I. British Nurse Volunteers for Cambodia
II. Burma Vignettes-- Early Missionaries #49, 50
III. Letters
   1. Ed J. Heisler
IV. Traveling in Thailand
V. Taiwan's People, Adventist Seeks a Better Life
VI. Adventist World Radio Reaches Out to East Asia
VII. SULADS Story -- Racial Discrimination ~~~~~~~~~

I. British Nurse Volunteers for Cambodia
   BUC News Edition #844 (13 September 2013)
   Inspired by a three month sabbatical at an orphanage in Tanzania several years ago, nurse Katrina Walker of the
   Hemel Hempstead church has put her NHS career to one side to head for Cambodia.
   On Wednesday 4 September she flew to Phnom Penh where she will work as a self-financed volunteer for 12 months
   amongst the Cambodian people. Buddhism is the main religion out there. As a qualified nurse, she will be using her skills
   as well as bringing aid to help poor families and to share the love of Jesus. Following her Tanzanian experience where
   she saved several children's lives, she has chosen to give a longer period of service, mixing the spirit of adventure with
   her desire to do something extra special for the Lord.

II. Burma Vignettes-- Early Missionaries #49, 50
   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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# 49. Phillip A. Parker (1946 - 1966)
   Pastor P. A. Parker and family were one of those who arrived Myanmar soon after the war. He studied the Burmese
   language as soon as he arrived Myanmar. He moved from Yangon to Pyin-Oo Lwin and organised the church there. He
   then served as president of Delta Mission at the early part of
   1950 for a while. He moved to Yangon and held long evangelistic meetings at Gandhi Hall. He was appointed as the
   president of Central and Upper Myanmar Mission. He held long evangelistic meetings at the Mandalay Railway Club.
   Because of his effort the church was able to buy the mission property at Mandalay. A primary school was opened where
   Mrs. Parker worked as the principal of the school. The churches at Taunggu and Mandalay were built during the time of
   Pastor Parker. Pastor Parker loved Myanmar and its people greatly. Pastor Parker can speak, read and write Burmese
   fluently. When the government requested that foreigners leave Myanmar, he appeared at the presence of the generals,
   asking in tears that he be allowed to stay on and that he planned to die in Myanmar. His request was flatly denied. He
   was one of the last missionaries to leave Myanmar in 1966.
   Elder Parker was a short stocky man. He was bald. He had three children, David, Linda and Dennis. David and Linda
   speak Burmese fluently. Linda could perform Burmese cultural dance to a certain extent. They are presently living in the
   state of Florida.

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# 50 John. F. Hamel (Goldie) (1946-51)
   Pastor John Hamel and family arrived Myanmar together with other missionaries for rebuilding the mission work in
   1946. The situation at the time was so dangerous. There were insurgents, sabotage, and bandits abounding. There was
   fighting in Yangon itself in the suburbs of Ah Lone and San Chaung. Pastor J. F. Hamel risked his life on his way from
Yangon to Myaungmya when the bandits shot their boat from the shore and he was hit in the thigh. The woman beside him died instantly. Pastor J. F. Hamel served the Lord in Burma at the time of much peril.

III. Letters
1. Ed J. Heisler <papatiger1@gmail.com> September 8:
Years ago when we were at Highland, TN, we helped an Indonesian student come from Loma Linda to work in the lab. Later he became a doctor and has been practicing internal medicine in Ohio. He and his wife came down Friday to spend the time with us, had a great visit, stirring up memories. They both grew up in Jakarta: John and Marishka Abidin.

IV. Traveling in Thailand
Don & Janella Abbey in current Adventist Frontiers magazine
"Sitting patiently on the Mauk Lek train platform, waiting for the 10:54 train, which has been delayed by 45 minutes, my perspiration runs freely. Though the morning air is relatively cool, I dread what I know awaits us in Bangkok where the tropical sun is reflected from the sides of the concrete buildings and absorbed by the cement roads and walkways. Traveling can be a challenge at the best of times, but I find the heat compounds the problems.

"We have been trying our different methods of transportation available here in Thailand to help us know which is best in different circumstances.
Today we will take the train into Bangkok, catch the subway in the south of the city, then get the 'song teaw' out to the Thailand Adventist Mission headquarters. The train is reportedly slower, but the subway is faster than our usual methods. Unfortunately none of these modes of transportation are available between our home in Mauk Lek and the nearest places to shop. Though we had not initially planned to, we will have to buy a vehicle. This will also enable us to help our missionaries with some of their transportation needs.

"As we explore the best ways of doing things in Thailand, we are reminded that within each culture there are various ways of sharing God's love. As we explore these methods, please pray that God will guide us to the most effective way to reach His children here in Thailand." --Janella Abbey

V. Taiwan's People, Adventist Seeks a Better Life
Taiwan Adventist Foundation has "healthier life" as a goal.
by Mark A. Kellner, Adventist Review, news editor, reporting from Jeju Island, Republic of Korea
Although Taiwan is viewed by many as a hub of global prosperity--the island is home to global powers ASUS, Acer and Eva Air, among others--there are pockets of poverty, suffering, and disadvantage waiting for the touch of compassion a Christian hand can bring.
Jane Lin, executive officer of the Taiwan Adventist Foundation happens to possess just those hands.
Taiwan Adventist Foundation is a registered charity operating on the island and reaching its most-underserved peoples, including indigenous farmers who are often exploited by larger agricultural firms buying their produce; students in elementary schools of fewer than 28 pupils, and Taiwan's poor, whose homes are sometimes in great disrepair.
"Our vision is to motivate and empower people in Taiwan society to life a healthier life," Lin said, reciting the group's credo. This is done through sponsoring projects aimed at helping those in need.
"God has blessed us very much," Lin said, recalling her first year at the foundation.
For the farmers, it means helping them reach consumers directly at outdoor markets, and encouraging them to grow organic produce. This "creates another market" for the farmers, who she says are often "exploited" when selling to the larger concerns, she said. . . .
Although Taiwan's educational system is highly regarded, some students there--as in other parts of the world, including the United States--have fewer resources than their counterparts in larger schools. To help these students, Taiwan Adventist Foundation supplies a "Happy Craft Kit" of various pieces of colored wool. These are then made into small coasters, giving the students a different kind of craft, and a sense of having made something with their own hands.
"If the children like to use their hands to make something," Lin explained, "they will use their hands to take care of others later in life."
And for those in poor living conditions, the Taiwan Adventist Foundation uses volunteer labor to help clean, repair, even rebuild dwellings where needed. "No one helps them, and no one cares," Lin said of these poor people. Other charities are beginning to call on the Taiwan Adventist Foundation, asking them to help families in need.

Sometimes, Lin said, all that's necessary is a simple housecleaning and instruction in running a household, something that may have been neglected.

"The target is to help peoples' homes have basic functions, safe and clean," she said.

Much of the funding for the Taiwan Adventist Foundation comes from the Northern Asia-Pacific Division. The group's board is chaired by Stanley Wai Chun Ng, assistant to the Northern Asia-Pacific Division president for China affairs. But the group accepts outside funds and hopes to become self-sufficient, Lin said, noting they hope to have a facility to accept credit card donations soon.

VI. Adventist World Radio Reaches Out to East Asia

ANN staff, with reporting by Shelley Nolan Freesland, Sept. 10:

A multi-million dollar upgrade dedicated last week at Adventist World Radio's flagship studio in Guam will broaden the scope of the radio ministry's outreach across Asia, administrators say.

The $2.9 million upgrade features a new radio tower and a high-frequency curtain antenna designed for even greater long-distance transmission. The antenna allows AWR to transmit simultaneous broadcasts, reaching listeners in multiple countries during their respective peak listening times. It also gives the radio ministry arm of the Seventh-day Adventist Church options to shift scheduling.

"God wants us to ask for miracles. He wants us to ask for something extraordinary. As we stand here today underneath all of this infrastructure, we can truly say that this is an answer to prayer." Adventist world church President Ted N. C. Wilson said at the dedication ceremony.

The first phase of the update, which was completed last year, included the relocation of one of the existing towers to accommodate the new antenna.

The second phase involved pouring 820 pounds of concrete to ground the new 229-foot radio tower.

AWR officials called the update "crucial", allowing listeners in key countries such as China and North Korea to receive better-quality signals and tune in to prime time broadcasts simultaneously. Previously, the studio was only able to broadcast during prime time in one country or time zone at a time.

The governor of Guam, Eddie Bazza Calvo, spoke at the ceremony and recognized the significance of the Adventist Church's radio ministry. "What greater mission can any human being or any enterprise have than to spread the good news?" he said.

The dedication ceremony was held directly on the antenna field at the base of the newest tower, giving attendees a first-hand look at the results of the two-year project. Typically, such a project would take five years to complete, AWR officials said.

Brook Powers, chief engineer for AWR Guam, said he "saw the hand of God leading 'in this project," which he said hinged on a small team of workers, "an incredible amount of equipment and a whole lot of blessings from God".

AWR President Dowell Chow expressed appreciation for the construction team and the "many generous donors" who contributed to the project. "We thank them many times over for the passion and commitment they continue to show for AWR's ministry and for carrying the voice of hope to the hardest-to-reach people of the world," he said.

The studio in Guam currently offers programs on health, family and spiritual life in 34 languages across Asia, reaching a potential audience of 3.5 billion in countries such as China, North Korea, Myanmar and Vietnam, where traditional outreach is difficult. The studio has operated for 26 years.

Worldwide, AWR broadcasts programs in nearly 100 languages through shortwave and AM/FM radio, on demand and through podcasts.

VII. SULADS Story -- Racial Discrimination

By: Shad A. Famisaran, Bunabunaan Literacy Center, Tawi Tawi

I've been in the island school for a month and I always see the ocean.

This is a big contrast to my mountain home at MVC (Mountain View College).
Fish and rice is our staple food. Rice and fish is often the alternate food in this tiny island. Occasionally there are sea weeds which I always check and make sure that were taken from the deep.

I grew up on the Mountain View College campus and fruits and vegetables were my main food. Coming to this island is an agony to me because my mouth waters for green leaves, roots, beans and fruits. I can take fish but I don't crave them. Thus, I'm hungry for veggies.

Just as I was imagining the succulent sweet Marang fruit, I heard "Marang!, Marang!, Marang!" Did I hear it right? I was wondering now. Then I looked out from my window and there he was shouting Marang! A man was paddling his canoe full of Marang and some taro roots and other veggies to sell. He paddled from one house to another and from one island to another to sell his goods.

Immediately I got my purse and gathered my last loose coins. Oh my! I have just enough for one Marang. But anyway I was happy having even just one fruit for the day. "Will you please call the boat man for me," I requested one of my pupils.

"No, Sir. That's dirty!" he warned.
"What do you mean dirty when it is not peeled yet?"
"No, Sir. Shhhhh," putting his finger on his lips and..... "The man is a Pala-o," he whispered.
"So what if he's a Pala-o, I don't care," I said. I went to the boat and bought one Marang fruit. I noticed that nobody was entertaining the boat man vendor except me. Then he paddled slowly away.

"Pala-os are dirty sir!" my pupils chanted. They were noisy then. I couldn't see that as all these people who live on stilt houses have the same lifestyle and what's the difference anyway. These pupils of mine are no different. Is it only because they belong to another tribe?

"In the eyes of Allah," I told my pupils, "we are all the same. There is neither Greek nor Jew, neither Tagalog nor Ilonggo, neither Sama nor Pala-o."

But my pupils couldn't understand. All they would say is, "Don't eat that Marang, Sir. That's dirty ." That broke my heart as I saw myself in the shoes of that boatman Pala-o.

In my Pathfinder class I stressed one of the important traits a Pathfinder should live up to: KEEP A LEVEL EYE. I then told my personal life story. "How do you accept me, class?" I started.

"You are our teacher!" one answered. "You are our brother just like any SULADS (mastal) teacher is."

"How come you accepted me right away when you didn't know exactly who I was, where I came from and to what tribe I belong?"

"You are the son of the SULADS supervisor. We love any Mastal for that matter because you people came to serve us."

That's what you just barely know," I said. Everybody was quiet now. "I belong to a small tribe in the mountains of Bukidnon just like your Pala-os here. My people feel inferior because other tribes treat us cruelly, as if they are not people, just like how you treat the Pala-os. Although not all people here treat them as you do but how you treat your neighbor Pala-os is exactly how other tribes treat my small tribe. I know how it feels to be treated like that. I really am not directly affected because my parents now who adopted me and actually rescued me when I was a tiny fragile dying baby love me as their own. Because of the goodness of Allah through the SULADS, I am what I am now. Now I value life as I have seen how gracious God (Allah) is through the love I receive from my adoptive parents who reared and loved me as their own.

"They also treat my relatives and family in our mountain village as if they belong to us. Now let me tell you frankly that how you treated the Pala-os here pains my heart as I can see myself in their shoes. May I tell you that Pala-os, and each one of us, is treated equal by Allah. We are all His children and all of us are heirs of the kingdom, the heavenly paradise."

My class became so quiet and they would hardly look into my eyes. "Now may I ask you a question? How would you feel if you were treated the way you treated that Pala-o boat man this morning?"

You could hear a pin drop in their silence. I knew that obviously they were learning a hard lesson. I told them also that when classes re-open in June, I will request to be transferred to the small island school to teach the Pala-os.

I noticed that from that time on they never said anything against the Pala-os anymore. But it is still obvious that they avoid them whenever they can. I know that little by little they are learning the values of treating each other to "KEEP A LEVEL EYE."

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