I. Letters
   1. Umesh Pokharel <umesh.shantipokharel@gmail.com> July 30;
      I was pleased to read the LLBN South Asia update by Wesley James in SUD news letter on 29th July 2013, that LLBN is planning to add at least 10 to
      12 new Indian languages by the end of this year and that is very encouraging news and we will be praying for that. When you add new language, please add the Nepali language because in India there are almost 6 million Nepali-speaking people. --Umesh Kumar Pokharel, Kathmandu, Nepal ~~~~~~~~~~ II. Two Deaths
      1. Death of Noel E. Bolst
         Toni & Eliot Bolst <toneli01@bigpond.com> July 29:
         Bolst, Pr Noel Eliot, born 25.12.1921 in Rangoon, Burma, died peacefully on 28.5.2013 Melbourne, Vic. Noel is survived by his wife Leah (nee Samuel), his daughters Muriel Langer and June Billings-Greenham, and son, Eliot, their spouses, and families, his brother Hugh, and sister Del Fehlberg. Noel was predeceased by his first wife, Joan (June 3, 1990).
         Noel first learned the Adventist message preached in Bangalore, India, when aged 17. He was captivated by his Saviour's love for him and motivated by the message he felt compelled to share. Share the message he did; through pastoral, and literature ministry from 1942 until recently when failing health took its toll.
         As a "codicil" we could add that he taught at the new Bangalore SDA School in 1942, and moved into pastoral work in Karachi, Rawalpindi, Chuharkhana and Lahore, before moving to Australia in 1952.
         There will still be some around the NAD who will remember him, including the Jurianz family, Terence Davin, and, if still surviving, Neville Mattison, Eddie Streeter, Charlie Thomas, and Ron Baird. Those in SUD include, amongst other, Jerry Christo. -- Eliot W. Bolst
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      2. Death of Dr. Cherian's Brother, M. E. Paul
         Rajendra Prasad <rajendraprasad2000@yahoo.com> July 39:
         Mr. Maliakal Eapen Paul, younger brother of Late Dr. Maliakal Eapen Cherian (former president of Spicer College) was born on Oct. 15, 1932 and died on July 23, 2013 after prolonged illness. Their other brothers include late Mr. M. E. Philip, late Mr. M. E. Mathew (former principal of Lasalgoan School, who drowned while trying to save a student drowning during a school picnic a few years ago) and Dr. M. E. John, residing now in USA. All these 5 brothers were raised in Perunad, Kerala, where their father worked as a manager in a rubber estate. Mr. M. E. Paul lost his wife Saramma, aged 68, on February 2, 2006 and is survived by his six children. His two older sons, Mr. Santhosh
Paul and Dr. Chacko Paul are employed in Spicer. Wishing the bereaved family God’s care, comfort, and consolation at this time of sorrow, at the hope of meeting their loved one on the resurrection morning.

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III. SAAA Sabbath Services August 10

Priscilla Shyam <<priscillashyam@SAAA.ORG>> August 2:
The Southern Asia Adventist Association
Welcomes You to
Sabbath Services on August 10, 2013
At Eglise Baptiste Du Calvaire
10002 Riggs Road, Adelphi, Maryland 20783
10:00 A.M.
Sabbath School
11:15 A.M.
Divine Service
Speaker: Pastor Terry Johnsson
12:45 P.M.
Fellowship Lunch

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IV. SMC Faculty Upgrading

Rajendra Prasad <rajendraprasad2000@yahoo.com> August 4:

Mrs. Swarna Rekha Rao, former head of Psychology Department at Spicer, has returned to the college in June after the retirement of her husband Professor Daniel Dayananda Rao as the Vice President of Roorkee Adventist College. Mrs. Rao has also completed her PhD thesis on Meta-Cognition and submitted the thesis to Pune University a few months ago and is awaiting the date of her defense examination.

Three professors from the Business department - Noble Prasad Pilli (Exec VP), Rathnasamy Jeyam (VPFA) and Genu Roney Varghese - have also completed their PhD thesis and submitted them to their respective university a couple of months ago and are awaiting their defense examination.

In the History department, Simon Yesu (also College Registrar) submitted his PhD thesis and is awaiting the defense examination. Also seven more faculty members in different departments are in varying stages of completion of their doctoral studies and Spicer is happily awaiting the reaping of the next crop of doctoral degrees in the near future.

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V. Burma Vignettes-- Early Missionaries # 52

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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# 52. Leonard & Esther Hare (1946-51)

Leonard and Esther Hare arrived Myanmar in 1946 together with other new and returning missionaries to rebuild the Lord's work in Myanmar. Lenny was the son of Eric B. Hare and Esther was the daughter of missionary parents in India. They came to Myanmar expecting to serve the Lord many years in whatever corners they were assigned. They helped in re-building Maungmya Seminary School. It is even mentioned in a book that "The Training School was operated at Maungmya, starting with Lenny Hare as principal." "Lenny" then went to Ohn Daw, the place where he grew up, as a boy, and helped rebuilding the school. The country was in civil war beginning from 1949. The mission leaders considered that it was not save for Lenny and Esther to work at Ohn Daw as it was rather remote to Yangon. The Hares left Myanmar for the U.S. in 1951.

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VI. SUD and Spicer File Application for University Charter

Rajendra Prasad <rajendraprasad2000@yahoo.com> August 4:

It was an exhilaration of sorts for the members of the Spicer College Board and the college family when Dr. Justus Devadas, College President, on behalf of the Southern Asia Division (SUD), the Ashlock Education Society, and the World Adventist Church, finally presented the application along with the well-drafted Proposal and Detailed Project Report (DRP) for a Self-Financed University, to the competent authority, Mr. Rajesh Tope, Honourable Minister for Higher and
Technical Education, State of Maharashtra, in the Mantralaya, Mumbai, in person, before noon on Wednesday, July 30, 2013. This was in response to the Maharashtra Government Resolution dated May 29, 2013 inviting applications to start Self-Financed Universities in the state. The administrative team, under the guidance of Dr. Devadas, worked hard these last several weeks in preparing the document carefully as per the 23 main stipulations laid down including the justification for establishing this university.

The rationale for applying for SUD- sponsored Spicer Adventist University was well explained emphasizing the mission, vision, core values, Sabbath Commandment and unique philosophy of education the world-wide Seventh-day Adventist church compelled to follow, complemented by the liberal arts programme, choice credit system, work education principles, open policy of admission without showing any discrimination on the basis of one's age, caste, colour, creed, disability, ethnicity, gender, handicap (within the permissible limits of the institution), marital status, nationality, origin, race, region, and tongue, - the only criteria for admission being the meeting of academic, character, health and financial requirements of the university and expressing willingness to cooperate with its policies.

Minister Tope who visited Spicer College a couple of years ago and is well acquainted with its mission and distinct philosophy of education, immediately made a noting on the application and assured Dr. Devadas about starting the process within a short time. The process involves various steps which include the following: the Government will set up a 6-member high level committee to review the Proposal and DPR; the committee will scrutinize the Proposal and DRP on 3 major aspects and then submit its report to the Government within a period of 2 to 6 months from the date of receipt of the DRP; then, if the Government is satisfied that it is advisable to establish the university, it may issue a Letter of Intent and require the sponsoring body to fulfill about 13 more requirements regarding endowment funds, academic programmes, faculty, buildings, infrastructure, facilities, furniture, equipment, books, etc. After the receipt of the Compliance Report of the sponsoring body, if all the terms and conditions are fulfilled, the Proposal will be submitted for the approval of the cabinet. After the approval of the cabinet, the Bill for establishing Self-Financed University containing details on 41 important points will be submitted to both the houses of the Assembly. After the approval of Bill by the Assembly, the Self-Financed University, "Spicer Adventist University", will finally be established, if it is God's will for SUD and Spicer.

Spicer is quite confident of meeting all the numerous stringent but superable criteria laid down by the Government for obtaining the charter for "Spicer Adventist University" and seeks the earnest prayers of the world Adventist Church for God's grace, guidance and power as it goes through this process so that one day soon this institution will be a university furthering the mission of the Church for God's glory and honour in this part of the world.

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VII. Remembering Narasapur Principals & Families

Rajendra Prasad. July 30:

I am glad to learn that Pastor William Forest Zill, my former principal at Narasapur School (1959-62) is also 94 years old now. I wonder how old Mrs. Zill is. [She is a month younger than I; she's 91 also. In our younger days we were fellow students in Jefferson Academy in Texas --CHT, Sr.] She served relentlessly not only the campus residents as the school nurse, but also the needy people from the surrounding villages, both physically, materially and spiritually. Their daughters, Karen and Cathy, were our childhood playmates and all campus children were invited to their bungalow twice a year on their birthdays and served delicious home-made granular ice-cream, the best I ever tasted, so it seems, even today. Their successors were Dr. & Mrs. Ralph H. Jones (1962-65), Dr. & Mrs. Harold D. Erickson (1965-66) and Mr. & Mrs. P. L. Parker (1967-68?). Mrs. Jones as a nurse and Mrs. Erickson as a teacher, both served the Narasapur community with dedication and devotion. Incidentally, all these 4 principals and their spouses had also served Spicer College at one time. I suppose they are getting closer to 90, if not already crossed this enviable age. God bless their heart and prosper their tribe!

Let us pray that all these nonagenarians would become eventually centenarians and continue to live in comfort and in peace and be an example, inspiration and a blessing both to their families and to others also, and of course, not be idolized. How lucky will they be if they live long enough to see Christ's second advent!

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VIII. Walla Walla University Builds Bridges in India

--from WWU's current alumni magazine, WESTWIND

"In March 2012 a group of nursing students and faculty traveled to a school in Meghalaya, India to immunize students and local people who didn't have access to basic medical care. During their stay a bridge near the campus collapsed, injuring 39 Indian students and two WWU students."
"Since then, not only have nursing students continued the immunization program, but several engineering faculty and students are fixing the bridge and planning other campus improvement projects at Riverside Adventist Academy.

"Professors Doug Logan and Bruce Cole are working to improve the school's electrical and water systems while these students are sharing senior projects around ways to better the campus.

"Currently, students are canoeing across the river to travel from the school to the bus stop. Travis Wademan is searching for ways to rehabilitate the bridge by addressing erosion and installing a sturdier cable connector and better reinforcements.

"Meanwhile, Matthew Freedman is addressing the problem of water on campus. There are two wells on campus, one twenty-foot hand-dug well and one 500-foot well. However the pumps in use are inadequate for the campus. Also, locals prefer the taste of the water from the shallow well even though it is often contaminated. Possible solutions include introducing minerals into the deep well to encourage drinking the cleaner water and installing a more efficient pump.

"Finally, Brett Schultz is addressing another issue on campus. One of the boys' dormitories has brick walls and the mortar is compressing, causing a long crack on the wall and around the ceiling. The building is not currently in danger of collapsing, but a solution is becoming increasingly urgent. Schultz is looking for a way to rehabilitating the building. "Cole says that this has been a great opportunity for the seniors.

'Students doing their senior projects in India had to accept that just solving water quality problems, or creating safe structures for normal circumstances weren't enough. They also had to adapt these projects in ways that would accommodate Indian culture and habits. For example, treated water just as good as poor quality water that was the norm for drinking, and a bridge had to accommodate more people than might be deemed 'reasonable.'"

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IX. 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 am including portions of it.

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When I entered my teens and my high school years, my enjoyment of ritual translated into the way I went about my personal devotions. I liked to have a routine; it helped keep me faithful in having daily devotions and also a consistent pattern of worship helped me to focus in my spiritual life.

In high school, at Far Eastern Academy in Singapore, I got up early every day, ran a mile then sat under a tree there on our compound and read my Bible and prayed. Those early morning were always a special time to me. I was also involved in spiritual activities organized by the school. On Sabbath afternoons we handed out literature and talked to people we met on the street. Many of us were involved in an evangelistic series held downtown. We had daily worship and other spiritual activities we did in groups. Although we had Sabbath School at the school, mostly we attended one of the 2 English churches in Singapore. The weekend retreats held in the Malaysian jungles or on an island off the coast of Singapore or Malaysia were filled with spiritual activities as well as time for personal spiritual reflection.

Being part of a community and being involved in outreach activities added to my enjoyment of being a Christian and, along with my personal worship activities, helped me to establish that spiritual-ness is based on a relationship. Not only must I have a relationship with God, to attract people to God and the church I must first develop a relationship with them.

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X. 90 + Club Update

Joseph Zahid <josuna4@gmail.com> July 29:

My father, Pr. Iqbal Zahid, turned 92 on April, 2013. He studied first in Chuharkhana School, in Pakistan, then in Roorkee School, and returned to teach in Chuharkhana school (called Pakistan Adventist Seminary & College today). After teaching there for a few years, he worked as a pastor in several villages of Districts Gujranwala and Sheikhupura. His total service for the church is 35 years. For the last few years, he is the victim of Alzheimer's. Today he is at Heritage Gardens (a nursing home) in California.

--Joseph Zahid, his oldest son, Ph. 909-435-1157.

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David, Mrs. June Hooper, William F. Zill, Mrs. Mary Alice Zill, John Curnow, Mrs. Joyce Ballantyne, Mrs. Beth Manley, Ellen Thomas, Robinson Koilpillai, William Isaac, S. T. Gomer, Edna York, Iqbal Zahid. Total = 28 ~~~~~~~~~ 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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