Adventist Heritage

From: charles tidwell <charles.h.tidwell@gte.net>
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2013 3:34 PM
To: Self
Subject: SUD e-News, November 14. 2013 #48

I. Lowry Memorial Class of '63 Celebrates Its 50th
II. Church in Nepal Attains "Mission" Status
III. Letters
   1. Gnanaraj Moses
   2. Rose Muthiah Davy
IV. Burma Vignettes-- Early Missionaries #70
V. Eugene & Lois Anderson Celebrate their 75th [Part 4 of 4]
VI. Khanpur-Latifpur Church Replaced in North India Section VII. Doctorate Degree Awarded to Thamanam Nathanael
VIII. Jesus For Asia Bible Worker Living in the Park ~~~~~~~~~~~~
I. Lowry Memorial Class of '63 Celebrates Its 50th
   Margaret Solomon <msolomon@lasierra.edu> Nov. 13:
   A Great Reunion at Lowry Campus!

   Lowry Class of 1963 had its 50th Year reunion on Lowry Campus last weekend. The class members had been discussing about having their Golden Jubilee reunion at Lowry for some time, finally it came together before the end of 2013. In 1963, Pr. S. G. David was the Principal, J. N. Samuel the Head Master and Dr. Kutzner was appointed as the principal for the oncoming school year. We graduated in the context of the transition in administration. After much planning 13 of the 27 original class members were able to meet. Of those 7 traveled from the U.S and 6 from different cities in India.

   Our celebration began on Friday, November 1 at 4:30 with us honoring our teachers. Pr. & Mrs. Devaraj were the only teachers who were able to make it in person. We had Mrs. Kamala Jegathesan joining us on SKYPE. Then we did the Vespers. One of our classmates who is Reverend of CSI church Deena Dayalan was the speaker. He is a nationally recognized Christian leader who is a peace and social justice activist. He has been involved in many such issues in Asia and has been an active instrument in bringing governmental and UN policies on many troublesome issues. Enoch Thomas, one of our classmates found him on the internet and was able to connect with him. His speech made an appeal for Christians to become the true followers of Jesus in serving the poor. We also conducted the Sabbath school and the Sabbath sermon was by Dr. Devadass Moses. Then a delicious lunch was served by our class to the students, staff and all the visitors.

   It was indeed a very joyful experience for us. We praised God with all our hearts for His blessings in each of our lives in the past 50 years.

   Blessed Hope leader in India, White Devadass and his crew came and video taped the weekend events and people in the U.S. and India were able to view the events through Blessed Hope live stream. Wesley James arranged this for us.

   We would like to thank Dr. Prakasam Jacob, his administration and staff for their full support in making our reunion happen. Dr. Jacob gave us a welcome with flowers and shawl on Friday evening, then again on Sabbath he welcomed each one of us individually on the stage. We were certainly blessed by this kind gesture. He mentioned that our class was the only class that had ever returned after 50 years to show our gratitude to the institution.

   The memory we created during the reunion will stay with us forever!

   We would encourage other Lowry Classes to consider going back to celebrate your Golden Jubilee!

~~~~~~~~~~~

II. Church in Nepal Attains "Mission" Status
   "The Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Central Asian country of Nepal was recognized in September as a denominational 'mission,' a move up from an 'attached field' of its parent division.

   "Though it is a small milestone, the subtle distinction represents the Adventist Church's development throughout an entire country. Only a handful of countries still have Adventist work in beginning stages. The Adventist Church officially operates in 208 of the 232 countries recognized by the United Nations.
"The Adventist Church in Nepal was formerly classified as an attached field to the Southern Asia Division. It will now be known as the Nepal Section. The denomination's administrative structure unit 'mission' sometimes goes by different names in various world regions for the sake of clarity in the local context* [see note below].

"There are some 8,700 Adventists in Nepal, up from 212 in 1993, according to the SDA Yearbook.

"At a ceremony on September 6, Southern Asia Division John Rathinaraj held the first meeting of the Nepal Section saying the church in Nepal had grown. Umesh Kumar Pokharel, the first president of the Nepal Section, welcomed church officers and 60 guests from other Adventist churches in the country.

"Division secretary Gordon Christo recalled the role of his father, who came to Nepal in 1958 with missionary Dr. Stanley Sturges to establish Adventist medical work.

"Much of the Adventist Church's infrastructure in Nepal surrounds Sheer Memorial Hospital in Banepa, located 15 miles southeast of the capital city of Kathmandu. The Adventist-operated medical center was established in 1960.

"The Nepal Section, in coordination with the division, now has an elected president. The division will soon coordinate the appointment of a secretary and treasurer. Further development of the section could promote the unit to a 'conference,' which means it would be self-supporting, both in nominating leadership and financial self-sufficiency.

"The church in Nepal has made small but steady gains in recent years. Membership has increased, and the country's first native church member continually translates the denomination's Adult Bible Study Guide [Sabbath School quarterly] into Nepali. In 2011 the Adventist Church held a major youth rally, with many participants walking days and riding rural public busses to attend. Also the Adventist Development and Relief Agency has run several programs to help exploited children.

"Nepal's population is more than 30 million. Formerly a Hindu nation, the Nepal parliament declared it a secular state in 2006." --Bhaju Ram Shrestha & Ansel Oliver/Adventist News Network

*[When we first served in India in the 1950s, the term "Mission" was used to designate organized territories. We first lived in the Upper Ganges Mission of the Northwest India Union Mission, and we were called Missionaries. But in early post-colonial India, Pakistan, Burma and Ceylon, the terms mission and missionaries became out of date and we became expatriate workers (Section II) and we lived and worked in the Upper Ganges Section of the Northwest India Union! -- CHT/sr.] ~~~~~~~~~~~ III. Letters

1. E. Gnananraj Moses <egmoses@gmail.com> Nov. 8:

   The 90+ Club is unique. Every time I meet one of them, I come away inspired as if I have been on a 'pilgrimage.' I would like to know from each of them answers to two questions I have:
   1. What is one experience that has contributed to your quality of life and also your longevity?
   2. What stands out as the greatest regret which, if you had a chance, you would like to undo?

   Of course, you can share more with me, if you wish. I would find it very useful for me and others who are younger. If you are unable to respond, I would kindly request one of your younger family members to get the answers and send it to me at: egmoses@gmail.com

----------

2. Rose Muthiah Davy <davyp@bellsouth.net> Nov. 8:

   It is always good to know about people who have been blessed with a long life. Hopefully everyone is enjoying good health. Some of us who are younger but getting up in years are suffering with health issues. Let us ALL keep praying for each other. I want to wish everyone 90 and over God's richest blessings. I am requesting those who are in touch with all these dear people to pass on my message to them. I am the second daughter of Pastor V. P. and Grace Muthiah who are resting in Jesus. I lived in Poona, Bombay, Bangalore, Surat and moved to USA. I know many SDA people. I am grateful to God for the privilege of meeting or being acquainted with this large number of people. I will be so happy to see everyone once again when Jesus comes and takes us HOME as it is not possible to see everyone here on earth. I am wishing everyone who reads my message a very Happy Holiday Season. Have a Wonderful Thanksgiving and a Magical and Blessed Christmas and a Very Happy New Year 2014 by the Mercy and Grace of God.

   I must mention that Pastor V. Raju who worked at the O.W.P.H. in Salisbury Park Poona for many years is my uncle. I thank God for all His blessings.God be with each one of you.

~~~~~~~~~~

IV. Burma Vignettes--Early Missionaries # 70

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.
V. Eugene & Lois Anderson Celebrate their 75th [Part 4 of 4]

My story wouldn't be complete if I didn't include a time when God did not intervene. I think you all know that our second son, Les, spent some 5 or 6 years as a bush pilot in Papua New Guinea, flying over some of the most forbidding jungle and mountainous areas you can ever imagine. I should also add that Vern spent some years flying over impenetrable jungles in South America and who knows what near misses he encountered. But God's ways are beyond our understanding.

Les, on one occasion, was flying with, I think, two other pilots who were new and needed to get their licenses for the country. While in mid-air over the wild and mountainous jungle below, without warning, there was a terrific explosion, shaking them all severely. The plane convulsed with the concussion, but held its altitude. The windshield and all the forward part of the plane was dripping with oil and the engine stopped. This meant an immediate landing, but where do you land on these rugged mountains covered with jungle? Since Les had flown over much of the country in his ministry to the outlying districts, he knew of one small strip at an outlying station he had occasionally visited. He thought he could reach it if he could keep the plane in the air long enough, wondering, if at any moment, the plane would nose down and be lost in the jungle. Fortunately, the controls had not been broken in the explosion so he kept the plane in the air, and managed to coast onto the tiny little strip at the mission, and bring the plane to a safe stop at the very end of the seldom used strip! What a prayer season followed that happening!

So with that to think about, how can we explain when we received an early morning plane call from Mary Lane in Papua New Guinea saying "Les did not come home last night". Then to wait until the call came the next day saying, "The search party went out this morning at day break and they found his plane where it had crashed." It was on the pass where he had crossed hundreds of times. His last contact had said, "I will be in, in about 10 minutes."

No one knows why his plane crashed, and we cannot explain why God allowed it, when he had been saved from a disaster just a few weeks before, when the engine exploded. He was buried by the people who loved him, in Kabuiya Adventist Secondary School, Goroka, Papua New Guinea, beside some other missionaries who had also given their lives while serving in that difficult place. God knows all about it, as we have seen God's saving hand so many times!

I tell you of this to let you know that our faith is strong. We are awaiting answers to our questions when the time comes to ask the One who knows. Some of the experiences have been very painful, but we can only say that God is good and lifts us up.

So to complete what has happened to us since retiring in 1980, we can say it has been good. We purchased some acreage near Whitmore, east of Redding, California, and built a homey cabin, and had wonderful times there for some 13 years. Our children settled down near Ukiah and it seemed like a good thing to do to follow them there. So now three sons and families live in this area and that is most pleasant. Mary Lane married again to a pastor and they now are retired in Forest Grove, Oregon. I haven't tried to include the stories of our 8 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. They just keep making life interesting.

We did have two wonderful journeys during our retirement years. In 1987, after establishing ourselves in our new house which our family helped us build at Whitmore, we took several months to visit with our son Vern, who was keeping the air services going in Pucallpa, Peru. It was a delightful time, seeing a new country and many of its interesting sites. Vern held the fort till an insurgent group came in and closed many mission stations. It was a sad day for him to have to leave. If I understand correctly, they have been able to get the air service going again.

Then in 2000 we flew to Papua New Guinea to spend some weeks with Les and Mary Lane. The people of Papua New Guinea are very open to the gospel and many are joining our mission and preparing for Jesus to come. We came back by way of Bangkok, met Dave and Donna and their daughter, Vonnii, and went of Burma to spend 3 weeks with many of our friends of long ago. We visited all of the places that we had lived in that beautiful country 50 years ago. This was a highlight to sign off our travels.
So now, we live in Ukiah, CA, and have three of our sons near us. David and Donna live with and care for us, along with my sister, Joyce, and Donna's father, Harold Hines. We all, that is Gene and me, Joyce, and Harold, feel very blessed to be living with built-in care. Dave is also church treasurer and UIA treasurer. Donna, as Assistant to the principal and secretary of Ukiah Junior Academy keeps things in line there. Dan and Bonnie are full time with the Child Protective Services for our county and are also seeing to the smooth running of the mental health facilities of the county. Vern is managing a lumber outlet and manufacturing specialized furniture, while Lanette keeps very busy as a scopist, and keeping the home running. Mary Lane and husband, David Giles, are retired, and live in Forest Grove.

We wish we could have greeted you all face to face. It was so wonderful to see your pictures and read your messages. We are so thankful for each of you and want you to know that we think of you and pray God will keep you till His coming! What an anniversary that will be!!!

GOD BLESS YOU EVERY ONE! YOU ARE SPECIAL TO US!

Special thanks to Dave for editing, making suggestions, copying and getting this together; as well as sending out all of the invitations.

Couldn't have done it by ourselves.

~~~~~~~~~~

VI. Khanpur-Latifpur Church Replaced in North India Section
--from the current New Southern Asia Tidings by Bipul Bairagee

It was a joyous moment and day for the believers in Khanpur-Latifpur village. It was a dream come true experience for them. It all started when the National Highway No. 1 - New Delhi to Jammu-Kashmir was expanding and some part of the church land was acquired by the National Highway authority.

The old church was partially demolished. The North India Section appealed to the people to come up with the funds to build the Church at Khanpur-Latifpur location.

Ramesh Massey from UK responded and took the responsibility to build the church. We are thankful to the donor and builder of the Khanpur-Latifpur church. [A picture of the beautiful new church introduced the article.] ~~~~~~~~

VII. Doctorate Degree Awarded to Thamanam Nathanael

Thamanam Nathanael, Academic Dean & Vice-Principal, Flaiz Adventist College, was awarded Ph.D degree, from Acharya Nagarjuna University, Guntur, A.P. on April 22, 2013 for his research work on the topic "An Investigation of High School Teachers' Pedagogical and Cognitive Competencies in Geometry and Trigonometry". Dr. M. Vanaja, Associate Professor, Department of Education and Training, Maulana Azad National University, Hyderabad, was his research director. He was commended for his excellent research work which is useful for the curriculum development in Mathematics.

--from the current New Southern Asia Tidings, Nageshwara Rao, Education Director, SUD ~~~~~~~~~~

VIII. Jesus For Asia Bible Worker Living in the Park

Natalie Wood <natalie@jesus4asia.org>

For the past few years, Elizabeth and her family have had a difficult time financially. A few weeks ago, Elizabeth called Israel, our JFA Director in India, and told him that her family is staying in a public park. When Israel asked why, Elizabeth said because she didn't have the money they needed to pay for the rent on their home. They were forced to vacate the old house because of this. So, they are staying in a public park. Elizabeth is a very good worker. By the grace of God, many souls have accepted Jesus as a result of her Bible studies.

Israel told us: "Elizabeth's husband is sick, without a job, and her son is also sick. My heart is heavy to see this family situation. Please kindly remember this poor family in your prayers. Thank you."

~~~~~~~~~~

To remove your name from the mailing list of this newsletter, simply reply to this e-mail and put "REMOVE" in the Subject line.

--

BEGIN-ANTISPAM-VOTING-LINKS
Teach Can I t if this mail (ID 08KNwAbjT) is spam:
Spam: http://www.andrews.edu/spam/b.php?i=08KNwAbjT&m=ae520407fd07&c=s
Not spam: http://www.andrews.edu/spam/b.php?i=08KNwAbjT&m=ae520407fd07&c=n
Forget vote: http://www.andrews.edu/spam/b.php?i=08KNwAbjT&m=ae520407fd07&c=f

END-ANTISPAM-VOTING-LINKS