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May 1987

Vol. 4, No. 2

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Dear Friends and Fellow MK's.

At the beginning of school in the fall, it seems as if there could be no busier time of year, but then Christmas comes. Just about the time I catch up, spring is upon me, and so is the end of school, and I think maybe this is the busiest time of year. I look forward to summer for a chance to slow down, but as I recall from last summer, I couldn't wait for school to begin so things would slow down some. Ah, well. I guess there's no one to blame but myself for the way my calendar fills up!

So it's time for another SIMROOTS. There is so much to put into this one, I guess I'll just get started. So "listen up . . ."

It has apparently not been clear just exactly what the purpose of SIMROOTS is. As stated in the October 1985 issue, some of the goals are: 1) To create a forum for discussion, 2) to provide a way to stay in touch with friends, 3) to be an avenue of passing along information, 4) to provide a support network throughout the world on a present-day level. If you think of ways this list could expand, please let me know!

Recently I received a letter from which I quote, "I hesitate to write because I have a sense that SIMROOTS doesn't want anything but happy memories, cheerful stories, etc," and, "We talked of helping one another, but they said that they get angry when they read SIMROOTS because they only talk of the positive and that leaves them feeling more alone than before." Just so you know, gang, YOU ARE SIMROOTS! I "simply" gather together the information and put it in the newsletter. If something's not there that you think should be, it's because you haven't sent it in! I can only relate to my own experience. I am not a psychologist, an educator, a journalist, so I can only write from my own perspective. PLEASE WRITE TO SIMROOTS; it can be whatever you want it to be--positive or negative. But don't knock it till you've done your part! (Then you can knock it!)

Do remember, it should be appropriate for today. If it's what you're thinking about these days, working through, having victory over, or a problem you're facing "where you are", you're probably not alone. You may find someone else reading SIMROOTS has experienced the same thing.

All the reps. have their class's addresses, I believe. John Price and I have an entire master list. Any time you need an address, feel free to contact us, and we'll be glad to forward it to you! Our communications need not only come through SIMROOTS. Often the newsletter simply facilitates your contacting each other. And that's o.k., too.

Maybe it's unrealistic; maybe it's too much of a baby yet, but I have great visions of what SIMROOTS could be for us. Let's make it everything an AMK (adult missionary kid) could need! But that means you, too. Right now this paper is only limited by what we don't say. So, have at it!

PARENTS: Is there something about the things you're hearing from us that you'd like to respond to? I do realize this letter goes to staff members among whom are parents. You're part of SIMROOTS, too. As a matter of fact, so are TEACHERS. I can imagine there are a few things you'd like to say! So, do feel free.

HELP NEEDED

SIM faces a rather unusual and humorous dilemma! It seems that in the international arena, "MK" is a rather embarrassing (and certainly inappropriate) acronym for the offspring of missionaries. In English, just about anywhere but in the U.S., "kids" means "baby goats". This particularly affects h.q. because they would like to name the SIM MK department. Could we possibly assist in creating an appropriate name?

SIM's MK department deals with the pre-field, on-field, and post-field MK. It includes education for MK's on the field, re-entry for high schoolers, MK care for college age MK's, and a support system (through SIMROOTS) post college. It provides pre-field orientation for new SIM MK's of all ages. It's not only education, but also care on an international level. Can we do it?

CLASS OF '73 REUNION

Who? For anyone who has been in the high school class of '73 from K.A. or Hillcrest.

Where? At John Teichrow's home, Rt. 1, Box 267, Mora, Mn. 55051 (It is a suburb of Minneapolis.) His phone number is (612) 679-5203.

How? By hook or by crook!

When? June 19-21, 1987. Just one month away!

Why? For a great ol' time! (Ruth Ellen Van Reken will be attending as a special guest.)

Who-all is coming? (These names generally include families) Bob Braband, Greg Edwards, Katrinka Guy, Sue Hicklin, Naomi Kastner, Kathy Laird, Joanne Lees, Beth Lohrenz, Beth Neef, Alice Price, Jeanne Quarlz, Carl Shaw, Esther Stade, Karen Veenker, Bill Zobrist, Esther Dreesen, and there are still some undecided. If seeing that you won't be the only one showing up or that a special friend of yours is going to be there changes your mind, you've still got time! But call John to let him know you're coming or to get more details!

REUNION 1988

It's too late, now! No more saving pennies! Better start saving dollars. It's coming up sooner than you think! A year from this summer on July 4 weekend in Dallas-Ft. Worth, Tx. will be the biggest and best SIM-HILLCREST REUNION EVER! There has been a call for "before" and "after" pictures, both slides and prints. You may send mounted photos (on a board) or the slides to Grace Ann Swanson in time for her to prepare them. She will retain the pictures until right after the reunion, immediately after which she will return each photo, but not the slides, PROVIDED THAT EACH PERSON HAS SENT HER A SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED ENVELOPE. You may also pick them up at the reunion.

Grace Anne's new address is 2628 Rosecraft St., San Diego, Ca. 92106. Let's do it, you-all! Get out those old albums and send her some pictures before the rush begins.

If you think that there is a chance of possibly attending the July 4th weekend, 1988 SIM-Hillcrest reunion, please fill out your name and class year on the form below and return it to me. I would like to begin a tentative list of who might be coming (THIS IS NOT A COMMITMENT!) to include in SIMROOTS so that you will be encouraged to come, as well! Very often people hesitate to come to them because they think they'll be the only one there from their class or they won't know anybody there. It is not usually the case, but if a simple thing like listing names could encourage you to participate in the greatest weekend of your life, let's do it! I know it's one more thing to do, but it won't take ten minutes right now if you'll just take the time! Thanks.

Name _____

High School Class Year _____

(I am considering attending the big reunion!)

AMK NETWORK

There is a group of AMK's working on various missionary kid issues varying from group therapy to the development of an MK retreat house in California. If you are interested in joining this network, you may do so by contacting Wes Hendricksen, %Link Care Mission, 1734 W. Shaw Avenue, Fresno, California 93711.

KA REUNION, JANUARY 1987

This is edited from my sister Sue's personal letter. "It was great to see Miss Pat, Paul Craig, and the Wickstrom family the night of the 16th. (Sue lives in Kano, Nigeria) Dave Wickstrom, his wife Joanne, and two kids were out "sightseeing" the compound at 9:00 p.m., they were so excited. Dave is a clinical psychologist and does some work for AIM as their psychologist. Also at Miango for the reunion was Dave Draper from

the Jim Crouch and earlier era. He is a superior courts judge and lives in Washington State. He is married and has two sons. When we arrived at K.A. about 3:30, almost all the French Country MK's were already there--Jim Rendel, Dave and Linda Harling, Jim and Connie Knowlton, Glenn and Carol Guth Coleman, Gordon and Judy Lees Evans, and Margie Crouch (she's with Wycliffe). From Nigeria were Dick and Meg Todd Ackley, Cora Zobrist and her husband Ken, Steve and Beaj Beacham, Paul Todd, Joy Beacham, Jim and Linda Glerum Crouch, Bill and Esther Crouch O'Donovan, Jeff Gibbs, George and Mae Beacham, and Terry and Sue Long Hammack. Returning staff were Phillippses, "Uncle Zeb" Zabriskie, Alice and Art Warkentin, Miss Pat, and Paul. Oh, yes. Out of the blue came Jim Kastner out on business and David Fuller.

Of course, even when nothing was scheduled, we were talking and enjoying great fellowship, so the whole time was just great. Sunday afternoon a few of us went to the Swinging Bridge. Sunday night was the official opening of the reunion with Zeb and Paul speaking. It was a rather emotional time, actually, with memories of how the Lord built K.A. from nothing and thinking back over those memories of the early years. It was very informative for those of us not old enough to know.

Tuesday afternoon, while some went on an excursion to the Camel Rock, the women gathered for tea at Linda Crouch's house. Mostly, we laughed. Most afternoons there was some form of exercise--softball or tennis. Monday for supper we ate at the courts with the K.A. kids and then there was a program of a few skits, lots of old slides and a movie. Wednesday evening we had a lovely banquet in the KA dining room followed by picture taking and a final time of memories and singing. The committee had set up displays in the KA lounge of pictures, programs, and all sorts of paraphernalia, which was very nice! (By the way, Margaret Gwilliam was also there.)"

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR MK'S, QUITO, ECUADOR

There has been very limited feedback about this conference except for the TCK Manifesto (which I will not include in this particular issue), the daily "Communiqués" (from which I have quoted briefly), and a list of tapes. Actually, the list of tapes is five pages long so I don't think I'll be able to include that, either. But if you are interested in receiving a copy (and the titles look interesting and vary from soup to nuts) of the list, I would think it would be available from Mr. David Pollock, Chairman Interaction, Inc. P. O. Box 2177, West Brattleboro, Vt. 05301. Really, it is an interesting list of titles including "MK: A Person in Communities," "Career/Life Planning Guidance for MK's," "Identity Crisis of MK's: Fact or Fiction?" "Cross-Culture Implications of an MK's Self Concept," "Loneliness and Life Adjustment," "What People Worldwide Have in Common," "TCKness: Impact on Marriage and Career," "Stages of Spiritual Responses in Children," Etc.

"DEAR ABBY"

When the request for a "Dear Abby" column arrived, I thought perhaps it would be a good idea. Along with the request comes a problem, which I will get to in a minute. But is there someone "out there" who would like to be the "Abby?" It could be a wonderful way to meet some very real needs! Let me know, and we'll include your address and name in the next issue.

Dear "Abby": I am facing a problem at this late date that I think results directly from my MK background. The conflict is that it involves a "philosophy" I believe in but which differs from that of all my neighbors. This "philosophy" is really more of a sense of community than a way of thinking. Because my neighbors are basically trustworthy, I've taught my children to respond to them as if they are authority, as we were taught to do with all the adults at boarding school. Conversely, when I see their children doing things that I know their parents would think are unacceptable behavior, I automatically correct them. The problem is their parents tell the children

to ignore me, and they tell me not to talk to their kids. There is nothing wrong in what I say or do, but this is creating a lot of neighborhood friction. Is withdrawal the answer? It would be against my nature! But what should I do?
Desperate

If anybody has some advice for Desperate, please feel free to send it to SIMROOTS, and we can print it in the next issue. Thanks for the contribution!

DID YOU KNOW?

One of our constituency has just written a book! Some of us have received a copy in the mail. Those books were sent by SIM, by the way, and must have cost them a pretty penny! Thank you! The book is Letters I Never Wrote by Ruth Ellen Van Reken (née Frame). It is an expression of thoughts she's had throughout her life which she'd never expressed. She now writes them in the form of letters to her parents.

If you have not received a copy and would like to, or if you would like to order additional copies, here is the information you will need:

1-2 copies	\$7.95 plus \$1.00 postage	"Letters"
3-5 copies	10% off and 1.50 postage	8124 N. Lincoln Blvd.
6-7 copies	20% off and 2.00 postage	Indianapolis, In. 46240
8-9 copies	25% off and 2.50 postage	
10+ copies	\$5.00/copy and whatever the postage is	

Also, Ruth Ellen is open to your calls if you'd be interested in discussing the book or discussing any similar experiences you have had.

REFLECTIONS

There's a buzzing going on . . . and it all started with a book called, Letters I Never Wrote. Probably most of us have read it by now. My hat's off to Ruth Ellen Van Reken and to her mother for taking the risk of writing this book! A book that full of emotion is sure to provoke a response. (Even my husband who isn't an MK was in tears!) Ruth Ellen wrote something that in one way or another we can all relate to. In conversation with her, we agreed that her story is probably not the typical modern-day MK story. (At least for me the outcome was different.) As I read the book, I kept saying, "I remember those awful feelings of homesickness, too," or, "I had a similar experience," or "Right on!" Then I wondered what made the difference between us; she has lingering negative feelings about boarding school, and I have positive ones, even though we experienced many of the same things.

There are three or four reasons that I see. First, and rather obvious, is the personality. Many people are not naturally expressive. Ruth Ellen perceived that to express her negative feelings was to admit to being "less than" everyone else. By contrast, I'm a very expressive person (as you probably recognize, and to my husband's chagrin), and I'm sure I always expressed my feelings. I know I wrote home about my feelings as well as experiences, and consequently didn't build walls between my parents and me.

This brings me to a second point--the parents. My parents were very supportive of me even though they were 550 miles away (this is not to say Ruth Ellen's were not!). When "they" wanted to cut my hair, and I didn't want it cut, Dad wrote them not to cut it! I can understand quite well how some other parents might have approached this differently by trying to convince their daughter to give in on this "insignificant" problem. I also came from a strict home so the transition to a strict school wasn't all that traumatic (except for the separation itself). I can see how it could be very traumatic for someone from a home that was very relaxed and laid-back. I also had full knowledge that my parents wouldn't be sending me away if they didn't have to for the best education possible. I do believe that the parents' role makes a part of the difference.

The third difference I see is our specific experiences. Somehow I skated through with a lot of good experiences and without a lot of traumatic ones. (I do remember a couple, however, and you can believe I said something, too!)

I heard a comment, "If I'd been at K.A. only for first and second grades, I'd have bad feelings about it, too. But going all the way through gave it a sense of home and familiarity." I think it's a valid statement, though I fully recognize that some of us went all the way through and had bad experiences the whole way.

I don't deny any of you your own negative feelings about your boarding school, and I don't think any less of you for having them. But, there are implications coming through that if I say it was a happy experience, then I am denying the truth and refusing to face my problems! For me to deny that would substantiate the statement, so "what to do?"

I don't account for all the differences or the reasons God works the way He does. But faith means trusting He never makes mistakes and believing He can bring us through the difficulties whole (as He has with Ruth Ellen). I thank God for the way He has preserved me through my boarding school years. Though those years were foundational, I can't blame all that happens now in my life to something that happened at boarding school. Having had a happy childhood naturally doesn't mean I've got all the answers to life now, or that I don't have any problems! Of course I do! Plenty of them. But the thing to do is to face the problems, maybe understand why they're there, and deal with them now in the best way I can. God understands my past. In fact, He gave my past to me specifically for a purpose. Because of who He is, I can trust (expect) Him to help me work through the present problems that result from my always being an MK.

HOW CAN I SAY HELLO?

The following song was written by Sue Poyner who is an MK from the Phillipines.

How can I say hello,
When I'm hardly through saying goodbye?
How can I smile a greeting,
When old tears are still in my eyes?

Life moves so fast,
Everyone's gone,
Now there's a new face,
But I'm still alone.

CHORUS:

I'm the only one who knows what's inside.
I know what I fear, and I'm tempted to hide,
But You read my mind,
And Your love goes so deep,
I can face tomorrow
Because You I can keep.

How can I say hello,
When I'm hardly through saying goodbye?
Jesus, You, too, left your home,
So You know the pain inside;

But You faced Your world
So ready to give,
Now I need the courage
To live as You did.

WHO'S WHO?

Harry Conn, in Four Trojan Horses (pp. 17-18) makes reference to a study of the people listed in Who's Who of America. According to Conn, Who's Who showed that "it took 25,000 laboring families to produce one child that would be listed in Who's Who. That number dropped to 10,000 families of skilled craftsmen to produce one Who's Who. Among Baptist ministers the ratio was 6,000 to 1; Presbyterian ministers, 5,000 to 1; lawyers, 5,000 to 1; dentists, 2,500 to 1. Episcopal priests had the best record: 1,200 to 1.

Oh. Except there was one more category. "For every seven Christian missionary families that sailed from the shores of the United States, . . . one of their children would be listed in Who's Who!"

Conn comments, "Surely this is a good example of Hebrews 6:10, 'For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love.' The person with a right motive of heart can depend upon the literal fulfillment of Mark 10:29 and Hebrews 6:10."

You want successful children? Perhaps the best you can do for them is bring them to the mission field!

From Exciting News from the Frontlines, "Blessings of God on MK's," Used by permission.

SIMROOTS staff is eager to keep the MK addresses CURRENT and also to ADD NEW NAMES to their list. Please use the form below if your MK(s) have had a recent move or if your MK does not receive SIMROOTS. Mail the form to JOHN PRICE, JR., 4170 Ingraham Highway, Coconut Grove, FL 33133.

Name ()
 maiden Name *

Address

Phone No. () High School Graduation Year *

Schools attended on mission field*

Names of Children

Reunions Attended 1985 1981 Today's Date

Items marked with asterisk (*) are all VERY IMPORTANT for locating you on the list of over 2,000 names. Please fill these in accurately! THANKS FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO SIMROOTS UPDATES!

simresponse

LOOK WHAT I FOUND!

Sorry, Beti! I misplaced this letter after we had talked about it. Even though it's out of place here, I do want to include it!

ECUADOR: Land of the Hummingbird. Land of the Inca Empire. Land of ICMK!

Delegates from all around the world gathered at the beginning of January 1987 for the second International Conference on Missionary Kids with the objective of helping MK's reach their full potential as world citizens and God's children. More than 500 registrants representing 40 countries, numerous mission boards, and various churches came ready to listen, learn, and brainstorm. There were some 90 seminars and workshops available to attend as well as nine plenary sessions.

SIM was well represented by approximately 20 people, both missionaries and MK's. SIM's U.S. Director, Larry Fehl and his wife Shirley were able to attend and said that the conference reminded them of the importance of SIM's role in helping its MK's of all ages. Bob Blaschke, SIM's MK Education Coordinator, led two seminars as well as serving on the ICMK Steering Committee. Ruth (Frame) Van Reken was a plenary speaker and had a seminar on adult MK's. Elizabeth Blaschke had some input in a crossfire panel which discussed MK issues. All of SIM's MK schools in Africa and South America had representatives present. This provided an opportunity for SIM educators to get together daily to give mutual support, encouragement and solutions to common educational issues they face in SIM's MK schools.

Seminar topics ranged from "Computers in the Classroom," "Caring for 'Down Under' MK's," "Curriculum Development for Multi-National Schools," and "Depression and Suicide Among MK's."

Maybe the following quotes will give you a feel for what went on at ICMK.

"TCK's have the tools to be the cultural brokers of the future," Dave Pollock.

"We're not to promote pain; but I'm not so sure that we should prevent it all the time," Kathy Drown, MK.

"A particular pain caused for MK's by the evangelical subculture is that whatever happens is supposed to be the will of God, and therefore it's supposed to be good, even if it hurts," Dan Peters, MK.

"The most frustrating game an MK can play is 'Trivial Pursuit,'" Paul Nelson.

The last day was set aside for workshops. New ideas and information gleaned from the seminars had feet put under them. As a result, many innovative recommendations for action were presented to the delegates at the conclusion of the week.

The possibility of having an ICMK III which would deal with issues facing non-North American MK's was suggested. Therefore, tentative plans are for ICMK III to be held in Nairobi, Kenya sometime in the next two to four years. As Dave Pollock the Co-Director mentioned, "This week has been exhausting, but not exhaustive."

-Elizabeth Blaschke

As I skimmed through the "Communiqués" you sent me, Elizabeth, I came across a few more quotes that I'd like to include:

"Wow! What 30,000 MK's could do by just going home to transform churches that don't know anything behind their back fence," Ted Ward

"'Culture shock' is for the most part largely exaggerated poop!" Ted Ward. (I take great exception to that statement! Especially when it comes from a non-MK!!)

"If we knew as much about the children as we did about the adults before they were sent to the field, we could prevent a lot of problems," Rhoda Lindman.

"476 of 476 ninth-grade girls in Wheaton are going through missionary re-entry problems," Cliff Schimmels. (Cliff, I was a ninth-grade girl in Wheaton on furlough, and if you believe what you've just said, you have no idea what a re-entry problem is!)

"Being a TCK hasn't been particularly helpful in my career, but it's sure been interesting," Kent Foster.

"You get the barrel of clothes, and your mother says you should appreciate it!" Ruth Van Reken.

Well, so much for that. Let's get on to what we've all really been waiting for!

THE BEST PART!

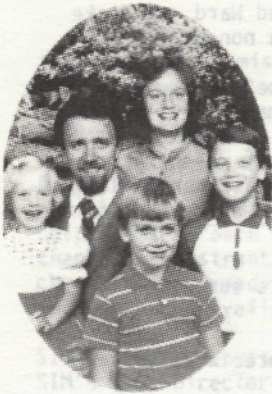
There has been a request to include the school initials along with the high school graduation date when you write. If you do, of course I will include it. Otherwise, I won't be able to do it because I have no idea personally who went to which school. Whatever else you include, PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION YEAR! It will save me literally hours of work looking up the information! Bless you to each one who did this time!

Mary Modrick, '60: I graduated from high school when I was at the SIM place in Perry, Michigan. I was there 1954-1958. I work with AIM (known as Voluntary Service Group in Juba, south Sudan) and am Health Projects Coordinator. We have a contract to assist the Sudanese Ministry of Health with their Primary Health Care Program. Due to rebel activity in the countryside, our work is limited to Juba among displaced people and in training courses. Thanks for sending SIMROOTS.

Steve Lucas, '65: (The Lucas update has been sent by the parents.) Steve is still working with Voice of America broadcasting in the Hausa language to West Africa. Friends recently wrote that Steve's voice comes through loud and clear there in Niger. After visiting with Steve, we drove to North Carolina to visit Carole ('70), Keith, and out twin grandsons who are now 3½ years. It was such a great time! We hope to fly to California in December to spend the holidays with Sue ('68), Randy, and their three children. The Lord has been very good to give us some ministries here in Sebring. We miss Africa so much, but since we have some good opportunities here to serve the Lord, it has really helped.

Ann (Swanson) Vanderaa, '68, Hillcrest: January 1, 1986--Moving day to Goudourou a small village on the edge of the desert . . . Suzanne (3) sick, delayed start, losing fuel en route . . . stop, fix problem . . . 10 hours later we arrive at night in Goudourou tired and apprehensive . . . this is too much . . . the isolation, the wind, the dust and heat . . . what have we gotten ourselves into!

January 1, 1987--Returning to Goudourou after several weeks of vacation. "Hurray!" yells Anna. "I wonder how my goats are," says Joel. It's so good to be able to share our news in Fulani. Our huts are in good shape and so cozy. Only to God can go the praise and thankfulness for the good year behind us. We certainly thank the many who prayed for that especially hard time when we let Erica go to boarding school in Ivory Coast (she loves it there!). Pray especially for her.



Brian & Miriam Funk
Davi Suzanne, Josiah, Jonathan

Mimi (Scheel) Funk, '69?, BA: Christmas was a bit less of a struggle for us this year as the Ethiopians celebrate Christmas on January 7 and gift giving is not customary for them. My brother Dan and his family were able to make it up to Addis Ababa after Christmas so we spent two nice days with them. We are now back into verbs, conjunctions, etc. Along with that, though, we are taking simple Bible stories and books of the Bible and we have started memorizing verses in Amharic. But for the grace of God we would drown in grammar!

When is the last time someone knocked on your door asking you to explain the gospel? This is actually happening in a nearby Muslim area! Please pray for our quick grasp of the language, for health (all four of us were sick last week), and also that our work permits will be renewed.

Linda (Glerum) Crouch, '69, K.A.: Our big family news is that in early August, God willing, we will be a family of 6! Lisa, Dan, and David are hoping for a baby sister! A highlight of

our Christmas was the visit of Jim's sister Margie! He gave us all a happy family time as the O'Donovans were also here. (Esther is Jim's sister.) What a terrific time we all had at the K.A. reunion!

Judy (Lees) Evans, '69, Hillcrest: We are living in an African house in the village of Maine, Niger. Every morning at 4:00 a.m. the loudspeaker on the mosque just down the street blares on and we listen to a half hour call to prayer! Islam really demands dedication and discipline! Christmas time was a wonderful reunion with our children who have been at K.A. We learned that the cause of their 1½ hr. delay in arrival was that the plane had been refueled with regular car gasoline instead of airplane fuel--a mistake that could have caused engine problems midair! Just in time the pilot noticed. The highlight of the holidays was Christmas Day and weekend celebrated with my parents at Goure (a 2½ hr. drive from Maine). We thank God for helping us to find Fudji, an educated Manga girl, as our language helper. In exchange, I am teaching her how to type.

The approval for the 5-village agricultural project that we expect to be working on near Goure is gradually making its way through government channels. We hope to have a good enough grasp of Manga by June so that we can relocate there in preparation for this project. I hope to be able to use my nursing as well.

The kids are finding their niches at K.A. Geoffrey writes, "Yesterday our class went to market and it was fun. We went for a long hike to some waterfalls way out in the jungle and found a baboon cave. You could tell they were there just a couple of hours before."

After so many years, K.A. will be turned over to ECWA, so next year we will be sending the kids to the new SIM school in Niamey, Niger.

Kathy (Braband) Wilder, '69, Hillcrest: My husband Jim is Assistant Director at Shepherd's House and is very active with counseling as well as being responsible for all the computer work, newsletters, and such. The Church of the Brethren does not have a pastor and is being held together by an interim pastor. Jim is on the search committee for a new pastor and is providing leadership for the church. I am presently working as a church secretary at the First Church of the Nazarene in Pasadena. This is a very large church with 10 pastors and 8 secretaries. The church is famous for being the home church of Jim and Shirley Dobson. The boys and I presently attend this church as it has a good women's ministry and children's program. There is some

benefit of being active in a large and a small church. Our son Earl, alias Jamie, is in 6th grade and enjoys photography, acting, computers, drafting, architecture. Soccer is the love of our son Rami. He is in fourth grade and enjoys reading mysteries immensely.

Cherry (Long) Sabathne, '69, Hillcrest: We did it! I'm not sure when; it couldn't have really been only two weeks ago? Our trip to Hawaii "sans" kids was WONDERFUL! I couldn't believe how much like the plateau of Nigeria it was! The same flowers, the same fruit (we ate papaya three times a day, at least), and the same beautiful weather. The biggest difference was the ocean! I loved the "breathing space", the SLOW PACE, bargaining at the International Marketplace (got a great buy, too!), no food preparation and clean up, the buildings with no doors, and most of all my visit with Abby! It was super seeing you again and catching up! Our first two rolls of film were ruined, but we still managed to fill up a book. Oh, yes. I also discovered I get seasick! What a trip that was! Unfortunately, I was downwind of someone who gets it worse than me! Then halfway through dinner, it poured rain. The rain was followed by a gorgeous rainbow. (I wondered what good the promise was that it wouldn't happen again; this was my last time at sea!)

In spite of it, however, we had a wonderful time! Now we're back in full swing--planning the ladies' brunch at church, beginning soccer for C.R., last-of-the-year projects at school, and back to work. Chip changes his job next week. He'll still be with General Mills, but at a different desk with different responsibilities.



Chip & Cherry Sabathne

Big prayer request: Thursday, June 18, all systems are go for big-time surgery for our ten-year-old, Jessica. She'll be having hip and ankle surgery on both legs and then spending the summer in a body cast. Pray for a successful surgery, with no complications due to anesthesia (she's real prone to pneumonia), and my ability to cope with the changes this whole thing brings. Your prayers are appreciated! (This surgery may also affect the knees.)



Judy & Steve Frazier

Judy (Pollen) and Steve Frazier, '71, Hillcrest: Our girls are getting big on us! At ages 7½ (April) and 9½ (Heather), we're caught up with Brownies, Girl Scouts, GA's, and choir at church and numerous sleep-overs! Mom's "taxi service" definitely flourishes with the demands. Steve continues to enjoy the challenges of a chief-of-staff position here of over 125 men, coordinating and such, exercises designed to test the readiness of men and equipment in a military operation. I keep busy with the home and nurturing "stuff"!

Gayle (Osbourne) Byers, '71, Hillcrest: Sitting here reading the SIMROOTS sure has brought back so many memories. I enjoyed so much reading all the news. So many of you have either returned to Nigeria for ministry or been able to visit again! After graduating from Hillcrest in '71, I returned to Washington, D. C. where my sister Carolyn ('69) was living. We both worked on Capitol Hill for Congressmen for a couple of years. I went through nurses' training and graduated from a community college in January 1975. I was hoping to return to the mission until August of '75 when I married Gary. He started a church in Frederick, Md. (about 60 miles north of D.C.) in April '74. So I joined him, and we've been here together for the last 11½ years. We have two children, Andrea 8 and Timothy, 7. We enjoy our church ministry here very much, and the Lord sure has been good to us.

I was able to see Iva and Lorna Elyea, and we had a lot of fun talking about old times. My sister Carolyn is living in Baltimore with her husband and two children. Bob has recently started a church in Hunt Valley. My brother Philip ('73) is in Germany with the army. I think about so many of you often. It's a shame we're all so far apart. If any of you pass through our neighborhood, please call. Our number is (301)695-7095. God bless all of you.

Sue (Long) Hammack, '72, Hillcrest: It was a real treat to be in the States with our families and home churches for six weeks during September and October. We returned to Kano feeling refreshed and ready to plunge back into our work. Though the boys enjoyed playing with their cousins, they were eager to get back to our home and to their toys and friends, so that made it easier for us to return. During our absence, swarms of locusts destroyed many of the crops in northern Nigeria. This was a real blow to the farmers, especially since the rains had been good and crops were almost ready to harvest! Also of significance, the value of the naira dropped drastically, giving us about three times the former amount of naira per dollar. We have heard that Jos wants to build the biggest sports stadium in Nigeria, and it's to be built on the polo grounds and Evangel compound area! They agreed to leave the hospital standing! We found out about two British ladies here in Kano who teach young expatriate children. After talking with them, we have been able to arrange Keith's first grade next year right here rather than sending him to K.A. The K.A. reunion last January was terrific! Too bad most of you missed it! 😊

Ruth (Bishop) Goasdone, '72, Hillcrest: We had our third baby 15 months ago, and God blessed us with a little boy. What a delight Matthew is! He is a charmer and loves to be the center of attention. Our 6½-year-old, Marci, is shy and quiet, and she loves to be dressed "just so" with her hair in order, etc. Heather, our 4-year-old, is half lady and half tomboy. I have a Bible club here in our home on Monday afternoons after school for some of the school kids. It's been exciting! Next year I'll be on the PTA and hospitality committee at school. John is doing a great job here at church. We have a congregation of new Believers, so he does all the teaching. This keeps him very busy!

Bill Zobrist, '73, Hillcrest: When I arrived at the U.S. Center for World Mission in October, I began work in the Order Processing office of the Global Prayer Digest. My work assignment has been changed to Housing/Maintenance. I am doing some plumbing and caulking to stop water leaks and prevent wall and floor damage. Please remember me in your prayers.

"It's time the Gould tribe were heard from. We've capitalized on the cult movement and started our own monastery under the spiritual direction of Guru Gould. All donations gratefully . . . Seriously, here's what we're up to:"

Jim Gould, '75: Jim is a professional student. After high school, Jim completed a degree in broadcasting, spent a summer in Alaska where he met his wife Sue and worked for two years in television. He then returned to school and completed an MA in Philosophy. He is now pursuing a second MA at Trinity Seminary in Chicago, and he is teaching philosophy part-time at local colleges. Jim has a lovely baby girl, Becky.

Joy Gould, '77: Joy is the teacher of the family. After completing high school, Joy studied Early Childhood Education, then completed a teaching degree. She met and married her husband Mark at university. While Mark was in seminary in Toronto, Joy taught grade 3 for three years. They are presently in a pastorate in interior B.C. They have one cutie, Andrea, and are expecting another shortly.

Beth, '80: Beth is the family medical person. After high school, she went to nurses' college. Upon graduating she spent three months at Galmi Hospital, Niger and loved it. She is presently working in a neonatal intensive care unit at a Toronto hospital. Her

husband Tom is completing his degree in teaching science.

Rob Gould, '82: Rob is the outdoorsman. After completing high school, Rob did a degree in Christian Camping at Ontario Bible College. He is presently working on a degree in English, and when he completes university would like to go into teaching elementary school.

John Gould, '82: John has the artistic talent in the family. He spent one year at Bible College after high school, and he has recently completed a degree in Fine Arts studying art history and doing studio work. His future plans are on working for a while and possibly returning to school.

Mimi (Rogers) Reznicek, '76, BA: My husband and I have three children--Beth, 5; Matt, 3; and Michaela, 7 months. My husband, Mike, is in a Residency Training Program for Psychiatrists in the U.S. Air Force. I'm a housewife and really enjoy it. We are planning to home school our children. I have fond memories of growing up in Africa and wish my children could have those same experiences. But the Lord must have something different planned for them!

Helene Warkentin, '76: March is a month of review exercises, marking and finals. So I'll take a break from the perfect tenses, conditional sentence, reported speech, relative pronouns, and the list goes on, to let you know how things are in Tahoua, Niger. I am very busy teaching English. I also have a new class called Practical and Productive Activities. This has been a real challenge for me because I have never been that interested in crafts. We have done a little sewing, drawing, cooking, and repairing of desks. Next trimester, I hope to teach some macrame. In the meantime, I have to find materials and then learn how myself! Your prayers have been answered, and I'm learning to step out of my circle of confidence.



John & Nancy DeValve

John and Nancy (Hall) DeValve, both '77: We were married August 16, 1986 at Little White Church, Conklin, N. Y. We had a really neat 10-day honeymoon in Washington, D. C. before we hit the deputation trail. We spoke in 14 churches, slept in 23 beds, and traveled through 14 states. We came up to Canada for French study in January. We're both enjoying our classes and are making good progress. We're enjoying the 15 other SIM missionaries who are studying here, including Ruth Weese.

The "Out of the Mouth of Babes" section in the last SIMROOTS reminded me of something that happened to me while teaching at K.A. (from '82-86). The rainy season was about to begin and because of the sudden increase in humidity all the women were beginning to have problems with their hair-do's. Three of four of the ladies had gotten their hair cut or permed as a result. The kids were discussing this in class and one little boy said, "Miss Hall, I hope you don't get your hair all frizzed and curled like the other ladies or you'll be uglier!"

John and I will finish our French studies the end of April at which time we will return to PA. for two months. We plan to return to Niger (Maradi) the end of June. I will study Hausa and John will resume his discipleship ministry. We can't wait to get back. Thanks for all the work you do on SIMROOTS. We enjoy it!

Pam (Long) Daroff, '77, Hillcrest: Jamie just went down for a nap, so I have a moment to sit and write a note. He is growing up so fast! Our son, David James II, was born in October. There have been days during the first few months when I considered giving him back, but I have since changed my mind. I can't imagine life without him now.

My husband Dave is now both a Service Tech and a Sales Rep. for Trinity Micrographics. He still enjoys working as the Youth Pastor for our church, but most weekends are taken up with youth activities so he ends up working seven days a week quite often. It's great to hear the news through SIMROOTS.

Bob and Char (Hide) Blaschke, both '79, Hillcrest: Vital Statistics--Melanie Dawn was born on January 29, 1987 at 8:45 p.m. She weighed 8 lbs., 2 oz. and measured 22 inches. Outstanding features: She is beautiful all over! We can hardly wait to introduce her to our family and friends!

Excerpts from the class of '81 have been submitted by Frank Dubisz. He says, "The following names I know are from the class of '81, but I know nothing of their activities. David Driediger, Clearbrook, B. C.; Collin Finlyson; Shunum Gumba; Paul Laird, Papin, Wi.; Karita Newsbom, Ohio; Cliff Stade, S. Battleford, Sk.; and Becky Williams, Bush Prairie, Wa." If anyone else knows their addresses or whereabouts, how about letting Frank know?

Beti Blaschke, '81: Longview, Tx. (214-757-9155) Black tar and painted lines were the common denominator of the last few months. Whether it has been in cars or planes they have followed me from Texas to New Jersey, Minnesota, Virginia, Indiana, New York, Arkansas and finally back to Texas again. I spent July and August visiting and working with MK's. Working with new MK orientation at SIM's Candidate School was a challenge. A seminar in Dallas helped me in acquiring new counseling skills as well as sharpening old ones. Settling down to office life, paying bills, and catching up on correspondence occupied much of the month of September. Involvement with Summer Missions Emphasis Day at John Brown University in Arkansas was a bright spot. After the conference in Quito, I returned to W. Africa to visit MK schools. On the way back we stopped in Germany to visit Black Forest Academy and also some European MK's. That six week trip was a short term missions project, so I was responsible to raise the money needed for the traveling expenses!

Carole Joy Carpenter, '81: Caronport, Sk. (306-756-9234) I am in my last year at Bible School (Briercrest), and I'll graduate in April with majors in World Evangelism and sub-majors in Youth and Counseling. Sounds impressive, eh? This last summer I visited my sister Gloria and her husband, Chris, in L. A. for two weeks and then went on a 10-week summer missions term in San Jose, Ca. to work with people in the inner city. In June, Mom and Dad returned to Africa after being in Canada for 12 years. This time they went to Burkina Faso. So home left me. I am planning to go into missions. I was considering HCJB as I am interested in photography and computerized slide shows and evangelism, but out of the blue I applied to SIM. I'm praying for direction, but I do think I'll end up in West Africa. I'm quite involved in prayer bands here. This year I'm prayer band coordinator (the only girl ever). That means I'm in charge of 20 prayer band leaders, have a secretary and in charge of Operation Underground--the most scary and adventurous activity at Youth Quake (big youth even when 1500 extra kids come here for a weekend). Normally we run on a Communist theme, but this year I decided we'd go terrorism. Now we have to design from scratch, but it'll be good.

Frank Dubisz, '81: Cedar Grove, N. J. (201-753-4991) There have been a lot of new experiences I've gone through this last year. One of them was G-Day on April 26--same day of the nuclear explosion there in Chornobyl, USSR--when I received a BS in Computer Science Eng. Tech., and a minor in Electrical. From there it was driving the LeTourneau College Singers in the Blue Bird bus for some 5400 miles through Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California. A few new experiences at the time involved getting rescued after 12 hours on a cliff outside of Phoenix where I had attempted to scale a 1400 foot mountain. I knew I was in a bad situation when the first helicopter flew by, and I found out later the second chopper that flew by was making a film clip for the channel 12 evening news. There was also the experience of seeing

the Pacific for the first time, Yosemite, and the Grand Canyon. After the trip I prepared for another new, yet not so new, experience--that of candidating with SIM. And I was accepted to work with the Church in Benin, assisting linguistic teams with the use of computer technology. I'll be spending a few months at JAARS headquarters in Waxhaw, N.C. to get further training in the Wycliff Text Analysis software and hope to leave for Africa my mid-summer.

Tom Fuller, '81: Lynnwood, Wa. (206-745-0065) The big news for me is that I'm on my way to Phanet-Nikon, Thailand to work in a refugee camp with Food for the Hungry. Right now I'm on the old support-raising trail so who knows when I'll be out there. My job will be the distribution of household goods and food to the new incoming refugees. Most of the refugees are Cambodian, Vietnamese, and Khmer. I graduated this last summer with a B. S. in Zoology and have since then been living with Tim and Dianne and their 3-month-old son Joel. I've been helping them in their janitorial business with a month off to do some back-packing in Mexico. The assignment in Thailand is for two years, after which I'm not really sure what I'll do.

Jamie Leuders, '81: Farmington, Ar. (501-267-3476) Am most likely going to pursue graduate education starting this spring or summer.

John Paternoster, '81: Battle Creek, Mi. (616-965-4662) I'm actually not that busy, just preoccupied with the little nuisances of daily life--housecleaning, etc. And a friend borrowed my car and put it into a tree, so my energies have been elsewhere. That, and visiting my adorable little niece (Dan and Nancy's daughter). I'm still working for Osco, 4-10-hr. days so I have a good number of days off. I'm committed to my parents to stay in Battle Creek for two years to be near my grandmother who we put in a nursing home in Marshall while Mom and Dad were home last summer. I went back to Moody during summer school to finish my degree. I think I want to go back to school, but I don't want to spend money without clear goals so I'm still holding off. I'm considering going for a business degree or maybe just taking misc. classes of interest--some art, some more computer classes. Who knows? Meanwhile, I'm trying to save for whatever the future might bring. My May motorcycle trip took me about 4,000 miles through Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, and Texas, but I haven't decided where to go in '87. I took enough money to stay in motels, which I did for most of the two weeks after nearly freezing the first night of camping. I'm contemplating a Western or Canadian trip but am undecided whether to go this year with my 750 or wait till next year ('88) when I can afford a true touring bike (Gold Wing). I'm dabbling in photography and trying to get myself to read more since I'm not in school. Just have to keep learning something, I guess. Working on my cars or motorcycle would probably be beneficial, but it holds no attraction for me at this time. Living on my own (Phil left to go to Oakland University) has promoted this undisciplined life-style based on self-interest, but I'm slowly learning to make myself get things done.

Johannes Tewes, '81: Witzenhausen, W. Germany Since March I've been working at the Red Cross serving my 16 months of Civil Service. At first it was tough getting to accidents, reacting in the right way, seeing people die and you can't do a thing about it. At first it took some time to recover after each new situation; now I just wait till I get there, do what needs to be done, and try not to reminisce about it too long. But I must say I can't just forget every new human fate I meet. All I can do is pray, realizing afterwards it is the best I could do. Often I feel they have to get to know Jesus since they will most likely die sooner or later. Often I could just hug them and tell them that I feel for them, and all they have to do is trust Jesus. But so often you have a lump in your throat and you can't say a word. Oh, well--I'll just do my best. Youth work in the church in Witz. is quite difficult, but it probably has to do with my personal situation, too. There is no use in explaining it; I'd probably express it from a wrong point of view. Please greet the Lloyds for me. I might not have written them for an age, but often I think of them. It is interesting how houseparents have somehow impressed us, causing our thoughts to turn to them.

Barbie Warkentine, '81: Abbotsford, B. C. (604-854-3848) Since I last saw you, Frank, at Urbana '84, I have continued working at CCC. But I'm finishing soon and looking for another office job in Abbotsford--tired of commuting to Vancouver. No, the reason is that after 2 years, Campus Crusade wants an hourly (such as me) to either join staff or leave. I've had excellent training and a good two years with them but know it's time for me to move on. May and June were very busy at the office and I was under quite a bit of pressure as Mom and Dad returned to Niger for a one-year term. Then in July I went on holidays! Kathleen came down, first to be the Maid of Honor in Frances Hodges' wedding. I was kept busy doing the guest book--a good thing, too, as I only knew the Hodgeses. Then Kathleen and I holidayed the rest of the weekend in Victoria. It's quite fun being a tourist in your own province. This coming year, I'd like to lead a Bible Study and do more outreach type activities in the community. I might have an interview for a job at a Mazda car dealership. I've applied at two other financial institutions, but no word back.

The following information has been obtained by other than personal correspondence, i.e., phone calls, rumor mill, other interested parties, overheard, assumptions, etc.

Doug Adams, '81: San Francisco, Ca. Married July 6, '86 in Chicago, serving our country in the U.S. Navy, stationed in S. F.

Annette Balisky, '81: Finishing up Bible School in Canada.

Bob Bower, '81: Western Samoa, South Pacific Graduated with an Accounting degree, joined Peace Corps for two years in Western Samoa to teach accounting and farming. Left November '86.

Paul Forster, '81: Tulsa, Ok. (918-587-8808) Graduated with Mechanical/Aviation Technology from LeTourneau, spent summer months in Nigeria with SIM assisting in a well program, looking for work.

Craig Harling, '81: W. Caldwell, N. J. (201-226-8606) Graduated from Northeastern Bible School with degree in Psychology, working in Admissions at the school, plans to pursue Masters in Clinical Psychology at Wheaton, and is happily married.

John Harvey, '81: Thunder Bay, On. Worked in Niger with SIM, married a nurse from Galmi in the summer of '86.

Nate Hoover, '81: Philadelphia, Pa. (215-352-9545) Studied electronics, working with Bob Neef in a fire/water damage cleaning service.

Dan Maxwell, '81: Dallas, Tx. Graduated from LeTourneau in Electrical Engineering, Masters from Wheaton in Missions, currently engineer at a Christian broadcasting station.

John Mason, '81: Accra, Ghana Traveled on motorbike from England, across Gibraltar, the Sahara Desert, and on to Ghana, working construction at Maranatha Bible School in Accra, plans to return to North America this summer to pursue engineering.

Mark Sheppard, '81: Reynoldsburg, Oh. Married in the summer of '86, using his aeronautical training.

Dan Stilwell, '81: Charlotte, N. C. Returned to Ethiopia to assist in famine relief work for a couple months. Left January '87.

THANK YOU, FRANK. You did a marvellous job of organizing all this!

Roger and Muriel Anderson, Staff: This past year has been packed with many opportunities for me to serve the Lord as Field Representative for Oak Hills School. I have had the

privilege of conducting many Marriage and Family Enrichment Seminars, two of which were held in Trinidad, West Indies last May. Becki ('77), Steve, and Joshua, 20 mo., still live in Minneapolis. Becki is now working about half time at one of the hospitals in the city. Anita ('80) has now completed a full three years of beauticians work at the Beaver Look. Sara ('74) is in her third year at Oak Hills Bible College. She has been singing with the "Livin' Hope" musical team and is expecting to travel for Oak Hills this summer with one of the groups. Dale ('86) is in his second semester at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Mn. He really enjoys power volleyball and finds it a wonderful place to work out frustration and to keep himself in good shape. His main subjects have been math, French, and drama.



John & Pauline Herr

John & Pauline Herr, Staff: As SIM representatives in the Northwest, we have had the privilege of visiting SIM fields in Bolivia and Peru. One Sunday evening while we were out to a meeting, we were visited by burglars. They got away with a lot, even our VW Rabbit, which has since been recovered. We praise the Lord for that! Then in February, Pauline's mother went to be with the Lord. Bill ('69) and his wife MeriSue are living in Minneapolis where Bill is employed in apartment management and maintenance. They have two very lovely little girls, ages 1 and 3. Kathy ('65) and David are still in Portland and are busy in their church. David works steady at Hoody Nut Co. and a number of other jobs.

Their four children manage to keep them busy! Dorothy ('66) and the children are living in Portland trying desperately to put life back together after she had to leave Gary after 16 years of abuse. They all know the Lord, and it is very hard for them at this time. Please pray for them.

Rose Roth, Staff: Rosie leads an unbelievably busy life as a teacher at ECWA Bible College in Aba, Nigeria. Students are responsive to missions at the college . . . God is at work among the students!

Jeanette Silver, Staff: It was special to be able to be part of the K.A. reunion. About 60 alumni returned, some with spouses and children. One point of interest: Linda Klassen, K.A.'s first dietician, is still here. THAT'S a record! Ruth Grimshaw and Jean Campbell will be leaving K.A. next year and moving to Sahel Academy in Niger. After being at K. A. 20 years, I will be heading back to the U. S. for retirement.

Oswald and Irene Zobrist, Staff: One year ago now we were in Minneapolis seriously packing and plane reservations had been made for the end of the month. Now, two continents and at least five countries later, two new grandchildren later and living in the fourth house since arriving in Niamey . . . well, those are probably at least some reasons for 1986 to have sped by! Oswald is Travel Coordinator for the mission, and Irene started off helping him in the office, but all that changed when we were asked to become the dorm parents for the new school in Niger! Eagle's Nest is the name for our home. We are simply Grandpa and Grandma to the children. We are truly enjoying our own grandchildren, four healthy, lively youngsters who live about three miles from us (Fred's children). We hear from Cora quite often, but how we would like to see them more often and follow the changes in those three lovely boys, too.

Well, that brings us to the end. What a terrific response we've had! Keep it coming! Perhaps the next SIMROOTS will be done on a computer, and it will go faster from this end.

Just a reminder to use this newsletter as a prayer guide if you're so inclined. It's loaded with items for prayer! Hope this summer is filled with the confidence of God's presence and care.

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