Springs, WV
15-16 - Hartland College, Rapidan, VA
20 - Uchee Pines, Seale, AL
21 - Presentation at Shoals SDA Church, Florence, AL
23-25 - Jefferson, TX
26 - Wichita, KS
28 - Boulder, CO

**October

12 - Presentation at Lynwood SDA Church, Lynwood, WA

Meeting at: Martha Lake Covenant Church

2721 164th Street SW

Lynwood, WA 98037

Contact Franco Monteza for directions at: 206-542-0297

15 - Return to Thailand

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II. Burma Vignettes-- Early Missionaries # 44, 45
Mervin Myat Kyaw <mervinmk@yahoo.com.au> and his wife Nan are Karen Adventists who worked many years in Burma and Thailand and now live and work in Australia. He has written a manuscript covering Adventism in Burma from its very beginning to the present and of his work in Thailand.

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# 44. Pr. & Mrs. O. A. Skau (1939- 1942)
Pastor O. A. and Mrs. Skau came from India in 1939. He had worked many years in the education department in India. When he arrived Myanmar he worked also as the principal of Meiktila Technical School. He raised the level of education in Myanmar by travelling around giving valuable advice to all schools.
Pastor Skau could speak Tamil fluently. On one occasion in Myanmar it was said that he spoke to a Tamil who was so surprised the pastor could speak his language that he stood with his mouth wide opened not being able to utter out a word for many minutes. Pastor Skau had three children. They were Paul, David and Phyllis. David Skau was later known to be the president of the Bangladesh Union Mission.

In 1941, World War II started in Myanmar. Pastor Skau and family were flown out from Pyin-Oo-Lwin to India at the last minute, through the kindness of General Stilwell, who himself trekked out on foot.

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#45. A. J. Johanson 1939-42)
Pastor A. J. Johanson and wife arrived in Myanmar in 1939. He came from Sweden and his wife was English. He led out in literacy work in Myanmar. He used to carry two or three colporteurs in his Ford car canvassing along the Mandalay and Yangon highway. He worked until the beginning of World War II. He fled to India with other missionaries at the outbreak of the war.
Pastor Johanson was a good violinist. Young people liked him the way he spoke English with Swedish accent. He was able to work for the Lord in Myanmar for a few years.

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III. A Visit from Bunjee Choi
Bunjee Choi gave us a phone call, telling us he was in Collegedale and wondered if we were home. Of course we were thrilled to hear from him and gave him directions to our home quite near to the campus of Southern Adventist University. We had not seen him in several years nor heard from him by phone or internet since he and Faith had been here to attend their daughter’s graduation from Southern. Now he had come on a similar task, this time to bring and get settled in as a freshman, a young Chinese youth from his area of British Colombia, who, having finished the academy there, was interested in Southern as his choice for higher education.

How rapidly the next few hours went as we sat bringing ourselves up to date about him and his two daughters and lamenting the death of his dear wife Faith a few years ago. Both daughters have completed college degrees from La Sierra University and Pacific Union College and are active in academic work now.

How we did enjoy remembering our years together when he and Faith, Evelyn and I, were fellow faculty members of South China Union College (now Hong Kong Adventist College) in the 1970s & 80s.

Bunjee still operates a very successful construction business in the vicinity of Vancouver, BC, Canada. But he finds time to accept opportunities to visit China and assist in various educational activities. In fact he will be heading off for Hong Kong and other areas of China in the very near future.

Our visit went all too quickly and we had a prayer for him and his family and sadly bid him a goodbye as he headed for Atlanta and his plane back home in the far northwest.

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IV. Chinese Mid-Autumn Moon Cake Festival
from the Weekly Newsletter and Church Bulletin
Cho Paul <paulcho99@yahoo.com.hk>
The Chino Valley Chinese Seventh-day Adventist Church in California will celebrate a Mid-autumn Moon Cake Festival on September 14, 2013 after church service. This is an important culture celebrated by Chinese people all over the world. The Festival will be held in the Courtyard with food provided. There will be performances by our members and friends as well as a lantern parade. Please feel free to invite your friends and neighbors to this special celebration.

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V. A "GLOW Story" from the Philippines
"While touring the island of Bohol, Philippines, a young man named Justin wore a GLOW-T shirt on which were printed the words, 'I'll give you $5 if you ask me for a Bible pamphlet and I don't have one.' One of the other tourists noticed the T-shirt and asked for a pamphlet. Justin gave him one. Then another man asked for a pamphlet as well. Some other people wanted more than one so they could share the pamphlets with others. Justin's unique method of witnessing certainly attracted attention and resulted in the distribution of many GLOW tracts." -- from the August "Adventist World Review"

VI. SULADS Story -- An Unforgettable Experience

By Bernadette Magbanua, Gospel Outreach Worker, Cagayancillo Island, Palawan, Philippines

Last year, I had a dream. I dreamt that I saw a large rice field with the rice ripe and ready for harvest. I saw many people harvesting the rice.

I fetched my bolo (knife) and joined the harvesting. But my bolo was so dull, it would not cut the stalks of rice. I had to find a sharpening stone and sharpen my bolo. Only then could I continue to reap the harvest of rice.

Two days later, one of our brethren died while my husband, Andy, was in Puerto Princesa attending a worker's meeting. I was left alone with my youngest daughter as leader of the church. Because of my dream, I realized that I had to accept the responsibility for the funeral service. I knew I could not hesitate to do my job.

I was very frightened as I thought of my responsibility. What should I do? What should I say? I had sung at funerals and attended many but my husband, Andy, had always been the speaker. I prayed that God would give me strength and knowledge to know what to do.

That night, I had another frightful dream. I dreamed that the dead man rose up and attacked me screaming at me. I was fighting him off. When I awoke, I studied again the verses in the Bible that tell us the condition of man in death.

I praise and thank our Almighty God because He gave me the strength to lead out in the nightly wake and the funeral service. All of our brethren attended the service, even the children. The children sang action songs and everyone felt happy and joyful. Even the owner of the house, who was not an Adventist but was the mother of the man who died, joined in singing the action songs. She stated, "The Adventist religion is a good one because the members support one another. They are such a happy people that perhaps one day I, too, will become an Adventist."

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