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I. Letters

1. Rose Stickle <rose.stickle@gmail.com> January 13:

I am forwarding this letter from John Blake, Gospel Outreach Deaf Ministry Director. <johnblake1941@gmail.com>

Dr. Larry Evans, Elder and Mrs. David Trexler, Elder Alfred Griffith and myself will be going to India in Feb./13 to work
with the Gospel Outreach Deaf Ministry Lay Bible workers there, as well as to consult with our church leaders
responsible for these workers. We have over 25 workers for the Deaf there, many of whom are deaf themselves. We will
also be visiting the SDA "Asian Aid" School for the Deaf near Kollegal in southern India. They now have around 100 deaf
students.

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II. Remembering Them

1. Remembering Dr. C. A. Ninan
   Albert Sircar <bengalal@hotmail.com> Jan. 14:
   
   My wife and I are saddened to hear the news of Dr. Ninan's death. He was a very approachable leader; with a good
   listening ear. Dr. Ninan has always treated his staff with respect and dignity. It was my privilege to work at Pune
   Adventist Hospital under his leadership. He was a compassionate, hard-working surgeon. Rest in peace, Dr. Ninan.

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   2. Remembering Sadanala Joseph
      Don Oliver <daagoliver@yahoo.com>
      
      Other Nuzvidites have shared with us the passing of Mr. S. Joseph, a good and faithful man, by all reports and
      gratefully appreciated by my parents Eunice and John Oliver who mentioned him not infrequently during their
      retirement.
      
      As a small boy in Nuzvid I recall his quiet kindness and presence.
      
      Additionally, while sitting on the bamboo mat with the other hospital workers kids I admired his calm English translation
      into Telegu during church service. He sometimes raised a laugh or chuckle from the audience that wasn't apparent to
      the English speaking listeners--no doubt an extra Holy Spirit insight. His younger brother has also blessed our family,
      befriendng our son as they have worked together at the GC headquarters. May God's presence, peace and continued
      hope and joy in His coming, envelope his family
   
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   3. Remembering Weldon Mattison
      Len Tolhurst <lptlhrst@bigpond.net.au>
      
      I have just read in our newsletter that Pastor Weldon has passed away, and I would like to send a message of
      sympathy to his wife and family. With my wife Valerie we worked in India in the North West Union from 1956 to 1961,
      for a total of five and a half years. During most if not all of that time Weldon was the president of the Punjab Local
      Section of the North West Union. During his retirement years while he and his second wife Eloise were living in Southern
      Oregon, Valerie and I called in to see them while we were on our retirement trip around the world in 2003. Weldon's
      contribution to the work of the church in Southern Asia was substantial, and there will be many in God's Kingdom as a
      result. May God comfort each member of the extended family.
   
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III. Spicer Adds More Andrews Courses
   Rajendra Prasad <rajendraprasad2000@yahoo.com>
   Spicer Memorial College is happy to announce that Andrews University has approved the following Five Departments to start as their affiliated programmes from the next Academic Year, ie, June 2013 at the Spicer campus:
   1. BA : Economics
   2. BA : English
   3. BA : History
   4. BA : Sociology and
   5. BS : Biology
   The following two programmes will continue to be with Griggs University till the two universities merge:
   1. BBA: Bachelor of Business Administration 2. MBA: Master of Business Administration
   The following four Bachelors programmes will remain as Spicer College Autonomous programmes but the first two could come under the Andrews University umbrella if and when the college chooses this option:
   1. BEEd: Bachelor of Education
   2. BTh: Bachelor of Theology
   3. BMus: Bachelor of Music
   4. BLA: Bachelor of Applied Arts In Office Administration 5. BS: Computer Science
   However those completing these autonomous programmes successfully with a cumulative GPA of 3.00 are eligible to join the already existing Masters programmes (MA in Education, MEd and MA in Religion) affiliated to Andrews University. The following departments are expected to start later:
   1. BS: Chemistry
   2. BS: Mathematics
   3. BS: General (Office Administration)
   4. BA: Psychology
   5. MA: English
   All those who are interested in joining in any one of the first seven departments in June 2013 may visit the college website:
   http://www.spicercollege.com/. for more details and may contact the Director of Admissions (Email address: admissions@spicermemorialcollege.org) and download the Application Form from December 31, 2012. The entrance eligibility for these bachelor’s programmes is the successful completion of Standard XII in any recognized Board or Academy.
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IV. Burma Vignettes-- Early Missionaries # 17
   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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17. Mr. & Mrs. Don C. Ludington (1915 -22)
   Mr. & Mrs. Don C. Ludington arrived from America in 1915. The family was reputed to be having educational status. It was a blessing to Meiktila Technical School which was started by the Thurbers in 1909. The Ludingtoss continued in charge of the school at Meiktila until early in 1922, when they returned to America to educate their two sons, both of whom became missionary doctors.
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V. Life Sketch of Valerie Myers Tolhurst
   Leonard P. Tolhurst <lptlhrst@bigpond.net.au> Jan. 3:
   Valerie was born on 2nd. July 1927 in Invercargill, New Zealand. She was the elder daughter of David and Elizabeth (Cameron) Myers. She had an older brother Cameron, a younger sister Helen Hicks, and another younger sibling, Bruce who died in infancy.

   She attended the Waikouaiti Primary School north of Dunedinn and later the Papanui S.D.A. High School in Christchurch, where her father had taken up work in the S.H.F. factory. In 1945 she attended Longburn College for a
short time, but left when she was accepted by the Sydney San for nursing training. She needed to earn some money for her boat fare to Australia and other expenses. She graduated from the R.N. course in 1949.

From 1950 - 53 she then sought to broaden her nursing knowledge and experience by working in the Waikato Hospital, in New Zealand to secure her N.Z. registration, then did Maternity training in Christchurch. She then returned to the Waikato Hospital where she worked as a night supervisor for 16 months. It was at this time that she met Len Tolhurst who was to become her future husband. However Len was planning to travel to the United States for further study and that complicated their future plans. Val too was interested in further study, and so enrolled in the Truby King Hospital in Dunedin to get her third nursing certificate, this one in Plunket Nursing, a course known in Australia as Drucillian Nursing.

Despite being thousands of miles apart their romance flourished and Len proposed marriage by mail, and Val accepted. However there were still barriers to be overcome. Len had obtained permanent residence status in the U.S.A. but Val was unable to do the same, so she migrated to Canada and took up a nursing position in the Rest Haven Sanitarium and Hospital, at Sidney on Vancouver Island. There on June 8, 1954 they were married. They spent their honey-moon on the shores of Lake Kalamalka, in British Columbia. Upon returning to Vancouver Val took up nursing work while Len had to return to the United States, and for the next three or more months they officially lived in different countries. However Len was now able to apply to the U.S.A Immigration authorities for a special visa for Val to join him in the States. This took several months before it granted. During this time Len had to get back into school or run the risk of being called into the American army and perhaps being sent to Korea as the Korean War was then being waged. This meant that he had to cross the States to enroll in the Theological Seminary and leave Val in Vancouver. When her visa was granted she joined him in Washington, D.C. There Val again used her nursing skills while Len studied. Upon graduation they answered a call to mission service in India where they spent the next five and a half years. For two and a half years she was the school nurse at the Roorkee Boarding School in Northern India, and when Len was engaged in evangelistic work she used her music talents to help advance the programs in which he was involved.

During these years 1956 to 1961, three children were born to them: Ewan, Anne and Sharon.

Upon return to the States, she again worked as a nurse for a short time at a local County Hospital in the Out Patients Department.

The next five and a half years (1962 -1968) were spent in the North New Zealand Conference where she cared for the growing children. When Len was called to teach at Avondale College, (1969 - 1980) she took up work in the Sanitarium Health Food factory, mainly in the canteen, to help with family expenses and church school fees.

The next three years, (1981-83) were spent at Fulton College, Fiji, where she again worked in the College Dispensary, in the College Store, and in Dorcas work. When Len was called to Pacific Adventist College - now University, Val again helped out in the College dispensary over the next 12 years. (1983 -1996). After Len's retirement they spent two school years at the Hong Kong Adventist College.

Three highlights of her life which she enjoyed were firstly the tour through the Bible Lands including the climb up Mount Sinai, the visits into Mainland China while living in Hong Kong, and the tour around the world after retirement.

She also drew great satisfaction for the successes her three children achieved.

Before I sit down there are some extra personal things that I would like to say, and in a way bare my soul to you:

As you can see by the dates in Val’s life sketch we were married for about 58 and a half ears. She was 85 years old. As all family members know I am not that old. I had my birthday on December 13 and turned 82. My daughter Anne and I share the same date for our birthdays, and I have often said that she is the best birthday present that my wife ever gave me! When as a young man contemplating marriage I was impressed by Val’s maturity and her achievements. When I began to court her she was a night supervisor in the Waikato Hospital in Hamilton New Zealand. She shared that responsibility with another nurse, and when the other nurse had her two nights a week off, Val had the responsibility of the whole hospital and all of the 600 patients. I considered myself most fortunate to win such an accomplished girl to be my wife, and her beauty was for me a real bonus. Val never developed wrinkles until late in life, and I used to tell her and others that it was because of all the love that I gave her. Val, of course, reciprocated my love and just a few days ago she told me that she just 'lived for me'. Her love for her children was just as great. Many authors have written books on how to bring up children. However one of the best formulas I have heard for child rearing is for their father to 'Love their mother'. I certainly did that.

During her life, Val had far more than her share of health problems. I have a mental list of five very serious health concerns that she faced, three of them were life threatening, including cancer which required no radiation or chemotherapy. Some of these conditions lasted for many years.
She was truly a 'survivor'! When the children were young they could not understand the problems of Val's ill-health. I want to thank them for their understanding as they grew older. Their help was and is, much appreciated.

Not every wife would be willing to shift around the world as we did in connection with my work. She did this willingly. We lived in at least 21 houses in seven countries.

In her spiritual life she was a real example to her family and to others. She loved Jesus, and of one thing that I am very sure - when He returns to gather His people she will rise with the others that have made a similar commitment, and we will again be reunited. It was her hope that all of us would be ready for that great day.

So Darling, Goodbye, till I see you again.

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VI. Sebastian Braxton's Revival Meetings in Bangalore
Philip Sargunam <philip.sargunam@indiaskills.com>


The fact that the Lord keeps sending inspiring men of God to Bangalore with messages of revival and hope is a clear indication of the great love He has for all the people in this ever-growing city. Elder Sebastien Braxton's call to the believers in Bangalore to be "real and live a life without fear" touched many hearts, pierced many barriers and re-kindled dying spiritual embers.

Beginning on the 12th of November, Elder Braxton preached right through the week, speaking from the Word, Ellen White and experience, reaching out and making an impact on both mind and heart. The sermons that he preached were entitled - No Fear, No Fear of the Unknown, No Fear of Emptiness, No Fear of Deception, No Fear of Loneliness, No Fear of Religion and No Fear of Failure. Each night we thronged the Spencer Adventist Junior College auditorium to soak in God's message, spoken directly yet, kindly and in love. Even the 8 am service (a first of its kind) saw many present, unwilling to miss even a single sermon. Many adults and youth were moved by the Spirit to dedicate or re-dedicate their lives to Jesus. Elder Braxton ended his series with a question and answer session for the youth. It was a truly impressive session and I must confess that I have never heard any preacher provide answers to difficult questions as he did.

I must say a few words about Elder Braxton, the person. Elder Braxton is six feet plus, but his spiritual stature is what impressed us most. Having joined the Adventist Faith only a little over a decade ago, Sebastien Braxton has allowed the Holy Spirit to transform him into a "man of God", who is fearless and real and filled with love for lost souls. The short time he spent with us has inspired many youth to believe that they too can become, a "Daniel" or "Joseph", by the Grace of God.

The believers in Bangalore would like to sincerely thank the Southern Asia Adventist Community Church, in Loma Linda, California for sponsoring the speaker.

--A brother in Christ, Philip Sargunam ~~~~~~~~~~~ VII. Largest Radio Listening Audience in Asia
Edison Samraj <adventistmediacentre@gmail.com> Jan. 16:

We are happy to inform that our listenership has increased from 183,164 to 215,336 in the last three months. We would like every reader of this article to pray that our listenership will grow from strength to strength in this new year. We solicit your prayers and support for the same. In fact, we would also like you to know that one of the languages has crossed all levels of listenership and is the highest in Asia. We are very happy that God has blessed the efforts taken by all the radio speakers to do their very best in proclaiming the Three Angels message.

-Dr. Edison Samraj, director, Adventist Media Centre ~~~~~~~~~~~ To remove your name from the mailing list of this newsletter simply reply to this e-mail and put "REMOVE" in the Subject line.

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BEGIN-ANTISPAM-VOTING-LINKS
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Teach Can't if this mail (ID 09INxUKFx) is spam:
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