I. Bill McGhee Honored in Pakistan

   John McGhee <johnkmcghee@yahoo.com> January 29:
   Vincent Hill Alumnus Receives Award From Pakistan's Ministry of Health

   Bill McGhee, Professor of Psychiatry, Loma Linda University School of Medicine, received an award from Pakistan's Ministry of Health for his role as a trauma expert and consultant to the 400 psychiatrists who serve a population of 185,000,000 Pakistanis. The ceremony took place at a heavily guarded banquet of the Pakistan Psychiatric Association, at the Serena Hotel, Islamabad, Pakistan, on December 23, 2010. He also spoke at the biannual PPA meeting, invited by Rizwan Taj, MBBS, president of the Pakistan Psychiatric Association,

   Dr. Taj invited Bill to treat flood victims with PTSD, evaluate mental health professionals' protocols, and deliver a lecture to top-tier providers during his ten-day itinerary from December 15 - 25. Security was tight as the prime minister of China also stayed at the Serena hotel. One morning, as Bill went for his daily workout, a heavily armed security detail comprised of 2 Pakistanis and 13 Chinese sharpshooters "escorted" him to the gym.

   Bill spoke Urdu, prayed his way through the classic Pakistani breakfast of runny eggs and toast, took pictures in the bazaar of goat heads being prepared for the Muharram festival, sampled some wonderful jalaybees, gulab jamins, and burrafi, and awoke to the morning call to prayer which he had learned to love during his childhood in Pakistan.

   Despite the normal challenges of belly problems, phone problems, internet problems, and taxi problems, his only "real" disappointment was an aborted (security issues) visit to Peshawar, his childhood home, where he planned to connect with Alau Din's family. Alau Din, an intrepid Pathan chieftain who worked as the mission compound gardener, was like a father to him. On-going US-initiated drone attacks near Peshawar is one reason why Bill was not given permission to travel to his home town. Peshawar continues to be the city from which the Taliban coordinate their logistics. When Bill was thirteen, he paid his tuition at Vincent Hill School by selling religious and health books in Peshawar.

   Dr. Taj has already invited Bill back to Islamabad for another national conference in 2012 designed to provide the latest information regarding the treatment of major depression.

II. Robert Robinson’s Kidney Transplant Successful

   Brenda Robinson bobrobinson2004@yahoo.com February 2:

   Praise the Lord for the surgeon at OHSU in Portland, Oregon, felt the kidney transplant for Robert went well. Thank you so much for your prayers during this LONG day for us. Both Robert and the donor, Wichit, our son-in-law, are responding well. The kidney has begun to work. Their rooms are almost side by side. Staying with Wichit this evening is our daughter.

   Bobbie Jo, and with Robert is our son, Michael, who is a physician.

   We went to the hospital to check in this morning at 6 a.m. but it wasn't until almost 1 p.m. that Robert was finally taken to the theatre. His surgery lasted until around 7 p.m. and than he was brought to his room around 9 p.m. Wichit will be able to check out of the hospital probably in 3 to 4 days, and Robert in 5 to 7 days.

   Again, thanks so much for the MANY MANY prayers that were being said for both of them. I shall now go to bed but hopefully can get to the 100 plus e-mails very soon in the next day or two that are waiting for me to respond to.
III. Help Don Roth Rebuild His Address File

Don A. Roth <donaro@verizon.net> February 3:

Recently I experienced the tragic loss of my computer when I made a transfer from our long-time retirement home in Yucaipa to The Villa, a senior retirement center in Loma Linda. Thieves broke into my son's automobile the night of the transfer and stole my computer along with other valuable items. Unfortunately, all of the e-mail addresses were in that computer, and I made a big mistake by not having a backup. If you are interested in being on my email list, please send me a brief email and I'll be happy to get you back onto my list again: <donaro@verizon.net>

IV. Lowry Memorial Celebrates 95th Anniversary

Shekar Philips <lowrycollege@syfy.com> January 27:

Lowry Memorial College celebrated its 95th anniversary and the pre-centenary November 14-15, 2010. The chief guest for the occasion was Dr. R. S. Lowry who is now 93 years old. He was accompanied by his daughters Lyvern and Priya, son-in-law Bob Reiswig, son Carter Lowry and grandson Damion Lowry. Their presence added a lot of significance and meaning to the celebrations. Dr. Lowry gave very interesting account of the history of this institution. Dr. John M. Fowler who attended the meeting with his wife also spoke of the special contribution rendered by Dr. Lowry's family to Lowry College and Southern Asia. He also spoke of the Adventist education and its goals in Southern Asia. On behalf of the General Conference he honoured the college president, Pr. M. J. Prakasam, and Mrs. Jennifer Prakasam for their outstanding contribution to the cause of Adventist Education in India. An exciting cultural program was presented by the students which was followed by a grand banquet for all the visitors.

The first day's program started with a procession of cultural floats of different states in India on the main road in front of the campus for two hours. It was truly a memorable event that attracted large crowds all along the two kilometer route. The procession was flagged off by Commissioner of Police, Bangalore, who also addressed a large gathering of students and staff past and present. The gathering was also addressed by Southern Asia Division officers Pr. R. John, President; Dr. Gordon Christo, Secretary; and Pr. G. S. Robert Clive, Treasurer. The college selected Pr. S. John, Pr. V. Raju, Pr. I.R. Thomas, Pr. S.D. David, Pr. A. M. Job and Pr. J. Daniel as the outstanding alumni of the century. Out of these, only Pr. S. John and Pr. V. Raju were able to attend the meeting to receive the honors. Mrs. Margaret Solomon was honored as the outstanding alumna of the year. Among the former principals who attended the meeting and received the honors were Dr. R. S. Lowry, Pr. T. J. Lazarus and Dr. Robert Donald. The former Headmasters/Headmistress who attended the function were Mrs. Winifred Devaraj, Mr. Suresh Daniel, Mr. K. H. Paulson and Mr. Subburaj. The former Treasurers who were honoured at the function were Pr. C. C. Nathaniel, Mr. Caleb Joshua, Mr. Jayaraj Thangavel, Mr. Samuel Thason, Mr. Sukendu Circar and Mr. M. Paul. Some of the former Pastors, Hostel Deans and TCH Directors were also honored. There was also a cultural program with many dances that depicted beautifully our great Indian culture. Division officers, denominational leaders from the field, alumni, past principals, staff, currently enrolled students from the high school and colleges, and parents attended the celebration with much excitement and exhilaration.

On the second day a number of outstanding alumni of Lowry were honored by the local M.L.A., Mr. Nandish Reddy, who was the chief guest for that day. He challenged the students and staff of Lowry to live up to its ideals. It was followed by another enthralling cultural program. On Friday the 19th Dr. Ted Wilson, the president of the General Conference was the chief guest at the closing ceremony of the celebrations. Elder Ted Wilson who graced the occasion along with Mrs. Nancy Wilson lauded the staff of this institution over the years for their contribution towards building up of this college to become a beacon light for the people in Southern Asia. He conferred honor on all the student writers from Lowry who contributed articles for the Youth Morning Watch Devotional 2011. The special pre-centennial souvenir brought out on this occasion was released by Elder Ted Wilson after which he officially declared the celebrations closed.

V. Remembering Raju Ressalam

Florence Fernando <flofernando@hotmail.com> February 3:

My family and I would like to convey our deepest sympathies to the family of Raju Ressalam—his sisters, brother, son, daughter and their families. May God grant them comfort and consolation as they bear this great loss.

VI. Update on Doris Caleb

Justin Singh <jUWYL@aol.com> February 2:

Mohan Yankee <Mpammu@worldbank.org> January 28:
I am on the DL for SUD e-News and read about the information you wanted about Mr. & Mrs. Vijay Caleb. I knew them very well as I used to help in doing errands for them while they were living at Tolstoy Marg in New Delhi (close to our Delhi campus). Recently I got in touch with their daughter who lives in England and she informed me as I was also wanting to get in touch with her parents. Unfortunately, Mrs. Doris Caleb died about 10 years ago while they were working in Delhi and Vijay Caleb died about 3 years ago.

VII. "The Great Controversy" Wins Souls in Bhutan

Praveen-san K. Tamsang pktamsang@hotmail.com February 1:

In the last 5 years 1000s of copies of the 1858 "Great Controversy" by E. G. White have entered Bhutan through our handful of believers, collogues and beloved students whom I have taught in school. The readers from different denomination and tribes gave a positive feedback after reading this book. During my current visit to Indo-Bhutan boarder I found 15 candidates -Bhutanese nationality--who plan to take baptism. I told one of our believers to accept the 28 fundamental doctrines of SDA before taking baptism and now this Bhutanese Buddhist plans to share what he has learned to his village people and save the lost. During these last day the power of the Holy Spirit is working in unentered areas and it give us great joy to hear and know the Lord's work is growing in that dragon-worshiping kingdom. Let us remember in prayer these thousands of readers as they are thirsty to find truth.

VIII. Gujarat Schools & Sabbath Problem

Samuel Raj Sodadasi" <sodadasi.samuelraj@gmail.com> February 2:

Dear brethren, the SDA Schools in Gujarat, India are facing the Sabbath problem; the government is forcing every one to conduct classes on Sabbath.

Kindly pray,
In His ministry,
Pastor Samuel Raj
S.D.A. Telugu Church,
Mahaprabhunagar,
Limbayat, Surat-394 210,
Gujarat, INDIA

IX. Christo's Memoirs: Vincent Hill School Memorial

Ellen White writes that the object of true education is to restore in man the image of his Maker. If ever an institution lived up to this supreme objective, it was Vincent Hill School and College. I had attended Vincent Hill School for ten years. The environment and her staff were united in their task by "precept and example" to instill in us, her students, the values and ideals that are cherished by the Christian Church. Though the school was closed in 1969, the exploits of the old school is etched in the collective memory of her students, who remain fiercely loyal to her.

Vincent Hill School and College, my alma mater, shut its doors as a Seventh-day Adventist institution in 1969. For those who had the privilege of living in the dorms, sitting in the classrooms, attending devotional and worship services, or of interacting with the faculty and students, have had an experience that few institutions can duplicate. Its influence leaves a lasting impression on the lives of the individuals who attended. The alumni always take the opportunity of gathering together for potlucks, burra khanas, and association meetings. CD's and DVD's have been made to record its short history. I had a dream. As a graduate of Vincent Hill School and College, I am grateful to the Hosur church members and the church administration for naming a building-a complex housing rooms for Sabbath School Divisions and classes, halls for celebrating the "ordinance of humility" and a library cum audio visual resource centre-in memory of Vincent Hill School and College whose alumni scattered around the globe have contributed to this memorial of an institution whose graduates include a world president, Neal C. Wilson; three division presidents, Neal C. Wilson, Roscoe Lowry, Gerald Christo; two college presidents, Ronald Rice and Neville Matthews; three Union presidents, Weldon Mattison, Edward Streeter, Gerald Christo; three Division departmental directors, Bob Ritchie, Gloria Thomas, William McHenry. Scores of others have held high profile positions in the church, in the medical field, and in other service communities.

Peter, son of former missionary Dr. Andrew P. Haynal and professor at Christian Medical College, Vellore, himself a alumnus of Vincent Hill, who gave a large contribution toward the construction of the church also supported this Memorial to Vincent Hill with a sizeable contribution.

The Eastern Tidings lists the Vincent Hill School and College students in denominational service in 1946-Division office: C. A. Hart (Asst.)
Secretary-treasurer, John Tarr (stenographer), Marguerite Yettie (stenographer), Publishing House: Phyllis Hart (secretary), Paula Hart (office work), Eric Tarr (Press room). Spicer Missionary College: H. C. Alexander (Vocational and Industrial Training), Mrs. I. D. Higgins, nee Eileen Hare (teacher), Desmond Homer (teacher), Robert Juriansz (accountant, teacher), Milton Lamb (Bakery Manager), Walter Mackett (teacher), Mrs. Walter Mackett. nee Norma Mattson (nurse), R. E. Rice (preceptor, teacher), Mrs. R. E. Rice, nee Nelia Pereria (teacher), Hazel Rutland (teacher), Charles Thomas (Bakery Manager), Ivor Woodward (teacher), Mrs. Ivor Woodward, nee Clarice Wilson (teacher), Northwest India: Noel Bolst (evangelistic worker), Mrs. Noel Bolst, nee Joan Homer (Bible worker). Hugh Bolst (evangelistic worker), Gerald Christo (Evangelistic worker), Mrs. J. C. H. Collett, nee Florence Ritchie (Bible worker), Stanley Hendley (evangelistic work), V. S. Stotesbury (evangelistic work), Mrs. V. S. Stotesbury, nee Gwen Carrau (Bible worker), Judson Thomas (evangelistic work), Northeast India: Mrs. N. G. Mookerjee, nee Noreen Dowman (Bible worker), Patrick Poole (stenographic work), George Poole (colporteur). Western India: Winston Janes (FM and HM secretary), Ashley Lamb (colporteur), R. S. Lowry (Ed. And MV secretary), Mrs. R. S. Lowry, nee Jessie Louise Carter, (teacher), William Mc Henry (principal, Lasalgoan School and supervisor of Local Mission), Winston Mc Henry (evangelistic work), Gloria Thomas (Stenographer), Ronald Valens (colporteur), Stanley Ward (colporteur), South India Union: E. T. Austin (Union dept. work), Mrs. E. T. Austin, nee Margaret Smith (teacher), Keith Berry (Book Depot Manager), Mrs. Keith Berry, nee Barbara Jelowitz, (teacher), P. G. Hart (Union account-cashier), Mrs. P. G. Hart (nee Ethel Ritchie) (stenographer), Eric Juriansz (teacher), C. A. W. Ritchie (evangelistic work), Mrs. C. A. W. Ritchie, nee Ruby Ballard (teacher), Robert Shepard (teacher).

When future generations ask, "What is this Memorial? Where is Vincent Hill?" they will be reminded of an institution that played a significant role in the history of the church in Southern Asia.

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