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I. Letters

   1. Gerald Christo <geraldjchristo@gmail.com> July 8:

   Jim Baldwin, mentioned by Burma scholar Mervin Myat Kyaw in the recent SUD newsletter, studied in Vincent Hill School from 1926 to 1931, according to the roster prepared by Peter Hynal, along with several siblings who attended VHS last in 1934. I haven't been able to find out where he was born nor where he came from. Jim married Phyllis Yettie of Lonavla who also studied at VHS. The circumstances of his death are unknown. After World War II ended, it is said, he joined the Karen forces in an uprising against the Burmese. Phyllis emigrated to Australia after his death in Burma. When I was working in the Union office at 23 Curzon Road, New Delhi in the mid 1940s she was secretary to the late O. O. Mattison, the NWU president. Phyllis later worked in the Division office in Poona.

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   2. Raghuthamnan Opeh <docopeh@gmail.com> July 7:

   I was happy to read in the recent newsletter about the tour of Johnson Christian and John Wilmott. I am settled down in Pondicherry, a small socio-cultural section of Tamilnadu and an ex-French colony. I hope Dr. Wilmott will drop in for a visit to Pondicherry, where he once was the pastor of the church. He and his late wife are well-remembered by the congregation here.

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   3. Sheila Chaman <sheila.chaman@gmail.com> July 14:

   Holyland Trip

   The Scriptures came alive for me as I visited the various places in Israel on this Holyland trip...a dream that I saw when I went to an Adventist school and the Adventist way of Life became a part of me...My dear teachers Pr. and Mrs. Justin Singh whose love and affection I still share and value....all this and more coming true - Thanks to the Lord's grace.

   Visiting Caesarea, Acre, Nazareth, Bethlehem, Jericho, Nazareth, Jerusalem, the Golan Heights, Haifa, the Dead Sea, Tel Aviv in Israel and Jordan and Turkey too have left an indelible impression upon me.

   I feel that it must be mandatory for every Adventist to at least make one trip to Israel if not the whole tour...like a sort of pilgrimage once in a lifetime like the Muslims go on their once in a lifetime "Haj" to Mecca. It makes the Bible come alive...something that no amount of teaching and preaching can do..."Seeing is believing"! I have tons of pictures and lots to say. I shall of course be writing it all for my weekly column in the Patrika newspapers.

   Yesterday I attended this Bible sermon with Pr. Samuel by Pr. Daniel Devdas...I thought of the powerful sermon I had the privilege of hearing in Roorkee by Dr. John Fowler.

   --Sheila Chaman
II. Maryland Southern Asian SDA Church Seeks Youth Pastor

Anu Lakra <sasdac@sasdac.org> July 9:
The Southern Asian Seventh-day Adventist Church is in need of a full time youth pastor. If interested, please send your resume to Anu Lakra, Secretary, Church Board at sasdac@sasdac.org. Please visit our website for details.
Anu Lakra, Office Manager
Southern Asian Seventh-day Adventist Church
2001 East Randolph Road, Silver Spring, MD 20904
Phone: 301-879-7222
Fax: 301-879-5151
Email: sasdac@sasdac.org
Website: sasdac.org

III. Lowry Memorial College Alumni Meeting in Maryland Lowry Memorial College Alumni Meeting in Maryland

M. J. Prakasam, July 15:
Dear Lowry Alumni, Friends and Well Wishers, It is with immense pleasure that I invite you for the Lowry Alumni Celebrations at the Southern Asian Seventh-day Adventist Church (SASDAC), 2001 East Randolph Road, Silver Spring, MD 20904, August 23-24, 2013. At the celebrations, I would like to give a report and update on the progress and future development of your Alma Mater. The complete week-end program is being arranged at the same venue. The schedule includes:
**Friday Evening Vesper Service
**Sabbath School Program
**Divine Service
**Fellowship Lunch
**Discussion / Question and Answer Session (2 -- 4 p.m.)
**Cultural Program (7 -- 9 p.m.)
**Honoring senior-most members of Lowry Alumni
Your presence and guidance will enable us to have a good weekend celebration in praise of the Almighty who has been good and has done great things through this great institution.
Hoping to meet you at the celebrations.
M. J. Prakasam, PhD, President
Lowry Adventist College

IV. Remembering Robert Stahlnecker
Thambi Thomas <thambi.thomas@gmail.com> July 7:
Dr. Stahlnecker came to Bangalore Middle School as headmaster in the mid-50's when I was a student there. He taught me to play the trumpet though he confessed decades later that he really didn't know what he was doing as he was a saxophonist himself. But he gave me and others the gift of music that has enriched my life to this day. It was my pleasure to invite him to my dissertation defense at La Sierra University 30+ years later. My wife Patricia joins me in expressing our condolences to the Stahlnecker family.

V. Burma Vignettes-- Early Missionaries # 49
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.

#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.

VI. Charcoal and the Love of God, Part 2
by Thansiama Tlau
Since October, 2012 I had a severe sciatic nerve pain in my back and left leg. As the pain was so hard to bear I sometimes took pain pills, which I did not like to do. I then went to 3-4 doctors. The pain did not subside, so I went to another doctor. He ordered an MRI which I went for. With the MRI result I returned to the same doctor and was given 3 different medicines, mainly for relieving pain.

On Dec. 19, 2012 when I got up early in the morning, both my hands had involuntary movements. There was no pain but the movement was very funny. At about noon, both my legs were also affected by this involuntary movement with shaking. As a result, I was not able to walk. My wife and I thought I would never be able to walk again or drive the car. We both cried and prayed to God with all our hearts, asking Him to heal me.

My wife called several friends and fortunately Pr. Lalsanga responded as the others were at work. Pr. Lalsanga took us to my primary doctor, Pr. Rosie Singh. We showed her the 3 different medicines I was taking. She looked at them and suspected that it was the cyclobenzaprine (5mg) that was causing the problem. As she is a careful doctor, she called up a neurologist friend, mentioning the 3 medicines to him; he agreed with her conclusion. Dr. Singh drew some blood, advised me to drop all the medications and to call 911 if my condition worsens. After we arrived home about 2:00 p.m., a thought came to mind about taking some harmless charcoal medicine. In the meantime, Mrs. Sailo, hearing about my problem, came with her husband and advised me to take charcoal medicine. Luckily, my daughter had a bottle of charcoal capsules. My wife gave me 4 tablets every 4 hours with warm water.

Many friends and relatives began coming to our home. Group prayers, individual prayers, silent prayers were offered to God the Almighty. After midnight I was put to bed and then friend and relatives all left our home.

As we lay in bed unable to sleep, we thought of a time many years ago about how difficult it was to enter the hospital under emergency conditions. So we prayed again and asked God to bless tonight so that we may not need to call 911.

Indeed, God is a living and loving God that He blessed me and blessed the night. Both my wife and I were able to sleep considerable well, praise the Lord!

When my wife woke up in the morning, she said she felt fresh. Of course I woke up much later, but also felt good. My hands and legs no longer had shaking involuntary movements and I was able to walk. The whole day of Dec. 20 I was able to walk around the house. The following day, Dec. 21 (Fri.) both my wife and I wanted to go to the vesper service. Our son-in-law took us both along with his family and we all went to church. From the next day, Sabbath, I was able to drive again. Let everyone say AMEN!

So God is love. He loves the world that He created. He provides for the human being He created with simple things like charcoal and various other natural things which can be used as medicines.

VII. Mrs. June Hooper Joins "90 + Club"

June Hooper, who with her late husband Ralston, taught for many years at Vincent Hill School and Spicer Memorial College, reached her 90th birthday in June, 2013. She and her son Charles have lived here in Colledgadal for many years.
Although an invalid confined to a wheel-chair, she keeps up with things through her friends, one of which, Mrs. Fern Babcock, provides her with a hard copy of the SUD e-News regularly.


Total = 17. If you know of others who are not listed, please let me know.—CHT/sr.] ~~~~~~~~~ VIII. Daughter Marla's Childhood Religious Training

Recently Marla shared a bit of her talks at her St. Joseph, Michigan SDA church’s week of prayer. I will include portions of it.

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"My Spiritual Journey"

"When I was asked if I would tell my spiritual journey during Week of Prayer in January, my first instinct was to say no. After all, I am just ordinary. There is nothing special about my spiritual journey. There was no dramatic Damascus Road conversion. I grew up in an Adventist home. In fact, I am a 5th generation Adventist on both my Mother’s and Father’s sides. I don’t even remember learning all the Biblical principles and doctrines my parents taught me as a child.

"I was born in India, where my parents were missionary teachers. We lived at Roorkee Adventist High School, about 100 miles north of New Delhi, the capital city. When I was 5 we moved to Poona, where my parents taught at Spicer Memorial College.

"My family was nurturing spiritually. We had family worship every evening and the reading of the morning watch every breakfast. Every Sabbath, before walking to Sabbath School, I would pick up the 2 piles of coins my Father set out for each of us children. One pile was Sabbath School offering, the other pile was church offering. I loved going to Sabbath School and church. In the pre-TV era, they really were the most entertaining events of the week! I especially loved hearing the 600+ student body enthusiastically singing hymns such as 'He Leadeth Me' and 'This is My Story, This is My Song' during church. I didn't think of it at the time, but it surely was a foretaste of the heavenly crowd singing praises to God."

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IX. Birol's Massive Flower Gift

"Love So Amazing"

Birol Charlotte Christo, in BLESSED, the women’s morning devotional book for 2013.

John 3:16

"We were living in Karmatar, a mission station far removed from civilization. All of us who worked in the church's office lived close together in a colony, like a joint family system. As a result, we regularly got together for potlucks—especially on Sabbaths. It was almost like heaven on earth. Very seldom did guests visit us from outside, but whenever we had guests, we would get together again. Sabbath sundown worship was very special for all of us.

"Next to our house lived a Canadian family. In a short time the wife and I became very close friends. We both had older children studying in boarding schools. Their two little boys and our youngest son played together almost every day. Then, one afternoon when I returned to the office after lunch (I didn't usually lock my office door during the lunch hour) I was taken aback. Brightly colored hibiscus flowers were everywhere—on my desk, on my chair, on the typewriter, and on the window sill. I had not the slightest idea who could have done this. I walked over to my friend's office, and there too were four hibiscus blossoms. 'So you, too, have flowers,' I said. 'Do you know who brought them?'

'"Who else but Kevin,' she said. Kevin is her son.

'"If it were Kevin,' I countered, 'why did he give you only three or four blossoms, but covered my room with them? Surely he would have given you more blossoms because you're his mother.'

'"Yes, I,'m sure it was Kevin,' she said. She then came to my office and was surprised to see the flowers everywhere. 'Kevin must love you very much,' she told me. She was not hurt that he'd given me more flowers, because she too was fond of me. However, it touched my heart deeply, for a 7-year-old to show so much love to me. That expression was so amazing.

'"When I saw Kevin, I hugged him tightly and thanked him for the flowers. It reminded me of God and His great love, not just for the human race, but for each of us individually. He emptied heaven when He sent Jesus for us as a ransom, and Jesus so willingly laid down His life so we could have eternal live in
Him. And when God shows me His love in countless personal ways, I cannot help exclaiming, 'What love, what wondrous love, so amazing and so divine.'"

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