I. Life Sketch of Ethel Heisler
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I. Life Sketch of Ethel Heisler
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   [Part 2 of 2 parts]
   The following report that was read at the memorial: Part 2 of 2
   In 1972 another major move brought the Heisler family of 6 to Penang, Malaysia. Here Ed took over business
management of Penang Adventist Hospital. Because Ethel could not get a work visa, she threw herself into a major
house remodel of a 100 year old Chinese mansion bringing it up to modern Western living standards with her designs
and ideas. In this huge home, Ethel entertained crowds of people for meals and social evening events. She started and
put on many cooking schools and bread making classes, which was the beginning of the Penang Bakery which is still in
operation today and now supplies bread to all of Malaysia and Singapore.

   Ethel loved music, especially a good men's quartet or male chorus, but she also loved a full voiced choir and started a
choir with the young people in the Penang Church. Her choir performed for church services and various other events.
She helped with organizing a pathfinder club and taught many of the craft honors. Pathfinders was never complete
without a pathfinder camporee which she organized with food and fun for all attending.

   Often people needing to stay over to gain visa status in Thailand would be offered generous hospitality in Ethel's
home with warm comforting meals.
   In fact, travelers from all over the world came and stayed in her inviting delightful home in every place she lived.

   Ethel loved the beaches, taking her 4 children to the exclusive swimming club almost daily to let the kids swim in an
Olympic sized salt-water pool.
   As a devoted mother, Ethel was constantly supporting her children to do fun things and worked mostly from home to
always be available to them. One very fun thing she did was sew on an extra 2-3 layers of jean material on the seat of
their jean cutoffs so the kids could slide down a jungle aterfall into a pool without wearing out their shorts. As her
children one by one left the nest to attend academy, Mom faithfully wrote to them daily while they were away. Her
children were the only ones in the dorm who received a letter every single day from their mother.

   She organized vespers on the beach and in the public gardens and other outdoor venues. She loved the young people
and enjoyed having them around her.

   Ed & Ethel moved to Singapore in 1977 on the good ship Chidambaram with all their belongings. Ed was the
administrator of the Younberg Hospital and here again Ethel stepped into the role of assisting the Director of Nurses
and relieving the Director who was gone on furlough. She busied herself with her involved teenagers attending their
programs and functions and guiding them through their growing up challenges.

   In 1979, another major move brought them back to the U.S. where they settled in Portland, Tennessee. Dad worked in
the personnel department of Highland Hospital and Mom was Director of OR & OB departments. Again, Mom involved
herself in church activities serving as Sabbath School leader and with Women's Ministries.

   In 1980 they welcomed their first grandchild, a girl, Keasha Kay, delivered by Beth & Terry. Ethel adored her
granddaughter as she had her own children and enjoyed watching her grow and develop, often babysitting in the
evenings when Beth worked. Ed & Ethel enjoyed 4 busy years at Highland Hospital before they moved to Jellico, TN
where they worked in the Adventist hospital there for 2 yrs followed by a move to Loma Linda, CA.

   After the weddings of their oldest daughter in Oregon and their son in Tennessee, the couple returned to mission
service once more for 2 years at Masanga Leprosy Hospital in Sierra Leone. Ed served as hospital administrator and Ethel
worked in the pharmacy there. More stories than can be told here filled the pages of their life story in international service to others. During the time they were in Masanga, their 2nd grandchild was born, a girl, Jeana Lynn with Barbara & Kurt. Ten days later their 3rd grandchild was born, a boy, Tayler Bruce with Beth & Dan.

Returning home from Africa, Ed & Ethel settled in with Beth & Dan in Salem, Oregon for several years helping with the grandchildren there. Bruce and Connie came to Oregon for a year and the family enjoyed many happy outings together. During this time in Oregon, Ethel took a floral training to become a florist which she was certified for. She loved flowers, arranging them, identifying them, and picking wildflowers for arrangements, using cattails & thistles, spray painting them various colors to suit her arrangements. Mom's passion for arranging flowers became a source of family entertainment on many occasions. She exuded creativity at every turn, making clever crafts for her children, for church events and to decorate her home. She loved making things.

Ethel continued to enjoy cooking and entertaining in her home. She loved poring through recipe books and coming up with yummy menus and always decorated her tables with beautiful cloths and lovely dishes. One of her favorite tricks was to make dirt cake. This was made with dark Oreo cookie crumbs in dark chocolate pudding. She would "plant" a silk plant in a clean plant pot of this desert and set it on the table as a beautiful centerpiece. When it came time for dessert, she would appear with a clean garden trowel and proceed to dig out dirt to serve up to her guests. She enjoyed the predictable gasps of surprise and then enjoyed the moaning sounds of delight as her guests dug into their delicious dessert.

Ed & Ethel's shared love of nature led them into collecting butterflies in Central America, shells from around the world, keeping an international birding list, as well as identifying trees, flowers & insects around the world. More often than not, she spent Sabbath afternoons out in nature on walks with her family to gardens, forests, jungles, by rivers & waterfalls, along the beach or by mountain lakes. As a result, all 4 of her children share her love of nature and the outdoors.

In 1990 their 4th grandchild was born, a girl, Kendra Anne to Barbara & Kurt in Minnesota. Ethel and Beth drove out with little Tayler from Oregon for that arrival to help Barbara settle in with her 2nd daughter.

In the spring of 1991, Ed & Ethel took turns waiting with Beth in Alberta Canada for the arrival of their 5th grandchild, a girl, Kiersten Beth, adopted at birth and wrapped up by the family with much love. A few months later Ethel and family welcomed their 6th and last grandchild, a girl, Hannah Michelle with Bruce and Connie in Portland, Oregon. How Ethel loved her grandchildren; making them clothes, sleeping bags, pillows, felt wall hangings and using her sewing skills helping to make decorative nursery items and quilts.

In time, 2 great grandsons filled her heart with more love when Jason Richard and Justin Ryan were born to Keasha & Jr. For the remaining years of Ethel's life, the couple moved every few years to be close to their various children to assist in caring for their grandchildren. They lived in Oregon, Texas, North Carolina, back in Oregon for 6 years and her last 3 years back in Tennessee living with daughter Barbara and son-in-law Kurt. In each place, Mom got involved in church activities-Women's ministries, floral & decorating committees, social committees, Sabbath School superintendent, potluck organizer and whatever other duties or events that required her skills, talents and vast abilities in crafty creations. She was tirelessly in service of others, but especially for her children.

The last Sabbath of her life, she spent entertaining college students putting on a potato bar spread and enjoying the afternoon visiting with the young people. She loved that so much.

Time does not allow for the flood of memories of this faithful woman of God who loved her Jesus with all her heart, who served her Lord and Savior and her family all of her full and truly remarkable life.

Ethel fell gently and softly to sleep in Jesus just one week short of her 63rd wedding anniversary with her family gathered all around her. She leaves a family mourning her loss and with the bright hope of seeing her again one day soon on that bright and glorious shore.

May God bless your day.

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II. Thailand Adventist Mission (TAM) Opens New Work in the Cities

"Thailand Adventist Mission is blessed with active Pilipino church members who come to Thailand and work at different schools--private, government and others. We are opening congregations in the cities with these active Pilipino teachers as they invite their students, parents, and Thai friends to come and join the services held in these cities. If there are any in the congregations who have Thai friends who are interested in studying the Bible, TAM will send a Thai pastor to give Bible studies. The active Pilipino members also plant churches in the various provinces.
"Just recently we opened work in the Nakermayok province which is a two hour drive to the east of Bangkok. There are 20 to 25 mostly Pilipino teachers who are attending that church. There also some local Thais who have started attending, so Thailand Mission assigned a church elder to take care of the group and appointed church officers so they can teach this new congregation, and they can learn about the church and they can send in their tithes and offerings.

"There is also a group in Singpuri province which is a two hour drive north of Bangkok. This group is very faithful; they gather together and have worship every Sabbath. They also faithfully send in their tithes and offerings to the Mission. The leader is Brother Erwin Mamhot who formerly was a pioneer for the Hope for Bangkok initiative. TAM officers were able to visit the group and rented a place in the city for them to worship. We also encouraged them to invite their Thai friends to join in the spiritual activities of the group. We pray that in the future we can have a Thai congregation meeting with the Pilipino teachers.

"Another new place with a new congregation is in the Utradit Province which is a six hour drive north of Bangkok. There is a family here whose wife and mother was a former student in Chiangmai Adventist Academy. She is very strong in her faith and she requested Pastor Sirunchai, a pastor in the area, to come and help her organize a congregation at Utradit. We were able to find a place to rent for this new work. The congregation will start with Thai members who will build up this city church. We pray that this group will continue to grow and can reach more city people in this area.

"TAM started a group in Pattaya just south of Bangkok and assigned a pastor to look after the members. TAM rented a place for this group to worship and now 20 to 25 members are worshipping together every Sabbath in this beach resort area.

"Many years ago Dr. and Mrs. Steve Bassham, a former TAM President, donated a two-storey house in Pattaya to TAM. For various reasons at the time, this house was registered in the name of an individual employee of the Thailand Mission. When that person retired we realized that all the properties that belonged to the Mission should be registered under the SDA Foundation of Thailand or SDA Association of Thailand. We have visited the house and now been able to transfer the registration of the property to the SDA Association. It is located in the center of Pattaya City. The house had been rented out for a very small sum but it as it is in a very good location for a worship place, we have been able to end the rental agreement and hire a company to renovate the house to be the house of worship for Pattaya City congregation. With the renovation nearing completion, the church will move into this worship place very soon.

"The ribbon cutting and opening ceremony is scheduled for November 8, 2014. After the opening of this church there will be health evangelism, a family seminar and English classes offered to the community to reach out to the people. We pray that in the future there will be a strong church in Pattaya City."

--from the October 2014 "Shining Light in Thailand"

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III. With the Bairs in Thailand

The Bair Family <missions@danielbair.com> Dec. 1:

Thanksgiving Day has come and gone again, and we certainly have a lot to be thankful for!

On a personal note, we Bairs are thankful that our house is finally clean of mold! As we said in the last newsletter, when we first came back to Thailand, we had to clean our house because rainy season breeds mold. It took a while to get the mold and mildew out of the clothes and off of all the surfaces, and it took at least a month of cleaning deeply to get rid of all that. We learned some more local tricks for cleaning and preventing the molds and mildews, and found other tricks while searching the internet. For example, we discovered that WD-40 gets the mold out of the porous surfaces of pressboard, so we didn't have to buy new furniture yet!

After the cleaning process was just about finished, all of our family (except Daniel) and some of our staff caught a bad cough that lasted several weeks. We all shared natural remedies, like fresh orange, lemon, and passion fruit juice. And by God's grace, we are all thankful to be well again!

The All Asia Studio Team has been steadily working on videos and translation projects. Little by little, we are uploading the completed videos on YouTube. If you are curious, or especially if you can understand Thai or Hmong, you can watch many of the videos on our YouTube playlists (http://danielbair.us2.list-manage2.com/track/click?u=efb79e1c2e772dd70e4923f04&id=843a13895e&e=554ff40377). The Hmong Campmeeting sermons and seminars have been just edited by our video and audio editors (Wanida, and Gop). Sadly, because a hard-drive failure, we lost the footage for the Lahu and Akha Campmeetings, so we will have to try next year to arrange more video recordings in those languages.

One of our translators, Baw Baw, is currently working on making transcripts of several of our videos that have been asked for the most by the Thailand church members. Making a transcript of the video allows our team to create subtitles
for each video. The second step will be translating those transcripts into other languages. We have learned that one of the felt needs of Thailand is learning English, so having English subtitles will make the videos more attractive, and thus a more effective tool for spreading the Gospel.

Another translator, Frame, has been working on translating the daily devotional book, Our High Calling. We had read it as a team, for morning worship, and we all found it so encouraging, so we are excited to help with translation. Frame has translated up to the month of April in the devotional book.

Our team has also translated the transcript of the video, Final Events, from Amazing Facts. The next step for that project will be networking with Amazing Facts, so that the translated transcript can be double-checked, and they can approve publishing it with Thai subtitles. It would be so wonderful to have that resource made available to the Thai people.

So, that is what our team has been steadily working on. Some of these projects are quite the long-term goals. Please pray with us for the completion of these and future projects, and that we will have wisdom to know the video, audio, and translation projects that will be most helpful in reaching this area of the world with the Gospel of Jesus.

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