



SIMROOTS

From the Past, Through the Present, For the Future

SPRING 2000

VOLUME 17 NUMBER 1

Visit our Website at <http://simroots.sim.org>

RECONCILIATION

You open your mailbox and extract an assortment of bills, junk mail, personal correspondence, and a copy of *Simroots*. Some of you indifferently toss the newsletter on the pile to be perused at your leisure. A few of you set aside all duties and eagerly devour it from cover to cover, savoring every delicious memory it invokes. But for some of you, your heart starts pounding and emotions begin to ricochet like ping-pong balls in an empty closet. You weigh the cost of dredging up painful memories. One reader, for example, stated, "I love it when there is anything from our age group. But it took me awhile. The first few issues I would read and cry and cry." Another recalled, "The first time I received a copy of *Simroots*, I was so angry I threw it across the room! 'ROOTS,' I thought . . . 'I don't HAVE any roots, and where did they get my name and don't they know they're just rubbing it in by sending me something called *SimROOTS*?' For some the wounds run so deep, they have asked to be removed from the mailing list because they do not know how to handle the consequences of facing the ghosts of their fearful past. Indifference, joy, or pain—whatever your response, I hope you'll read this issue with an open mind and heart to what others have experienced.

Simroots' motto "From the past, through the present, for the future" finds its way into every issue. "From the past" we submit our archival photos and "Remember When" section. For "through the present," we include News Updates, Congratulations and Sympathies. In this issue check out what SIM is doing for its present MKs (p. 4). And have you ever considered what it must be like on "the other side of the fence"—to be a dorm parent or caregiver? Check out Steve and Beaj Beacham's article (p. 4).

But what about "for the future"? The focus of this issue is "reconciliation". If you belong to the fortunate group that has experienced little or no pain in your life or have long since dealt with issues of forgiveness, you may find it hard to identify and empathize with those who still struggle. Perhaps you tend to be judgmental and unsympathetic. "Quit the blame game," you admonish. "Get on with life and forget the past." I suggest that you read Open Dialogue with an open mind and a heart of compassion. Listen to the stories of hope and healing and refrain from judging those who have dared to open up and become vulnerable.

continued on page 2

Walter Gowans

by Dan Elyea

On the 4th of November 1893, at a time when a land very familiar to many of us was not yet named "Nigeria," three young men sailed from Liverpool, England. In those days many referred to the region of Africa between the Sahara Desert and the Equator as "the Sudan." Stretching from countries like Senegal and Sierra Leone on the west, the Sudan reached eastward to Ethiopia and Somalia. And the country now known as "Nigeria" fell fairly centrally in this territory. Each one consumed with a burning concern for bringing the gospel to the interior of the Sudan, the three missionaries arrived at Lagos, British West Africa, after a month on the ship.

For a considerable time, Walter Gowans, a Scotch-Canadian, had tried unsuccessfully to get any established mission society to back him in providing a ministry to the central Sudan. Rowland Bingham joined him after Walter's mother sparked in Bingham a great concern for

continued on page 6

LAST ISSUE BEFORE REUNIONS

Simroots is a newsletter produced by volunteer SIM MKs, for SIM MK high school graduates and their care givers. Our goal is to publish two to three times per year (as funds permit). *Simroots* operates on a nonprofit, donation basis. Donations of \$10 or more (U.S. funds) can be receipted by SIM for tax purposes.

Checks should be made out to *Simroots* and sent to SIM, not to the editor.

SIMROOTS
c/o SIM International
P.O. Box 7900
Charlotte, NC 28241
USA
704-529-5100

SIMROOTS
c/o SIM Canada
10 Huntingdale Blvd.
Scarborough, ON M1W 2S5
Canada
416-497-2424

Please send correspondence to:

EDITOR

Karen Keegan
222 Hyle Avenue
Murfreesboro, TN 37128
(615) 895-9011
simroots@sim.org

LAYOUT

Grace Swanson
1565 Gascony Road
Encinitas, CA 92024
(619) 942-6109
grace@inetworld.net

CONSULTANTS

Dan Elyea
Cherry Sabathne

WEB PAGE

Elizabeth Quinn
lizard@inr.net

Remember to put year of high school graduation and school(s) on all correspondence to *Simroots*.

Reconciliation continued from page 1

But what if you have not worked through the issues of the past—whether it be dealing with the pain of cycles of separation and grief or handling the consequences of abusive situations? Perhaps you're the one carrying a load of guilt over having been the cause of someone else's pain. An abused MK recently challenged me to define the word "reconciliation." Does it involve confrontation? Are there measures being taken to bring healing to both sides? I urge you to pursue the many resources that are available to you. Face your fears at a reunion. Call or write Larry Fehl to participate in an Adult MK consultation (p. 12) or simply contact me to obtain an address to reconnect with an individual. Isn't it time to find healing and lay aside those demons of guilt or shame or bitterness you've kept buried so long? Sure it's tough, but the resulting freedom is worth it. Let's work together for the goal of reconciliation between peers, parents, caregivers and the mission community.

Sai an jima (until a little while),
Karen Keegan, editor

Adult Missionary Kid Task Force

by Bill Hayes

Dr. Bill Hayes is a Member Care Facilitator and counselor for SIM USA. He holds a Th.M. from Dallas Theological Seminary and a Ph.D. in Marriage & Family Therapy from Fuller Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Bonnie, were SIM missionaries in Côte d'Ivoire.

I had attended two Adult MK Consultations—groups of grown-up SIM MKs who desired in some way to reconnect with SIM. There were many happy reunions and also difficult issues: perceived abandonment by parents and God, invalidation of God's image-bearers, abusive situations, legalism. I watched reconciliation in action, gut-wrenching and glorious. We dare not wallow in our position as victims, but must pursue the appropriation of our victory in Christ. These seminars were clear steps toward that reality.

It became clear through these initial consultations that participants required different levels of follow-up to process effectively and move on in their lives. Some were happy to have been validated by SIM through the consultation alone. For others, the consultations stirred up a desire to remain connected in some way with their past, to contribute to the healing process of MKs—past, present and future. Still others required deeper intervention.

As a result, Larry Fehl formed an Adult Missionary Kid Task Force (AMKTF) in October 1999, to address the issues raised in the consultations and to provide suggestions for a cost-effective way to continue addressing MK and AMK issues. The focus broadened to include not only addressing reconciliation and past pains but also to reach out to current and future MKs.

Larry Fehl asked me to join the AMKTF, which convened on January 21-22. Just another meeting? No. Much prayer prevented the enemy from having his way. It was a microcosm of Christian Body-Life. Fifteen very different individuals, gifted and united by the Holy Spirit with a common purpose, joined hearts, minds, and pens to consider and to develop plans to enable SIM to handle MK issues of the past, present and future. We accomplished a great deal in a short period of time. Our prayers were clearly answered.

The AMKTF met after several months of

e-mail collaboration. We divided into four teams that tackled what we perceived to be the four pressing areas of need: 1) contacting SIM MKs to assess how their MK experience affected their lives; 2) developing resources for meeting needs identified at AMK consultations or otherwise; 3) reconnecting MKs to SIM through regional consultations and reunions; 4) addressing two past abusive situations in our boarding schools and suggesting preventative plans for future similar occurrences.

Team 1 determined to communicate SIM's responsibility and care for its AMKs by initially sending a survey to every one we can locate. The anonymous survey would seek to gather information regarding how their MK experience impacted their lives, both in positive ways and negative ones. We would invite them to attend an AMK Consultation and offer them a free copy of *The Third Culture Kid Experience* by Dave Pollock and Ruth Van Reken.

Team 2 addressed the challenge of determining the levels of intervention required for the various MK needs identified during AMK Consultations or otherwise coming to the attention of SIM-USA. They hope to compile statistics which could be used for requesting funding (through foundations, etc.) to help meet the needs of AMKs. They plan to formulate an evaluation tool to be used at the end of each consultation. They further discussed planning the first parent consultation at Sebring; developing a Myths (learned during childhood) vs. Biblical Truths table to disseminate at consultations; and creating an impressive multi-level evaluation grid for identifying MK needs.

Team 3 brainstormed ways to make reconnecting with SIM more attractive and more feasible for AMKs around the country. They recommended establishing a reunion for all AMKs as a first-level step toward reconciliation. A second-level forum would be an "AMK Reconnect," a single informal session desiring to reconnect the MK with her/his Mission roots, but not dealing with more emotional issues. The third level would establish more accessible regional AMK Consultations. In addition, the spectrum of reconciliation would eventually include caregiver with SIM, and AMK with caregiver. Optimistic? Yes.

"Crisis Management" was the label given to

continued on next page



AMK Task Force. **Back:** Dave Harling, Jim Nash, David Wickstrom, Ken Lloyd, Minna Kayser, Don & Debbie Price, Bill Hayes
Front: Larry Fehl, Ruth (Frame) Van Reken, Karen (Seger) Keegan, Nancy (Ackley) Ruth, Beaj (Lacey) Beacham, Carol Beacham

Team 4. We (my group) were charged with addressing two situations in the past where MKs were abused at our boarding schools. These incidents have come to light and demand attention. We hope to identify all MKs involved and provide consultations for all that are interested. Regarding the future, the following measures to prevent similar situations were discussed: sexual and physical abuse orientation for school staff, preparation standards for field leaders and parents, adequate sexual abuse policies for field and home offices, ongoing marriage enrichment opportunities for all married boarding school staff.

We are grateful to God for the current leadership He has established at SIM-USA. Their compassionate hearts and caring spirits were evident during our two-day meeting by their continuing efforts to turn the hearts of our children to their Father. I am grateful to God's Spirit for knitting our hearts together in the pursuit of Him and His scattered children.

God has begun a wondrous work and has promised to faithfully complete it. However, He continues to call for laborers. Many volunteers are needed, people with a love for MKs who are willing to open their hearts and their homes to demonstrate Christ's love to them. If you would be willing to write a "Welcome Home" letter for a new graduate returning to his or her home country from the mission field, be willing to call them, meet with them, have them in your home, or minister to them in any way, WE NEED YOU! If you are interested in volunteering in this effort, please contact:

Nancy (Ackley) Ruth
 3605 Manchester Dr.
 Garland, TX 75041
 972-560-7007
 NRUTH@kma.com

AMK Task Force

by Minna J Kayser (BA '77)

The AMKTF meeting was a time of inspiration, hard work and blessing for each of us. We saw how God enabled us to work together smoothly as a team, accomplishing the task at hand through our various talents, personalities and ways of thinking and responding.

The task is by no means complete, but our meetings did catapult us forward toward our goal of making reconciliation, renewal and healing possible for SIM MKs. This includes all MKs who have joined our family through the merging of the following missions: AEF, AEM, ICF and the former Sudan Interior Mission. Together we make up the SIM (Society for International Ministries).

We, as a team, covet your support and prayers as we continue with this work. Satan does not want to see reconciliation or healing within the body of Christ. If MKs are healed and brought into a renewing relationship within the SIM family, they will present a powerful force against Satan's plans. My heart leaps with joy at the thought of defeating the one who desires to undermine us. Let us join together in the power of prayer, and may God receive the glory!

The deeply caring spirit of Larry Fehl, the Lloyds, and many others at SIM USA as well as the rest of the AMKTF has profoundly affected me. I am proud to be part of such a family. (mjkayser@hotmail.com)

IN THIS ISSUE

Addresses	
Changes form	27
Class reps	24
To donate	2
Editor	2
AMK Task Force	2
Book reviews	20
Bulletin Board	14
Child Protection	6
Class Reunion Poem	9
Congratulations	14
Donations	27
Family Album	25
From the Archives	10, 13
Gowans Home	
A caregiver	7
From a Mother's Heart	9
Memories	9
Walter Gowans	1
How SIM Works with MKs Today	4
Letters to the Editor	10
News Updates	21
Open Dialogue	
Jones	11
Price	11
Van Reken	12
Other Side of the Fence	4
Reconciliation	1
Remember When	
Birch	15
Elyea	16
Fauriaux	15
Warkentin	15
Reunions	
ELWA	28
Gowans Home	8
SIM/HC	18
World Reunion	9
Sympathies	27

How SIM Works with MKs Today

by Steve (KA, HC '73) and
Beaj (Lacey) Beacham (EL, HC '73)

SIM MKs Steve and Beaj Beacham returned to the mission field as adults in 1985. They've been in Nigeria working at KA and Hillcrest ever since. They have 3 daughters: Christy (Beacham) Peterson (KA, HC '96), Carol (KA, HC '98), and Laci (HC '05).

Every time we got a copy of *Simroots*, we felt like we should write about what a good job SIM is doing with their MKs now. We'd like to talk about how our kids feel about SIM and the care they received from the SIM Nigeria and SIM-USA communities as they were growing up. We think it is an important story to tell because it shows how far SIM has come in its MK care. It's so important to be willing to admit when mistakes have been made and to learn from our mistakes. We really feel as if SIM has done that.

Kids in Nigeria feel they belong to SIM and vice versa. It started right from the beginning, when, as candidates, we went to SIMCO (the SIM candidate orientation program). The kids were a priority and had their own "track" during SIMCO, especially tailored to them. This shows how committed SIM is to its MKs and the important part the children play in the family's ministry on the field.

In Nigeria parents have the options of home schooling, developing one-room schools on larger stations, or sending their children to Hillcrest School in Jos. SIM provides a hostel for boarding out-of-town kids (this is presently for grades one through twelve). In the past, SIM has had two hostels, one for elementary and junior high kids and one for high school kids. However, at present, due to the small number of boarding kids and the lack of hostel parents, there is only one hostel open. Again, if we as parents feel that we would like to explore other options for the care and education of our kids, we are encouraged to do so. When parents feel as though they need to be relocated in Jos to be with their kids, SIM is very open to working with the family. The situation for our family has been a bit unique in that we have been involved in working at the schools that provide education for our MKs.

SIM Nigeria has done several things to make our kids' experience a special one and to help them with problems they may face. In Nigeria we have an MK Education Coordinator who oversees the care of our missionary kids. Our present MK Coordinator interviews our kids when we are going home on furlough and when they are graduating. In the home office the kids and parents are interviewed again. These inter-

views aren't threatening; they are totally for our benefit—at least that's how our family has always felt. We also have a program at Hillcrest for learning disabilities. Over the years when MKs have struggled academically, it has really added to self-esteem issues just because the academic standards are so high. This program has been so helpful to many, including our Laci!

SIM Nigeria has taken an additional step to help their MKs by creating a job opening or quota slot for a youth pastor. His full-time responsibility is literally to be a youth pastor to our MKs. This involves building individual relationships, organizing Bible studies and discipleship groups, developing service projects and just generally discipling our MKs.

Off and on over the years we have worked hard to have SIM camps and expose the kids to the "bush work" through service projects. Some of these things have been more successful than others. We used to have them twice a year (summer and Christmas—during SIM Conference), but lately most of the families have wanted their kids to be a part of Conference. During this Conference we try to include some fun things for the kids like "KA walks," rappelling, and bonfires. Also during Conference, we fill out accountability forms that ask about how things are going, what our goals were for last year, did we reach them, why or why not, what are our goals for next year, and so on. This process helps in some necessary refocusing. It also serves to help us look at how our marriage and family is doing and what adjustments might need to be made.

As our kids got into their later years of high school, reentry became a significant issue. Ruth Gibbs, in SIM-USA, sends each student, during their junior year in high school, a whole packet of information to help prepare them for coming home to the U.S. for college. This includes information needed by SIM-USA to help with their reentry and things to help with financial aid information. Hillcrest has also added a careers class to their juniors curriculum where the kids learn a great deal that will help them with transitioning back to their home countries. Hillcrest also offers a "Bachelor Survival" elective where the students learn even more about life on their own. By the time they leave Hillcrest, they know how to write checks, balance checkbooks, open accounts, fill out job applications and a little about the interview process. Also at Hillcrest now, a reentry weekend retreat is scheduled for seniors. When Steve was teaching Bible, reentry information was a part of the Bible class. He did a bit of it before Christmas so that the kids could plan their good-byes to Christmas vacation rituals, family traditions, and friends back on their stations before they left for their home countries. The whole senior year we really try to emphasize to the kids the importance of resolving conflicts with adults and peers that they will be leaving, so that they don't have tons of "extra baggage" to bring home. In addition, almost all SIM Nigeria MKs go to reentry seminars upon returning to their homeland.

Another thing SIM does to help its MKs is to allow

parents to use ministry account funds to pay for their kids' trips back to the field (one trip back to the field per child). We don't have a huge ministry account, but getting our kids back for Christmas is worth every penny we save toward that end—even if it means we have to retire in Nigeria! It seems as if those trips back to the field really help kids put the past behind them positively and get on with life. Our family is weirder yet because, if a guy wants to date one of our girls, he's going to have to come to Nigeria, meet us and see our roots. These things are possible now, and they really weren't when we were kids. SIM missionaries may not have as much cash flow as denominational missions, but we do have so much more than our folks did when we were kids.

In addition, while our kids are in college, if we choose to keep them on support, they are covered by SIM's medical coverage and get a check from the Mission each month. This is their portion of our family's support and can go directly to them to help with expenses. They also have the Mission's 800 number and can get help for a million different things. For example, when Christy was at Moody and we were in Nigeria, she got hit by a car at night, walking the streets of Chicago. She called us and was just lost about what to do. We e-mailed the Mission (Ruth Gibbs has been the one helping with MKs) and Ruth called Christy and mothered her through the whole thing.

We hope this has given you some insight into what is happening in MK care in SIM right now. We realize things aren't perfect, but we do feel that SIM is doing its best and is very open to ways to improve.

The Other Side of the Fence

by Steve and Beaj Beacham

We were some of SIM's most rebellious MKs. Yet, God in His goodness has allowed us to be involved in working with MKs. We have been dorm parents and on teaching staff at KA, and we have taught at Hillcrest and helped out at the Hostel and been on the Hostel board for years. Being "on the other side of the fence" has helped us understand how hard and stressful it is to care and be responsible for someone else's children.

Everything that we ever did or thought or said about our caregivers, dorm parents and teachers has come back on us! (We did not experience abuse. What happened to us we deserved. It was discipline not punishment.) This has been a very important les-

son about life to us. We have been dorm parents when there wasn't unity among the staff; we have been too harsh; we haven't been able to reach all the kids; we've had to be the ones to ask kids to leave; we have seen kids on drugs and talked about it with other adults instead of having the courage to confront the kids; we have confronted kids wrongly and sometimes harshly; we have sometimes hesitated to confront and let stuff go until it was much more painful to resolve; we have not only been IN the "system," but sometimes we have even BEEN the "system" (something we were never going to be). Being an MK caregiver is the hardest thing we've ever done—besides parenting our own kids. "Hard," here, does not mean that it isn't fun or rewarding; it means it's just hard to be everything that one thinks a good MK caregiver should be.

We learned some very important lessons. We learned we had to go to a fellow staff member the second we got the vibes that there might be a problem between us. We needed to present a united front to the kids—fight for the kids in staff meetings, but support the staff to the kids. The kids needed to see that we were mature enough people not to try to be popular with them, but to be loving adults who, through proper channels, tried to change a few things. We learned another thing the hard way. We learned that on the mission field one of the greatest challenges was finding privacy and a "safe" place to work things out. In the homeland, one has one's church group, friends at work, friends in the community, etc., so that when things are rough in one area you still have other places where they might be intact and not falling apart. On the mission field, in boarding settings, your whole life becomes that one environment. It is an unbelievable adjustment. No doubt it's one of the reasons why dorm staff get edgier as the semester wears on. It was very important for us not to gossip or even talk about others at all! Gossip is a tough issue on the field. If a person is not part of the problem or the solution, then discussing the situation is gossiping. But the mission community is so small that it is a fine line between constructive discussion and gossip. It is a difficult issue for dorm staff. We have learned that kids want to be talked to first. We have also learned that there are things that kids tell us that we can NOT sit on. Before they start sharing we need to say something like, "If what you're about to share is something that is harmful to you or someone else, you need to know that I will talk to your parents." Even though that sounds so easy, it really is hard.

One area of considerable stress for the MK care-



Carol, Ryan, Christy, Laci Beacham
(parents: Steve and Beaj)



The Beachams: Laci, Carol, Ryan & Christy Peterson, Steve, Beaj

givers comes out of the situation of having their own children there and having to strive not to be seen as being overly lenient with them (or, from the perspective of the caregivers' child, going too far in the other direction in an attempt to avoid any appearance of privileged treatment). After three years at KA, we moved to Jos to work with the hostel. (Steve also taught at Hillcrest.) Being hostel parents totally changes one's couple-hood. For us it seems that we have about half as much emotional energy and opportunity for our needs as a couple as before. Why? The hostel parents need to be the last ones to go to bed. That alone makes a couple more tense and frustrated.

Another huge factor in being hostel parents is that you take every child's home values into your own home. The biggest deal to us is attitude. All actions and speech come out of who we are! Most MKs are used to only dealing with what an action LOOKS like, not the "whys" of the issue. We care about the why. So that is a huge adjustment to all of us. We are also very aware of our Nigerian brothers' feelings. As kids we weren't all that concerned about it. But it is all very real! What we wear, how we behave, even the expensive food, the waste, etc., is a serious problem in the culture. This really does have an impact on relationships. These are all things that add so much possible conflict to the situation!

We are presently dorm parents at Niger Creek Hostel for the spring 2000 semester. The kids we have in the hostel are really a joy. However, things are not easy, even if the kids are no problem. For example, this afternoon a Nigerian man came to "greet." He is a long-time acquaintance and even goes so far as to call us his parents. That incident took two hours. Then we went to the kitchen to start fixing supper and found that not enough potatoes had been peeled for supper (Nigerian potatoes are very small and hard to peel). Then the gas bottle for the stove ran out while we were trying to bake cookies. We moved the cookies to the electric stove, but there wasn't enough voltage to even turn on the fluores-

cent light bulbs in the kitchen, say nothing of running the stove. Yesterday, Steve spent the bulk of the day trying to get water into the hostel. Twice this week we've run out of water, and the kids have had to go to school without showers! This is what it's like to be hostel or dorm parents. There are so many things that have to be done to keep things operating that it's easy to spend all your energy and lose all your patience on the details and have nothing left for the kids that are in your care and are really the reason for being here! This is just an example of some of the possible frustrations your

dorm parents may have experienced when you were under their care.

One of the most difficult things we face is finding good MK caregivers. We've been in situations where we have been desperate for needed teachers and dorm parents. The Lord has been good in providing people, but sometimes it's just not easy! On top of that, we believe this is an area where Satan works overtime to create disharmony and problems. We say this just to emphasize how difficult the task is. We feel that SIM sees this as an important need, but people and churches don't come on board with as much force as needed because, for whatever reason, they don't see working with MKs as an important ministry making it hard to raise support and get to the field. We really need to bring this issue to the forefront in missions and have it seen as a vital ministry so that we get quality people involved and not repeat some past mistakes.

We really feel like not only should adult MKs come back to the field to visit, but some of them make great caregivers, too. They are our best prayer support and prayer warriors. God really uses our past experiences to help us understand how to pray because we know what it feels like to be an MK. Anyone care to join our team?

(sbbeach@jos.rcl.nig.com)

the central Sudan. While he was preaching in Toronto, she invited him into her home for lunch and told him of Walter's passion to carry the gospel to the people living in the Sudan. Bingham's teaming up with Gowans inspired Thomas Kent, a college friend of Walter's, to join the team. Since no existing mission organization in Canada, the USA, or England would work with them, they determined to strike out

on their own. They chose Gowans to lead the group.

In Lagos, after spending a week in prayer, they decided to proceed to Kano, over 500 miles away in the interior. Already weakened by malaria, Bingham stayed in Lagos to procure additional supplies and to maintain contact between the group and those supporting them in the home countries. Kent and Gowans traveled

overland and eventually got as far as Bida. Supplies were running low by then, so Kent returned to the coast for more provisions.

Meantime, the Emir of Kontagora, out on a slave-raiding mission, captured the town Gowans was staying in. Besides being terribly ill, Gowans had very little food. The Emir eventually released Gowans who then went to Zaria. Still very ill, he tried to get back to the coast. On the 17th or 18th of November 1894, Walter Gowans died in the town of Girku. Walter gave himself as one of those seeds, which falling into the earth and dying, bears much fruit. Less than a month later, returning with supplies, Thomas Kent died of malaria in Bida.

Along with two other men, Rowland Bingham landed again in Lagos in 1900. Within several weeks he became ill to the point of death. The attending doctor sent a message to his associates that Bingham would not survive the night. Some Church Missionary Society missionaries serving in Lagos came to his bedside and prayed for him. Two of those who prayed for him died that same week and Bingham was invalided home. But out of these circumstances six CMS missionaries felt impelled to push inland to Kano as Bingham and his group had attempted. The CMS group reached Kano, but when the Emir found out their purpose, he gave them three days to leave the city. They then went to Zaria where they received the very same treatment.

Here is the rest of the story in the words of Rowland Bingham*:

"Finally they reached a little village where, much to their surprise, they were given a welcome. What they did not know was that a few years previously a white man had died there and that a little mother, in far-off Canada, was praying that God would send someone to preach the gospel in Girku, where her son had fallen. No party of six missionaries would naturally choose a little village like Girku for a missionary centre, yet they remained. For two years they preached the gospel message in this village and the country surrounding. There seemed to be no fruit then, but today we are gathering a wonderful harvest of souls in that district. One of the members of that party lies buried beside Walter Gowans. Explain it as you will, for two long years they were held in this place by Mrs. Gowans' prayers." From these and other seeds grew the SIM, formerly known as the Sudan Interior Mission. Our Simroots go deep.

**Seven Sevens of Years and a Jubilee (p. 28)*

Child Protection

by Dorothy Haile, SIM International Education Director
from "School's In!" Vol. 5, Issue 3, Aug. '99

All of us care about the children in our schools. Especially in a boarding situation, staff members are "in loco parentis," and carry heavy responsibilities, complicated by the fact that parents from different cultural backgrounds have widely differing expectations of what is appropriate. How can we ensure that MKs of all nationalities are adequately cared for when they are in the care of people other than their parents? How can we ensure that the people the mission appoints to care for our children are properly trained and supported?

I had started work on a Child Protection Policy while I was still in AEF (Africa Evangelical Fellowship). Now that I have become a part of SIM, and especially since part of my role involves MK education, I have been reviewing SIM's policies in this area. I have noted that the Personnel Manual requires each Sending and Area division to develop appropriate policies and procedures. These are to be acceptable within the local legal system and should include definitions and procedures in cases of abusive behaviour whether it is verbal, sexual, physical, or emotional. I note also that SIM (and SIM-related) schools have been asked to establish policies and procedures for their specific situations.

I appreciate all that has been done in this area of policy development and the care that has been taken. I am working with our Sending Offices to ensure that screening of all teachers and dorm parents is thorough and consistent. This need was emphasised by Richard Edlin (International MK Ed Coordinator) in September 1998 and is being followed up in our Offices with as much care as possible. It is also clear that the Sending Office and Area policies, as well as those of the schools, cover in a thorough way the issues of how to deal with allegations of abuse, reporting procedures, etc. Although we cannot relax our efforts to ensure that our policies and procedures are kept

up to date, SIM has worked hard in these areas and has made substantial progress.

However, I am concerned that there is one aspect where we have not yet put enough emphasis, and this is the ongoing supervision and support of missionaries who work with children. I doubt if there is any parent, school teacher or dorm parent who has not at some time felt a strong urge to "abuse" a child by inappropriate verbal attack or physical punishment, even if we have not been tempted to abuse a child sexually. Therefore, I believe that we should not place the possibility of abuse in a category that assumes "other people" do it, and, I believe that we should all recognise that we are vulnerable to temptation.

In a financial context we plan carefully to prevent irregularities from occurring, and those systems help people resist temptation, as well as protecting them from false accusation. In a moral context we should also take precautions and set up the best systems possible; those arrangements will help people resist temptation, protect staff members from false accusation or misunderstandings, and provide a safe environment for our children.

To sum up, I believe we should approach this difficult subject positively as well as negatively. Yes, we must both screen carefully and establish policies and procedures to deal with accusations and violations. In addition, I believe we should develop guidelines for all who work with children to help them with good practice and protect them from false accusations. These guidelines should include aspects as basic as helping people to avoid extreme overwork (because we all know that extreme tiredness affects our judgement and makes us more vulnerable to wrong behaviour).

They should encourage strong team support and accountability (for many reasons, among them the fact that children and young people can often be extremely difficult to deal with!).

(DHaile@simintl.sim.org)

Gowans Home

A Caregiver from the Early Days

Missionaries in Nigeria, the SIM's first field, wished to open a boarding school for their children at Miango. But around 1920 when they were considering this possibility, the concern about inadequate medical care in Nigeria resulted in the decision to provide for this need back in the homeland. In the words of Rowland Bingham, one of the founders of the SIM:

"The Sudan Interior Mission is working in the tropics, in malarial regions, and with the growth of our missionary family the problem of the children has become a serious one. One by one the missionaries have been forced to the conclusion that the **highest interest of the children** [emphasis added] demands that they be left in the homeland. After prayerful consideration it was decided to establish a home for the children of missionaries. And so the Home was proposed, and in order that it might be available for the children of other missionaries besides those of the Sudan Interior Mission it was decided to seek a special charter. In remembrance of the one whose first sacrifice brought into existence the S.I.M. it was decided to perpetuate the memory of Walter Gowans [died in Girku, Nigeria, in November of 1894] by naming it 'The Gowans Home for Missionaries' Children."

Depending on which source you use, Gowans Home was founded in 1921, 1922, or 1923. Maybe, like other schools, it experienced several levels of "beginning."

Ruth Whitehead (GH '51) recently sent to *Simroots* excerpts from a set of handwritten notes of Linda Kaercher. Miss Kaercher served at Gowans Home in Collingwood, Ontario, from 1922 through 1945. The material below, partly historical, partly reflective, has been distilled from those excerpts.

"As a child, I wanted to be a missionary, a nurse. To this end, I took what training was necessary. I wanted to be well equipped, a good nurse. My idea was to rate high in my nursing so [I] took post graduate work, also hospital or institutional management. South America was my choice [for missionary service]. But God guided. He opened the way to home service. I was led into Gowans



This is a photo of Gowans Home, now the Canadian National Ski Academy and a National Historical Monument. Submitted by Ruth Whitehead

Home as nurse-matron. This was 99% of everything [else] and 1% nursing. My entrance was in 1922. At the end of a month I was ready to give up. [The] effect on [my] emotions [was] great [and] the hours were long. The work did not appeal [to me]. I didn't feel I had the qualifications required for this work. I was asked to pray about it and reconsider. I asked God if this is His place of service to give [me] qualifications and willingness to stay. God is faithful. We were isolated from Christian fellowship. Churches were indifferent, but God blessed and the ministry to the children was abundantly blessed of God.

"In 1924 Mr. and Mrs. Stephenson were obliged to retire. After a few months' period Mr. and Mrs. Stock took charge. The Home with 13 children was crowded and did not lend itself to enlargement. In 1925 the present home was purchased. A large home-like residence with large surrounding lawns, it was eminently suitable for our ever increasing family. Numbers were added and children had a good time in work and play, enjoying God's provision for them. In the fall of 1933 Mr. and Mrs. Stock were obliged to retire, and I was asked to take charge. This was agreed upon until a missionary couple was willing to take charge. In October 1945 after 23 years [of] service I withdrew from the active work at Collingwood, [and] Mr. and Mrs. Stanton Whitehead, candidates for Nigeria [replaced me]. They were eminently fitted for the work. It is a joy to testify to God's faithfulness in His service.

"We do not know to whom credit is due in God's work. Many that carry on in common pursuits may have a larger part than he who goes abroad. In the carrying out of God's command to 'go into all the world' enter many factors. There is a diversity of work. To all of God's children comes the command to go, but it is God who says where and how. David was a fugitive and a hunted man. The enemy had taken all, the families, flocks and herds and

goods. David had his 600 men, but the city was burned and everything gone. A very dark picture. But David encouraged himself in the Lord, his God. He and his men pursued the enemy, defeated them and recovered all. But two hundred were exhausted, were left at the river while the rest continued. On the return of the victors, the ones left behind went out to meet them, but the warriors treated them coldly. They did not go all the way so should not share. Not so, David. The victory was a national one and all share in the spoil.

"(I Samuel 30: 23-25) 'You shall not do so, my brothers, with that which the Lord has given us, who has preserved us, and delivered the company that came against us into our hand. For who will listen to you in this matter: But as his part is that goes down to the battle, so shall his part be that tarrieth by the stuff. They shall part alike. And it was so from that day forward, that he made it a statute and an ordinance for Israel unto this day.' There are many of God's children who truly go into the remote corners of the earth yet never leave their doorstep. By prayer and gifts they reach fields they would never reach in person. Therefore as laborers together with Him, they truly share in the reward. The faith of our missionary mothers, unnoticed often, and unsung, has played a large part in the work of the Lord. There is little in writing about women missionaries as compared with men, but their work is great and recorded in heaven. Will we stay by the goods while our representatives are on the firing line? God is faithful. May we be!"

Gowans Home REUNION

DATE: September 29 thru October 1, 2000

PLACE: Blue Mountain Inn, Collingwood

THEME: Honoring our second parents/memories

COST: \$235 Canadian, \$162 U.S. Per person rate (double occupancy).



Gowans Home Reunion 1992

Arrangements may be made for part of the week-end. Cost of the reunion includes Friday and Saturday nights at Blue Mountain Inn (two to a room), breakfast two days, lunch at Gowans Home on Saturday, and Saturday night banquet at Blue Mountain Inn.

Mail reservations by
May 1, 2000 to:
Peggy Jensen Pieper
150 Eucalyptus Cr.
Santa Barbara, CA 93103
USA

(805) 965-8047
budpeg@silcom.com

Name (include maiden name) _____

Spouse's first name _____

Address _____

City and State/Province _____

Zip, Country _____

Telephone _____

E-mail address _____

First and last years at GH _____

Number attending September 2000 _____

Deposit enclosed (Canadian \$65, American \$45) _____

From a Mother's Heart

by Iona (Hall) Collins
(upon leaving her firstborn, Betty, age three, at
Gowans Home)

And when she could no longer hide him,
She took rushes from the river's brink
And formed a little basket for her son,
Daubing it o'er with pitch; and
Making a downy bed, she put him in.
She found a quiet and sequestered spot,
And gently laid him down among the grasses
Skirting the water's edge. And so
She left a trusted one to watch her child,
And prayed to God that He would watch him too!
Then, trusting Him to give her back her son,
She turned away.

For me the time has come
When I, too, cannot hide my little one
From all the fearsome danger that would harm.
So as the Hebrew mother did of old,
I make a little basket for my child,
Daubing it o'er—with prayers the reeds I use
And faith the pitch—to make the bed secure;
Then find a quiet and sequestered spot
And put her down, appointing trusted ones
To watch the child, and pray my faithful God
To watch and guard my little darling, too!
And thus I turn away.

And the same God
Who gave her back her baby to her heart,
Will give me back my child into my arms.

Reprinted from SIM Canada News, March '93

Gowans Home Memories

by Rev. Gerald A. Hunt
(written Nov. '67)

How many are the memories that this
Reunion brings back! Learn your
verse for after the meal . . . get ready for
Sword Drill and choruses on Sunday
morning . . . listen to dear old Mr.
Eastman preach at First Baptist . . . picnic
at Sunset Point . . . drop off to sleep after
the 9 p.m. curfew and the "nine o'clock
train" . . . sneer a little at someone who
had the misfortune to go to Victoria
School . . . come in on a winter day to
thaw out . . . time to go skating . . . take
your cough syrup . . . don't wade in the
creek on the way to school . . . time to
write to your parents . . . are the chestnuts
and walnuts ripe yet? . . . let's get some
sap icicles on the way to church. Names,
too, come to mind. Otto Sherrick, Miss
Wallis, Miss Whitmore, Miss Buchanan
and Miss Kaercher. And those other pre-
cious names: McDonald, Harling,
Playfair, Garrett, McIvor, Dancy, Collins,
Jensen, Harris, Maxwell, Gibson. How
most of us shunted around and moved
after those golden days together, seldom
to see one another again! . . . In some
ways missionaries' kids have a rough
time, but there are many compensations.

by Esther McGibbon

- ◆ look forward to Sunday breakfast with honey and buns and Vitone
- ◆ play bungee (bungee?) with your favourite horse chestnut
- ◆ fry up and eat morels you found on the Commons
- ◆ play Red Rover, Pump-pump-pull-away, Run My Sheepie Run
- ◆ suffer through a mustard plaster until, finally, when your chest was used to it, it felt good
- ◆ drink gallons of boiled water—guaranteed to cure you when sick
- ◆ say the same memory verse several times over (because you'd forgotten to learn a new one for supertime) until someone caught on and admonished you
- ◆ delight in the rainbow colours that fell on the playroom floor when the sun shone through the cut-glass windows in the afternoon
- ◆ walk the train rails on your way to King George School
- ◆ sneak up to the attic to walk along the top of the wall
- ◆ find some precious new stamps for your collection
- ◆ skate until your feet were blocks of ice
- ◆ all tucked in bed, listen to a chapter of *Beyond the Blue Mountains*
- ◆ linger at the canal on your way to First Baptist Church
- ◆ get so absorbed in a book that you didn't hear the dinner bell
- ◆ try to explain to dear Mrs. Manson why you hadn't practised since your last piano lesson
- ◆ sit around the kitchen table, play Pit with a gang of rowdy, happy GH'ers.

Class Reunion

It was my class reunion, and all through the house
I checked in each mirror and begged my poor spouse
To say I looked great, that my chin wasn't double,
And he lied through false teeth, just to stay out of trouble.
Said that 'neath my thick glasses, my eyes hadn't changed,
And I had the same figure, it was just a mite rearranged.
He said my skin was still silky, although looser in drape,
Not so much like smooth satin, but more like silk crepe.

I swallowed his words hook, sinker, and line
And entered the banquet feeling just fine.
Somehow I'd expected my classmates to stay
As young as they were on that long-ago day
We'd hugged farewell hugs. But like me, through the years,
They'd added gray to their hair or pounds to their rears.

But as we shared a few memories and retold some class jokes,
We were eighteen in spirit, though we looked like our folks.
We turned up hearing aid volumes and dimmed down the light,
Rolled back the years, and were young for the night.

WORLD REUNION 2000

Sponsored by Barnabas International, Interaction, and Moody Bible Institute

What: a "reunion of strangers" for all TCKs from around the world

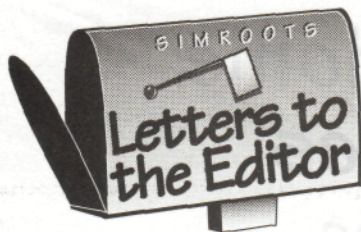
Where: Moody Bible Institute, Chicago, IL, USA

When: June 8-11

Who: Speakers and entertainment include TCKs Steve Green, Matthew Neigh, Jon Kregel, David Pollock, Ruth Van Reken, and Bill Taylor

Cost: Three plans ranging from \$99 to \$269.

To register: call 1-800-356-6639 or
by the Internet at www.moodyconferences.com



Hi Karen,

It's been a long time since KA days! I was Aunt Margaret Wiens then—now Mrs. John Wiensz (one letter difference). I love the magazine! I laugh or cry at some of the neat stories. I feel honored to have been a part of the KA family, and I have learned a lot since those days myself! God bless you. Keep up the good work.

Love, Margaret

Dear Karen,

Your latest issue of *Simroots* had an article regarding Perry High School. I was one of the original students there. I remained for all 4 years of high school. Others I remember were Ruth Grant, Bill Troup, and I think Eileen Eitzen. Perry was a great place, and the SIM kids were really plugged in to school activities. I played on the girls' varsity basketball team. Thank you for *Simroots*. I really enjoy each issue. Please give my greeting to all.

Myrna Newhouse
(62 Perry High School)

Dear *Simroots*,

I have been reading *Simroots* since 1986 when I came to college. The last issue was especially meaningful with its reflections on "home." I have never figured out exactly where "home" is; I know my citizenship is global, and my family is the Kingdom of

God wherever it may be. As to *Simroots*, most of the magazine is usually irrelevant to me—I never went to boarding school, and most of my life there were no other MKs in Khartoum. But I understand how important all that stuff is for others, so keep it up.

Wonder if it would be possible to form a section for MKs who never went to boarding school—those who went to local schools or were home schooled? Our experience was different in many ways, but mainly because we never left our families.

My News: Finishing up my fourth year at Cook County Hospital as a resident in pediatrics. No idea where I will be in a year!

David Knox
(Khartoum, Sudan, 1969-86)
(davidrknox@hotmail.com)

Dear Karen,

Many thanks for the wonderful Fall 1999 *Simroots* issue just received. The photos of KA captured it all; the essence of childhood and youth, so fleeting and sometimes bittersweet. I often think of the incredible, story-book experiences I lived in Africa and how lucky I was. Many thanks to the staff and teachers of KA for those amazing memories.

Ruth Carpenter (KA '78)

Dear Karen,

On page 8 of the Fall '99 *Simroots* issue you asked who else attended Perry Home. I graduated from high

school with Tony Strong and Esther Crouch in 1960. Clara and Ruth Grant were there too. I do enjoy each issue of this magazine and always look to see if there are pictures from my days at Bingham, Gowans and Perry.

Mary Modrick
(Serving with AIM in Nairobi, Kenya)

Hello, Karen,

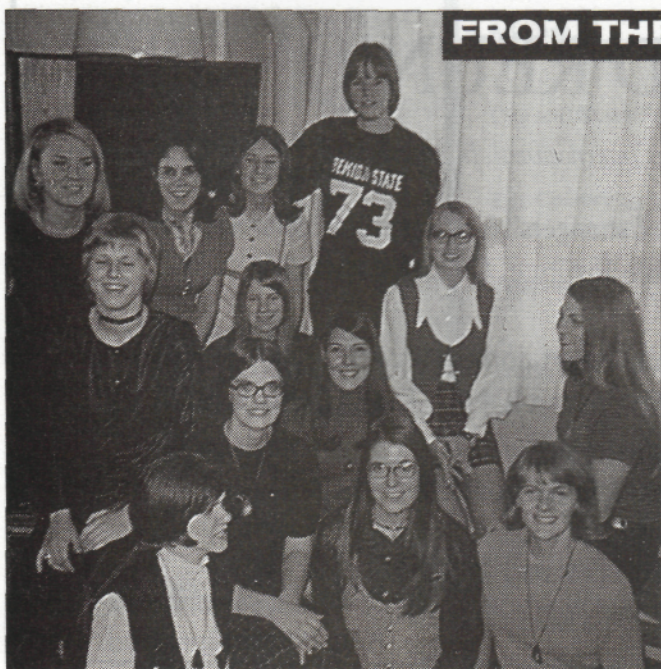
We were doing some whirlwind spring cleaning (during the winter I know, but with two kids you do it when you can!) and I came across the last issue of *Simroots* so I thought now is the time to write because I always want to but never do.



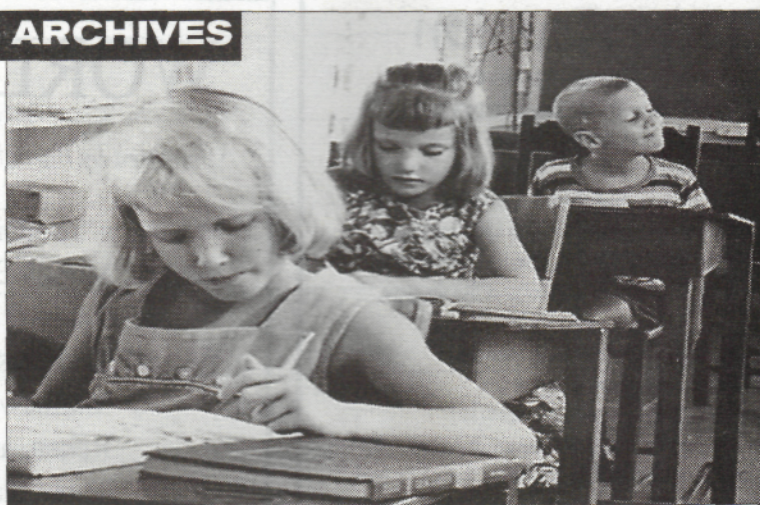
Jacob and Alysha Hill
(mom and dad are Tim and Gina)

Thanks for the work you and all the rest of the team do on this publication! Thanks for working hard to keep the tone up-beat, positive and thankful without losing touch with reality. Life is not always easy and things don't always go the way we think that they should in our "infinite wisdom," but there is so much that we have to be thankful for and it is all stuff that we don't begin to deserve.

Tim & Gina Hill (KA, HC '83)
the4hills@home.com



FROM THE ARCHIVES



Above: ELWA kids, left to right: Sally Thompson, Violet Bliss and Peter Coddington. Submitted by Rex & Heather Vinicombe

Left: Urbana '70 (no order): Carolyn Osbourne, Nancy Ackley, Kay Kastner, Lila Veenker, Kay Swank, Nancy Beacham, Cherry Long



Letter to Larry Fehl

Debbie (Jones) Warren (KA, HC '77)

Below is a copy of a letter I wrote to Larry Fehl in response to the letter he sent in to *Simroots* last year (Vol. 15 #2). I did not have a happy experience at KA, but I hesitate to write about it because I don't want to sound like I'm complaining. I have come to understand that the things that caused me pain were not done purposefully to harm me, but were actually done with the best intentions in mind. However, that does not negate the fact that it was very difficult for me to live at a boarding school for eight months a year and then live with my parents (who were very busy, stressed-out missionaries) for four non-consecutive months. As much pain as I experienced with my childhood, I honestly wouldn't trade it for the world. God has brought healing, thankfully, and I can see how He is using all of my experiences to produce His character in me. Once I was able to touch upon and sort through the painful memories, I have been freed up to remember the happy times. But before my counseling, I really did lack a healthy emotional foundation, which colored how I looked at and responded to life in general.

If, while reading this letter, you object to what I am saying because your experience differed from mine, write to *Simroots* about *your* experience, but please don't criticize mine.

Dear "Uncle" Larry,

Thank you so much for writing the letter to us AMKs that you sent in to *Simroots*. Thank you for "taking the responsibility" on yourself as present Director of SIM-USA. Thank you for apologizing to us for the boarding school experience.

It seems obvious to me that growing up in an institution instead of a family is not a good idea. However, many kids fared just fine, so the

seriousness of the issue sometimes gets swept under the rug. In reality, though, a significant number of MKs will suffer emotionally for the rest of their lives because of their upbringing.

My boarding school experience was not good. I was not abused at KA, but I would say that I suffered "emotional neglect." There was no one there for me at the end of the day to discuss my troubles. No hug when I hurt myself. No sympathy when I was sick. We "little kids" were basically governed by junior highers, who were supervised by occasional adult intervention. I felt like it was a "militaristic" lifestyle beginning in the morning with the dorm auntie singing out "good morning" as she swung through the hall flipping on light switches. Then we had 45 minutes to get dressed, make our beds, clean our rooms, and report for inspection. (My brother who consistently failed room check was punished at the end of the week with a strapping. This I consider to be abuse.) Throughout the day bells and sirens kept us on schedule.

Because I was a "picky eater," I had inadequate nutrition. I ate just the minimum amount of the food that I was required to eat because it tasted awful to me. It never occurred to anybody to give me something that I liked to eat. How could they? This was an institution. There were rules. The best they could do was to force-feed me so I wouldn't starve.

I was fortunate enough to be able to go through two years of counseling with a Christian counselor ten years ago who was able to help me understand and deal with my past and present. I now consider myself to be relatively healed of my emotional hurts because of the good counsel I received. My relationship with my parents now is wonderful. But I know that there are many other MKs who might need longer term counseling; however they cannot afford the expense.

I am not bitter about my experience. Growing up in Nigeria was indeed a privilege. Looking around me, I see that no one had a perfect upbringing. There are many people who were raised in a "normal" U.S. family

who are suffering because their busy parents were unable to meet their needs. I have seen that God is able to use my past for His glory. This year I am co-leading a Mom's Group on Friday mornings at our church where we are studying parenting issues. I have had the privilege of involving a number of my unchurched neighbors and school moms in this group, along with the church moms. I feel that this ministry is a direct, positive result from my background. Because of my specific experiences (both positive and negative) growing up on the mission field, I have a great deal of empathy for others, I am able to make friends easily, and I am driven to influence others' lives for the gospel.

I also have the privilege of guiding my children to bring their unchurched friends to Awana and Sunday School. As an exceptional blessing from God, last year my nine-year-old son had the opportunity to see three of his classmates accept Christ in Awana; and this year already three or four of Heather's six-year-old classmates have accepted Christ! These are all unexpected blessings, brought about by Christ's power alone! And I know that my "missionary-minded" outlook stems from my upbringing.

Let me say once more that I do sincerely appreciate the fact that you have shouldered the responsibility for the MKs. This is an important issue, and I would love to see more dialogue about the truths of each person's situation—without any blaming. Some stories are happy, some are sad, and I believe they all have worth. However, *Simroots* sometimes has seemed a risky forum in which to share "negative" experiences. On occasion the people who had a positive experience write in and express disbelief at how someone else could have had a bad experience and that we should now stop complaining and start forgiving! You are the first person to specifically apologize without including a suffix "but, all you who were hurt must now forgive and move on"! Thank you so much for that! (dwarren@ipsaintl.com)

SIMtoms

by Donald Price (KA, HC '75)

By now, most of you will have heard of the AMK reconciliation dialogues or "consultations"—the initiative Larry Fehl took as U.S. Director, to respond in the manner of Nehemiah and confess the "sins" of the forefathers. Enabling the reconciliation process is also a life goal of David Wickstrom, who is our own resident clinical psychologist. As well, these dialogues came about in the wake of the ground-breaking risk that Ruth (Frame) Van Reken took in publishing *Letters Never Sent*.

The dialogues are about the "symptoms" we all share in facing the losses we are often left alone to cope with. They are really the beginning permission to grieve those losses in a shared way of telling our stories and hearing the struggles of others. It convinces us that we're not crazy in the pain of our isolation. There are good reasons for why we are the way we are, and it helps us to understand one another in a common victimization of "fathered" lies.

The sessions can be a beginning process of forgiveness as we hear for the first time an honest regret and a sincere sorrow from those who represent the institution of SIM. A chance to be heard and even comforted. To know that our experience is improving conditions for others who follow the same trail of a missionary lifestyle. To hear the progress of how the Mission may offer help in dealing with separation and transitions. We have a valuable input to help identify the failures and suggest improvements. Our experience is validated and made useful as we are invited to participate and help the family as well as ourselves.

The sessions are an incredible experience of reuniting with our real community and reconnecting with our roots. The stories shared will make you laugh and cry. They will challenge the depths of your heart to unleash the burden buried so deep within. They will involve your intellect as you discover the MK myths or lies that were communicated in unspoken messages. They will force you to re-evaluate your entire belief system. They will release and relieve you from insecurities and bondages. You're allowed to be angry. I've already tested that one! You may say what you want. Ask anyone who knows me. They will say that I do so anyway.

The experience is scary and yet so rewarding. It is work and it is fun! It is right and it takes care of the wrongs. You will be freed, and you will be enslaved with an awareness of your place and your worth. You will be changed for good.

I know it is a great risk to open up and participate in disclosure. But this time you're not alone, and there is no rejection or condemnation. We are building emotional bridges to the heart. You will be accepted and confirmed. The sessions with SIM are a chance to come home . . . and begin a life of family!

Simply,

Donald (dpricejeremiah@aol.com)

To participate in a consultation, please contact Larry Fehl at SIM-USA. (704) 588-4300 (Larry_F@simusa.sim.org)

Mary and Martha

by Ruth Van Reken

These thoughts came out of an e-mail discussion by the AMK Task Force.

We all work in different ways both in how we process emotions as well as tasks. Nancy says she gets very busy to handle her grief; I walk around sure I should be doing something, but think a nap sounds pretty good in the end. Both are forms



Ruth Van Reken

of, I suppose, either denial or coping, but they are both reflecting the loss we have felt. Neither is better or worse, just "is."

One reason I love the picture of Mary and Martha with Jesus when Lazarus died is that both of the women said the same words to him: "Jesus, if you had been here, our brother wouldn't have died." But how did He respond? Totally differently to both. To Martha, He appealed to her reason and gave her truth as information. He talked to her and said, "Martha, your brother is going to rise again." She answered informationally, almost objectively. "Yes, I know he will rise in the last day." She coped by understanding, by releasing what she couldn't understand about WHY he hadn't come (something very difficult for me to do). She could just accept (this is my view of course) what had happened with sadness, I'm sure, but without the great travail we see in the next vignette when we see Mary. Jesus entered into her experience with the truth of his compassion and comfort. Words to her would have bounced like icicles on her heart. Didn't anyone CARE? And He showed, He cared. I love it that Jesus knows us well enough to meet us as the people He made us to be. I love it when He meets others in their way—but sometimes when they try to meet ME in their way, or I try to meet them in MY way, we can clash. I think they don't care because they aren't on the floor crying with me, and they think I'm a basket case who needs to look at the facts a little more clearly and I'll be "just fine." For all the wonderful woman that my mom is—and she is—she and I have a fundamental difference in how we handle things. When my dad died and she knew she would get depressed on weekends, she'd invite someone over or go out. I went back to Africa and had one of the most fundamental depressions of my life. I had to sit and think about it, cry, ask Jesus to come talk to me, etc, and that's the first time I ever knew I was basically very angry with God in my life. Does it mean my mom was in denial? No, she's a Martha. Does it mean I'm a cry-baby or wimp? No, I'm a Mary. It just means this is how we both work, and in the end both of us grow in our love and relationship to Jesus one way or another through it. In recognizing our difference, we have both learned to accept this fact about each other. If she tries to help me by "fixing me" too fast, I can say "Mom, I just need you to listen," instead of getting furious that she "doesn't care." and she says, "Oh,

that's right," and does try to just listen. When she needs to "do," I can't force her to stay home and do it my way.

I think the point for people like me is that we probably grew up in a community of many great "do-ers," or the pioneer work of missions would never have been done. It was also a time when people in general didn't "talk about their feelings." When we did express our feelings, it was maybe easy for people to give us the solutions that would work well for them as "do-ers," but to us it was a shame message because we heard it, "If you'd just get your act together, you wouldn't feel like this and you'd be 'just fine.'" The "I should and shouldn't" messages played big time. It was our "fault" we felt like we did, but we couldn't stop feeling like that; so in the end, the message came deep in our souls that something was very wrong with us somehow—that's shame—the shame of being who I am. What was meant as encouragement sounded like judgment, and the encourager didn't even know because that same message would have encouraged him or her a lot in the right way.

This area of processing emotions has been my own area of greatest struggle. It hasn't been with my family in any fundamental way (outside of a couple of years when I wasn't being a perfect wife and mom and knew it had to be someone's fault besides mine and figured if my parents had been perfect, then I would have been so it must be their fault). It has been dealing with the shame that somehow I was made fundamentally wrong because I couldn't be "stronger" and "not cry" like my sister that first night in boarding school and so on. My process has been hard at times because so much of our system of faith precludes the simplicity of the "Jesus wept" verse. No words, no verses, no nothing but tears with and for Martha. And for whoever I am, those kinds of tears will change more for me than anything else. The problem with a quick spiritual answer is I actually KNOW the answer; I'm just not there yet.

So what are people like us supposed to do when this is who we are and this is where He's placed us? All I know is to come to Jesus and ask Him what He thinks of me and how I'm made. It's a wonderful place to sit and receive.

(Rdvanreken@aol.com)

FROM THE ARCHIVES



HC Jr/Sr banquet 1969 Approx. left to right
John Lohrenz, Nancy Ackley, Cherry Long, Mary Legg, Kay Kastner, Sylvia Bergman, David Porter,
Jim Kastner, Fred Zobrist, Marjorie Campion, Tom Kraakevik, Tim Kraakevik, Allen Steely,
Nancy Beacham, Esther Coleman, Steve Cox



(HC '69) Back: Jerry Lees, Dick Ackley, Bruce Bergman, Robert Callister
Front: Priscilla Balzer, Lou Ann Bergen, Ruth Ockers, Bobbie Jo Lohnes



HC seniors 1970 Marjorie Campion, Kay Swank, Nancy Ackley, Judy Thompson,
Esther Coleman, Mary Legg, Nancy Beacham

BULLETIN BOARD

LISTSERVES

To join KA: write to hub@mknet.org and type the command:

subscribe Kent-Academy
in the body, not the subject line of your e-mail.

To join CC: write to
alumni@carachipampa.mknet.org

JOSEPH HOUSE MINISTRIES

PO Box 3056
Tega Cay, SC 29715
postmaster@josephhouse.org
www.josephhouse.org

MEMORY CHALLENGE

Remember the Miango Rest Home cottages all had names? How many can you recall? Here's a jump start list.

Vom View

Gold Cottage

Rose Cottage

Playfair

Craig Lee

Shiloh

Double (the big house opposite the dental clinic and right beside the croquet court)

Faith & Hope (We used to kid about these two single-people rooms: "The singles had Faith and Hoped to marry!")

FUN E-MAIL ADDRESS

Anyone want an e-mail address "@miango.com"? Write to Jim Ockers. (ockers@miango.com)

MORE WEB SITES

Hillcrest: www.crestrobin.org

TCKs: Online community for military brats, MKs and other TCKs to meet and gather and stay in touch. Includes an online directory of Military Brat/TCK-owned businesses. Eric Dytzel (eeke@kih.net)
<http://www.bratz.net>

MuKappa:

<http://members.kconline.com/kerr/mukappa/index.htm>

URGENT NEED

Teachers and caregivers for SIM schools and missionaries. Contact SIM if interested.

CONGRATULATIONS

Births

Congratulations to the Corey Family. Kyla Miah was born to Deb (BA, EL) and Erich on May 4 (7 lb. 5 oz.). Melodie (BA, EL '81) and Curt gave birth to twin boys born July 2. She held off on a few final pushes so that Isaac (6 lb. 13 oz.) would be born a few minutes after midnight on the same day as his brother, Seth (7 lb. 3 oz.) who followed 3 hours later. They also have Malia (1 1/2), and two older boys ages 8 and 6. Shari (BA, EL) and Bill had their 4th child, Kaylyn Ruth, on July 14, 1999 (8 lb. 8 oz.).

Congratulations to Phil (BA '80) and Anne Bond—Georgia Rose was born on July 4, 1999.

Congratulations to Becky & Marc Ulric (IC '91)—a daughter, Karis Elianna, was born Oct 18, 1999.

Marriages

Kevin (BA, RV '88) and Jane Balisky were married on June 19, 1999.

Wedding of Tabitha Payne (KA, HC '92) and Danny Plueddemann (HC, '89) December 31, 1999

Excerpts from Carol Plueddemann's e-mail

There were about 48 of us, including the wedding party and out-of-town guests who gathered at the SIM Lodge for the Rehearsal Dinner on Thursday. We served curry with all the toppings—peanuts, pineapple, coconut, tomatoes, onions, bananas, raisins, and chutney. It was an evening of laughter and reminiscing. Most of the wedding party and friends had overseas connections, so it was fascinating to see the way they interacted and enjoyed each other.

Friday was an amazing day as our SIM family pulled together to decorate and prepare food for the reception. Tabitha wanted the reception to reflect the many international connections that are part of their lives. There were 5 ethnic centers representing Nigeria, Ethiopia, Asia, S. America, and the USA.

Each table had a nativity scene, photos and memorabilia from those countries along with a placard describing the connection of each ethnic center to our family. (Nigeria was the land where both Danny and Tabitha were born; S. America is where Danny's mother was born and where his grandparents served for 27 years; Tabitha's grandparents were missionaries in China, and her father was born there; Danny's nephew and niece, Joshua and Cara Maxwell, were adopted from Ethiopia; and the USA is where Tabitha's mother and Danny's father grew up.) Each table also had food representative of that area. These ethnic foods were very popular at the reception and were the first to be eaten!

The diversity of people and nationalities at this wedding was just amazing. The photographer was John Pierre from Zaire; one of the groomsmen was Enoch from Liberia, as well as Alex from Mexico. Almost everyone in the wedding party and many of the MK guests had overseas connections. Among the guests were Vietnamese, Gambians, Colombians, and Eritreans.

Remember When ...

ELWA MEMORIES

by Trudy Fauriaux

I cherish my childhood and youth years at ELWA Liberia (until 1967). ELWA was a little heaven. I spent the happiest years of my life there. I found the Lord there. I will never forget the swimming parties, the boys' secret hiding places inside the bushes behind McCarron's and Naff's near the little path leading to school, and the girls' wooden playhouse in a tree above the lagoon between our house and the Ries'. I will never forget our hands full of agates we found in the water between each wave near the shore way down near Kingray village. And what about all those little scary crabs running around everywhere on the sand but never too far from their hole, always ready to disappear inside if danger came too close. That was funny!

I also remember a couple of toucans awaking my twin sister and me every morning at 5:00 A.M. They were in the nearest tree by our bedroom. If we peeked behind the curtain, they would fly away immediately. I will never forget their song. That was special for an alarm clock!

I will never forget the murmur of the waves coming and going. I sure slept well in my childhood. There were no cars, no trucks there parking underneath the house in the middle of the night!

And what about those delicious fruits we found when going out hiking across the bushes, called monkey apples! Yummy! I can tell of the beautiful shiny sand, yellow or black, the black rocks, the jellyfishes or Portuguese-man-of-war, the sea-urchins, all the kinds of shells we liked to collect, the shark that was once on the shore, the huge sea turtles whose heads we could see peeking out of the ocean far away when going for a two-hours' walk along the beach with Dad. I have so many other memories. Also when all the teenagers went once for a night meal at the Ducor Palace Hotel in Monrovia. That was something! (mfauriaux@fr.europost.org)

BIRCH MEMORIES

by Nancy (Birch) Longnecker (KA '65)

My Dad (George Birch) helped build KA right after arriving in Nigeria in April or May of 1950. I was 3½ years old. I attended KA for first grade in 1953. The only thing I remember about that year was being quarantined with all my roommates with Chicken Pox. I believe Christine

Cummins was one of the girls. Dad, Mom, brother John and I went back to the U.S. for furlough in '54, and I attended public school in Macon, GA. I think the pictures of KA and Dee Dee and John Wyllie whom I knew at KA and Dee Dee at Ben Lippen for high school and all the remembering in the last issue of *Simroots* brought back so many memories for me. I graduated from BL in 1965. I only attended five years in all, but I remember mostly food—warm yeast donuts with granulated sugar on top, big four-inch ginger cookies with granulated sugar on top, big bowls of tropical fruit (guava, banana, pawpaw and mango) served at the Resthome adjacent to the school where we could stay with our parents when they came to Miango for a vacation or rest. Another very happy memory was my friend Sherry Lynn Kleinsasser's stories of when she was one inch tall. Wow! Did that girl ever have an imagination! These were all told after lights out—which is equally amazing as we weren't supposed to talk then.

(mlongnecke@aol.com)

WARKENTIN MEMORIES

Our family was celebrating 25 years with *SIM* this past November. We were in Nigeria '74-'87 and now have been on Home Staff in

Canada. I asked our kids to write articles for our anniversary prayer letter.

Elvira Warkentin

Kelvin Warkentin

Snapshots . . . that's what remains after 25 years. Not just photographs that sit in orderly rows in a dozen albums in a box somewhere—much more than that. A calabash wall hanging that claims Africa as my home. A dried-out flamboyant tree pod with its seeds that still rattle when you shake it. A tie-dyed shirt with ornate embroidery around the neck and sleeves, tucked away in a drawer and kept exclusively for Nigeria Nights. A recipe of one of my favorite African dishes. Several e-mail addresses of friendships begun at Kent Academy. A picture taken on the day I married my best friend, Julie, with my grade one boarding school roommate standing beside me as my Best Man. A journal of thoughts that thread together memories of what seems to me a dream.

Because when all is said and done, I remember Nigeria in the same way I remember a beautiful dream. Its clarity of detail is beginning to blur, and the faces and names are starting to fade. But the emotions remain, and the memories of a unique childhood experience live on inside me.

I smile now when I relate to someone who asks about my past. I used to squirm and squeak out a timid explanation, hoping they wouldn't



Kelvin & Julie Warkentin with his parents, Elvira and Elmer taken at their wedding July 3, '99

dig any further. I dreaded their expression of surprise and their inevitable question: "What was it like?" Of course it's impossible to respond to that question with an answer that is equal to the experience. But today I find myself smiling at the question because I can almost relate to their reaction. Did I really grow up in Africa? All I need to do to pinch myself out of the dream is look at the collection of snapshots that are all around me. It wasn't a dream.

(creative@rgm.ca)

Kendra Warkentin

Thoughts on my Nigerian heritage, as we look back over the past 25 years: The other day a classmate, an MK from Cameroon, invited me to an "international potluck." I eagerly accepted, looking forward to a chance to connect with others



Kendra Warkentin

who had lived overseas. I called Mom to procure the recipe and ingredients for Nigerian egusi stew with pounded yam and was excited to make it myself, the passing on of cultural traditions to the next generation. John and I went together to the dinner and met people from Uganda, Cameroon, Japan, Slovenia, Italy and Canada. It was a really interesting evening as we all exchanged stories and food! But the significance for me that evening was the realization of how important it was to me to feel that I had an international "story" to tell and that I had certain knowledge and experiences to contribute. The joy that the Cameroon people expressed as they tasted the pounded yam and egusi gave me such a warm feeling—I could give them something that connected with their homeland, even though we both now lived in Canada. And when I met another MK who had attended Hillcrest, we started the name-game, trying to determine who we knew in common, including classmates, teachers and even places. Again, it felt so good to have that connection with another place, something beyond the here and now. I walked away from that evening with two things:

- A feeling of gratitude for the privilege of growing up overseas and thus of having unique characteristics and knowledge. I'm thankful that my parents had the courage to take our family to Nigeria and tried to integrate us into

the local culture, including an appreciation of their food and clothes.

- Personal affirmation that I have a story to tell. Even though sometimes it seems like proving that I am a member of the Canadian culture is more important than retaining my uniqueness, there are many others who also have that unique cultural mix and who also have stories to tell. Together, we can affirm those unique stories and share them with others. (kwarkent@uoguelph.ca)

Karlene Warkentin

Thinking about summarizing how I've been impacted by my parents' decision to obey God 25 years ago has been harder than trying to study for my midterms! So many thoughts have been written and rewritten—nothing has truly expressed how their decision has made me who I am today.



Karlene Warkentin

A variety of different factors have influenced me, but one that stands out is my family. Through everything my immediate family has been the only constant, second to God. They are my best friends, my advisors and my spiritual family—always supportive, encouraging, and loving. I think this has been very important in making me a secure person, knowing I have people like that behind me. I love them more than anything else in this world. I don't know if I would have the same degree of appreciation and love for my family if we hadn't been missionaries—and I think this has been a major influence on who I am today. (kjwarkentin@hotmail.com)

ELYEA MEMORIES

by Dan Elyea

Skullduggery

Those whose parents lived reasonably close to KA could sometimes spend weekends at home during the school year. And sometimes those kids could bring friends home for the weekend. I have many wonderful memories of weekends in Jos with Boyce Beacham and with David and Bill John. One of my roommates spent a weekend with a friend whose parents lived not too far from Jos. While there, as they were roaming in the hills near the station, they found a well-weathered human skull.

Whether prior or subsequent to the demise (or simultaneously with it!) the skull had taken a strong enough hit to crack it in half. The two halves fit neatly and tightly together, but could be separated with a little effort. The two scoundrels surreptitiously brought the "bonehead" back to school when they returned from the weekend.

Remember the British hand lanterns about the shape of a Band-aid box with the reflector and lens mounted on the side? My devious roommate took one of these hand lanterns and fastened red cellophane over the lens. Then he would open the skull, place the lantern inside, and then close up the halves again. The red light would shine through the eye holes and the nose holes of the skull, giving quite an eerie effect.

The older kids attended study hall after the evening meal. When over, they'd trek back to their rooms. My roomie took a push-broom, brush end up, and draped a bathrobe on it. Then he mounted the lighted skull on top. At the appropriate time, he stood out of sight around the corner of the building that they were leaving. As any kid would pass by his hiding place, he'd make a weird sound. When the person looked toward the sound, in the semi-darkness he'd see a ghostly, skull-headed figure with glowing eyes. Quite spooky, to say the least, and good for some cheap thrills! He also plenty-scared some of the Africans with his red-eyed rig.

My roommate kept the skull on top of the wardrobe. The rest of us (four in the room) really didn't like having it in the room (especially at night!) One night after lights-out, the guy who bunked above me slipped out of bed in the dark and over to the wardrobe. When he returned, he unexpectedly slipped the skull into bed with me. It so disgusted me that I reflexively threw the blasted thing against the wall as hard as I could. That smashing trip proved to be the coup de grâce for the skull. And about time too! (Enter here three sighs of relief!)

Act in Haste; Repent at Leisure

Although I can't imagine why, my mother often used to quote, "Be sure your sin will find you out!" And things seemed to work out that way altogether too often! As did many others, some of the Jos locals believed that the only thing wrong with stealing was getting caught. This outlook and the actions that it encouraged necessitated the implementation of a nighttime security guard for the SIM HQ compound. At one end of the Mission garage and repair shop stood a little guardhouse for the night watchman. This served as a locker where he could keep a few things while he made his rounds and a place to get out of bad weather. Once during a weekend or a KA holiday,

I noted that the watchman's guardhouse had been freshly renovated. Inspired impulsively to a very tasteless attempt at humor, with my finger or a stick I scribed onto the still-soft mud-plastered wall the words "*gidan barawo*" (house of a thief). When the usual suspects were rounded up, they numbered all too few, and I soon found myself apologizing to the "*mai gadi*," the watchman. Not only did my sin find me out, it splattered egg on my face! As the Hausas say, "*Ungulu ba ta sauka banza*" (The vulture doesn't descend without reason)—a dire effect does not come about without a cause. Sounds like something Mom might say!

April Fools

One April Fools' Day at KA around 1953 or 1954, some of the kids in Mr. Balzer's classroom cooked up an audacious scheme. The plan called for the entire class not to return after the afternoon recess. Instead, they were all to hide out somewhere. The thought of Mr. Balzer facing a room full of empty seats seemed a first-rate April Fools' Day prank.

For whatever reason (maybe because the plot was master-minded by the "older girls"), my buddy David John and I returned to the classroom at the regular appointed time. When Mr. Balzer realized what was going on (I think there may have been an "April Fools'" message left on the chalkboard), he promptly took aggressive countermeasures. He wrote with large letters on the board, "Class dismissed for the rest of the day. April Fools on you." Then he and David and I vacated the classroom. Since everyone else from the class was lying low here and there, trying to make themselves scarce, it probably took most of the rest of the school day for word of the turnabout to go throughout the bunch. "Check!" and "Checkmate!"

Bad Hair Day

Looking at the nifty photos on the *Simroots* website under "Photos From the Archives" brings back lots of memories. And here's one of them. Seeing the snapshot of Barbara Wiebe with a nice full head of hair took me back to a day in the late 40s. The Wiebes lived quite close to the Jos headquarters building where both Mr. and Mrs. Wiebe worked. Doug Wiebe and I hung out together quite a bit during a period when the Elyeas were briefly stationed in Jos. Some of you may remember the popular wind-up train sets. That is, the driving power came from an internal spring that you wound up with a "key." Underneath the engine was a set of exposed gears that conveyed the stored

energy in the spring to the drive wheels of the locomotive. We were playing with Doug's train set one day and, on an impulse, I put the running locomotive up near Barbara's head. The spinning gears promptly gobbled up a "mouthful" of her hair and wound it into the gearbox. Our best efforts to free her hair came to naught. So someone went over to the HQ building and got Mrs. Wiebe. The upshot of it all was that Mrs. Wiebe had to cut off all of the entangled hair. Sorry, Barbara!

Unexpected Electricity

As the John boys and I cruised the Jos market one weekend, we came across a vendor selling parts scavenged from old radios. We parted with a few shillings and returned with some items that showed potential for experimenting. One find, a little transformer, proved to be real pay dirt. We found that by energizing one winding with a flashlight battery, another winding would produce a considerably stepped-up voltage. We'd get one short higher-voltage pulse for each time we made and broke the connection to the battery. A practical application soon came to mind. The metal window screens were mounted on wood frames—a perfect set up. We connected the zapper up to the screen in the window facing the veranda. (Before more rooms were added later to the dorm closest to Mt. Sanderson, an open veranda ran the full length of the building.) Innocent passers-by would be called over to "see something." Only, instead of seeing, they'd feel "something." When they inevitably got up against the screen (we on the inside, they on the outside), we'd pulse the transformer with the battery. "*Wayyo!*" and "*Haba!*" Of course, many zappees promptly rounded up other potential victims. Hey, I'd tell you about nice and kind things we did, but you'd be bored!

Faith and Foolishness at the Woodpile

During my MK childhood, we mostly cooked with a wood-burning stove. This meant that wood had to be stocked and chopped at the woodpile. At the time of these incidents I would have been in first or second grade (home-schooled those two years). Having just read the story of Elijah's challenge to the priests of Baal, I felt inspired (superficially) to follow his example. I went out to the woodpile and built a little altar of stones. After arranging some twigs on the altar, I knelt and bowed down to pray for fire from heaven. Just then one of the Nigerian staff came by and asked, "*Kana yi addu'a?*" (Are you praying?). Too embarrassed to 'fess up my true intentions, I blurted out, "*Babu, ina huta*" (No, I'm resting). In case you were wondering, Elijah achieved much more success in his venture than I did in mine! Another time in that same two-year window, I took a shot at smoking. Because of the chopping that regularly went on there, a layer of very fine wood bits, almost like sawdust,

covered the ground around the woodpile. I rolled a piece of paper around a handful of the wood chip-pings. Using some kitchen matches, I lit the end of my pathetic cigar and inhaled deeply. Being a dry time of the year, the "smoking materials" packed very loosely. My first (and only) draw through the stogie carried a bunch of the wood particles back to my throat and set me into desperate choking and coughing. Truly, I was "smoking more now and enjoying it less"! (For the benefit of you younger folks, that was part of a famous advertising slogan from 40 or so years ago.)

Leopards' Claw Rock

All of you who attended KA know about the destination for a Sunday walk called "Leopards' Claw Rock" or "Leopards' Claw Cave." But many of you may not know how it came to be named. And some of you young sprouts probably saw the "real" Leopards' Claw Rock and never even realized it.

One of the nifty rock formations near Miango formed a natural cave-like room. Although covered very solidly, enough gaps existed around the sides to let in quite a bit of light. Inside the "cave" one could see a modest-sized rock with parallel grooves worn into its surface. The popular story (very possibly true) went that the cave at one time served as a den for a leopard family. The grooves in the rock were supposedly formed by the young leopards scratching the rock with their claws, much like a house cat will scratch wooden furniture legs. Although folks found the widely accepted leopard conjecture more fun, Uncle Paul would sometimes mention his alternate theory that goats made the grooves while scraping for tasty mineral content from the relatively soft rock with their teeth.

For a number of years the rock lay there in the cave for everyone to see. Then around 1954 or '55, the idea came up of carrying it back to KA. Uncle Paul said he'd set it into the fireplace of the new building if we'd get the rock there. Several of us guys took up the challenge. We took along some rope and a pole one Sunday, trussed the rock to the pole, and slung the pole across the shoulders of two boys. I think that several of us switched off so that no one person carried it the entire distance. We were very pleased and proud to finally get the rock all the way back to KA. True to his word, Uncle Paul set it into the new fireplace front. Do you remember seeing a grooved, yellowish-brown rock in the fireplace? That's the one! Did the story survive the years, or did the "real" Leopards' Claw Rock lapse into obscurity in the clutter of the other, less distinguished, fireplace rocks? Maybe some of you younger ones can enlighten me . . .

fsiyfr@okeechobee.com

SIM/HC REUNION

Please note the
change in location!

July 1 - 4 (noon), 2000
Dallas Marriott Solana, Westlake, Texas

**Want to know who's coming?
Or more detailed information?
Want to register on-line?**

<http://simroots.sim.org> and www.crestrobin.org

WHO: All SIM MKs (including merged missions), Hillcrest alumni, faculty and caregivers

WHERE:

Dallas Marriott Solana
5 Village Circle, Westlake, TX 76262 USA
Phone: 817-430-3848
(10 minutes west of DFW Airport in the Solana Business Complex. Near Alliance Airport)
<http://marriotthotels.com/DALWL>

COST

☐ Registration:

\$15.00 per adult and \$5.00 per child (ages 2-12)

☐ Meals:

Full Meal Package - \$60 per person

3 breakfasts (Sun./Mon./Tue), 2 lunches
(Sun./Mon) & 1 catered dinner (Sun)

*Partial Meal Package - \$35 per person

3 breakfasts (Sun./Mon./Tue), 1 catered dinner
(Sun), with **lunches on your own
**Chili's, Joe's Pizza and Blimpie's Sandwich
Shop within walking distance

Note: There may be a Nigerian catered meal available on Monday dinner at an EXTRA cost.

** The hotel has committed us to 100 people per meal so we would like to encourage you to sign up for a meal package.*

☐ Lodging:

\$55 per night per room (not per person).

Each room has one king-size bed or two double-size beds and can accommodate up to a family of five. (**Hotel only allows 5 per room.**) People are responsible for finding their own roommates; and if they can't, they must pay the full room.

KIDS ACTIVITIES:

We are planning activities for kids 2-12 years of age during the business meetings and during our guest speaker on Monday night.

REFLECTIONS ROOM

Many of us have expressed our TCK experience in art, literature, and music. Please bring your collections along with photos and memorabilia that you would like to share with us at the reunion. One area will be set aside for photos or items to honor those who are deceased.

To avoid anything being damaged or lost, please bring all of your photos, memorabilia, and artwork with you, and keep them within your possession until it is time to share. If you are unable to attend, and you want to send items to be displayed, please send copies, NOT originals, to Betsy or Tammy.

Tammy Webb - remembrance area

P.O. Box 1296
West Springfield, MA 01090-1296
Oyeb082@aol.com

Betsy (Palmer) Cherry - art/literature/music area

1713 Catron Court SE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87123
Epcherry@aol.com

HOW TO SIGN UP:

- ☐ Fill out the registration form.
- ☐ Enclose a check for HALF of your total reunion cost.
- ☐ Make checks payable to:
Hillcrest Alumni Association
- ☐ Mail to Steve Ackley
1526 Mayfield Ave.
Garland, Texas 75041
972-840-8565 (Home)
dsackley@home.com

Questions should be directed to Steve at the above address or to:

Nancy (Ackley) Ruth
(972) 560-7007
NRuth@kma.com

Holly (Strauss) Plank
dbub@flash.net

- * If you intend to sign up but can't right now PLEASE let us know so that we can get an accurate estimate of how many people are planning on attending. Thanks.
- * Also if you are unable to attend the reunion, you may send a letter and/or pictures (**NOT TO BE RETURNED**) to be posted for everyone to read.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

(subject to change without notice)

SATURDAY, JULY 1

- 1:00-5:00 p.m. Registration - Archway First Floor
- 5:00-6:00 p.m. Dinner - on your own - restaurants within walking distance
- 6:30-7:30 p.m. Free Time
- 7:30-8:30 p.m. Ice Breaker & Ice Cream - by pool outside fence
- 8:30-9:00 p.m. Introduction of Guest Speaker: Ruth Van Reken
- 9:00- Free Time

SUNDAY, JULY 2

- 7:30-9:00 a.m. Breakfast - Salon ABCD
- 9:00-10:00 a.m. Worship Service - Salon EFG
- 10:30-12:00 noon Soccer Game
- 12:00-1:30 p.m. Lunch
- 1:30-5:00 p.m. Free Time (swimming, jogging trail, Solana Health Club, plan Talent Show)
- 5:00-6:00 p.m. Catered Tex-Mex dinner - Salon ABCD
- 6:30-7:30 p.m. Photo Session
- 7:30-8:30 p.m. Class/Era Get-Togethers
- 8:30- Free Time

MONDAY, JULY 3

- 7:30-9:00 a.m. Breakfast - Salon ABCD
- 9:30-10:30 a.m. HC Alumni Assoc. Business Meeting - Salon EFG
- 10:30-11:30 a.m. SIM Business Meeting - Salon EFG
- 12:00-1:30 p.m. Lunch
- 2:00-3:00 p.m. Workshop with Ruth Van Reken - Salon EFG
- 3:00-4:00 p.m. Concert - Joe Ifa - Salon EFG
- 4:00-5:00 p.m. Free Time / prepare for Talent Show
- 5:00-6:00 p.m. Dinner - on your own or maybe Nigerian catered
- 6:00-7:00 p.m. Guest Speaker: Ruth Van Reken - Salon EFG
- 7:00-8:00 p.m. Free Time / prepare for Talent Show
- 8:00-10:00 p.m. Talent Show - Salon EFG

TUESDAY, JULY 4

- 7:30-9:00 a.m. Breakfast - Salon ABCD
- 9:00-12:00 noon Departures - Must check out before noon

SIM/HC REUNION 2000 Registration Form

Registration Deadline: May 1, 2000 (10% Late fee after May 1)

Rooms/meals are NON-REFUNDABLE

Last Name _____

Maiden Name _____ First Name _____

Address _____

City _____ St/Province _____ Country _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Fax or e-mail _____

School(s) attended _____ High School Grad Year (based on U.S. system end of grade 12) _____

Affiliation with School: ☐ Student ☐ Parent ☐ Staff ☐ Other

Spouse _____

Children & Ages _____

I will ☐ drive ☐ fly (and not be renting a car) ☐ fly (and be renting a car)

I would like child care for _____ children (names and ages listed above).

I need transportation from _____
Please provide arrival and departure information to coordinate transportation.

I would like to help with a reunion event

(Skit Night, Registration / Welcome, Reflections Room, Ice Cream Social, Kids Activities, Video Taping)

☐ I have items for the Reflections Room.

I will attend ☐ all four days

or just ☐ Sat ☐ Sun ☐ Mon ☐ Tue

REGISTRATION FEE:

Adults _____ x \$15 = \$ _____

Children (ages 2-12) _____ x \$5 = \$ _____

Total amount (Adults + Children) = \$ _____

MEALS:

☐ Full meal pkg. (6 meals) \$60 per person x _____ people = \$ _____
Full = 3 Breakfasts (Sun/Mon/Tue), 2 lunches (Sun/Mon), 1 catered dinner (Sun)

☐ Partial meal pkg. (4 meals) \$35 per person x _____ people = \$ _____
Partial = 3 Breakfasts (Sun/Mon/Tue) and 1 Dinner (Sun). Lunches on your own.

NOTE: The hotel has committed us to 100 people per meal, so we would like to encourage you to take advantage of the Meal Packages.

☐ Individual meals (select which ones below)

	Continental Breakfast	Sandwich Lunch	Dinner	Total
Sat	N/A	N/A	N/A	Ice cream social
Sun	\$8 _____	\$13 _____	\$16 _____	_____
Mon	\$8 _____	\$13 _____	Nigerian (?) _____	_____
Tue	\$8 _____	N/A	N/A	_____

Subtotal for meals \$ _____ x number of people = \$ _____

Total for meals = \$ _____

_____ Number of people planning on attending the catered Nigerian dinner on Monday.

(The Nigerian meal is still in the planning stage so we don't have details or prices yet, but please indicate if you are interested and how many would attend. This would entail an extra cost.)

LODGING:

\$55.00 per night / per room (not per person)
(Hotel only allows 5 per room).

_____ nights x \$55 per night

= Total for lodging \$ _____

I want to room with _____

Room setup request:

☐ 1 King ☐ 2 Double Beds (based on availability)

Total for registration \$ _____

+ meals \$ _____

+ lodging \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____ (half of total due)

Balance \$ _____

Make checks payable to: Hillcrest Alumni Association

Mail to: Steve Ackley
1526 Mayfield Ave.
Garland, Texas 75041
(H) 972-840-8565
dsackley@home.com



Book Reviews

I Should Forgive, But and You Can Work It Out

by Dr. Chuck Lynch

A personal friend of Gary Smalley, Dr. Chuck Lynch has written two brand new books, one published this year and one last year, and he is in the process of writing another book dealing with reducing anger in the family. He can be reached at

Living Foundation Ministries, Inc.
611 R.D. Mize Rd.
Blue Springs, MO 64014
(816) 229-5000
Fax 229-5056

(Chuck's books sell in paperback for \$13 each.)

Double Image

by Del Tarr
Paulist Press, 1994

Del Tarr draws on fifteen years of missionary experience in West Africa, primarily among the Mossi of Burkina Faso and the Ewe of Togo. Tarr argues that different cultural and world views affect the way that westerners and Africans interpret the Bible. As North Americans we may not hear Jesus' teaching clearly because our cultural filters can inhibit our understanding of Scripture. Our mechanistic, materialistic, industrialized North

American culture is very different from the culture of the Bible. West African society, by contrast, is closer to the original agrarian, people-oriented context of Scripture and can illuminate parts of the Bible that western assumptions obscure. In *Double Image* Tarr uses West African proverbs and parables to amplify and clarify our understanding of Scripture.

Here's an example. In John 20:21-22, Jesus said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit." North Americans do not breathe on each other. Instead, we respect other people's personal space; think of how people back away from each other in an elevator. "He breathed down my neck" means an uncomfortable violation of proximity rules. But in West Africa to avoid physical closeness is to come across as aloof and distant. Breathing on someone communicates friendship and brotherhood, sharing and commitment. So when Jesus breathed on the disciples, it was a sign of deep affection and trust. The lesson? Rather than remaining far away, like "no contact" westerners, Jesus comes close to us. He comes into our personal space, accepting our bad breath and body odors, communicating love and deep brotherhood to us.

This book is best read in small segments and in prayerful meditation so there is time to ponder one idea at a time. Filled with lots of wonderful stories, proverbs and illustrations, it sheds new light on biblical teaching and on being Christ's disciple. The parables (from talking drums to bush fires to vultures) and the pictures reminded me a lot of Nigeria. I recommend this book; you'll enjoy it.

Submitted by Jim Gould
(jgould@pobox.mchenry.cc.il.us)

The Poisonwood Bible

by Barbara Kingsolver

Mainly the story of four MKs, and largely set in the Congo beginning about 40 years ago, this book may well stir up a variety of memories of tropical Africa for *Simroots* readers with that background. The extensive African cultural content will appeal to many MKs. A dark undercurrent runs throughout the book, so don't expect to come away from a reading session with lots of warm fuzzy feelings. And this is a view from the other side. Just as you've seen so many times in TV portrayals, Bible-believing, evangelical Christians come across as real losers. Some of the darts thrown aren't all that far off target, but for the purposes of this story, the presentation deliberately lacks balance. For the most part, you won't recognize in here any of the missionaries that you grew up knowing. The book includes many Scripture quotes as a literary tool—virtually all to the end of making conservative evangelical Christianity look bad. Written from a liberal perspective and ever so politically correct, the tensions and intrigues of colonialism and independence play a major part in the story. You'll read nothing good about the USA, and will find Communism presented in a somewhat favorable light. Well-written, gripping, and loaded with clever literary devices, the book will carry you along relentlessly. But, caveat emptor, I think that most SIM MKs will emerge at the far end bruised and smarting and with a bad taste in your mouth. And you might end up with your perspective stretched a bit. Ouch!

Reviewed by Dan Elyea

NEWS UPDATES

Catch up on the latest news of adult SIM MKs, teachers, and care givers. Remember to send your letters to your class rep. or to **Karen Keegan, Simroots Editor, 222 Hyle Avenue, Murfreesboro, TN 37128; call (615) 895-9011; or e-mail: simroots@sim.org** Please include the name(s) of your school(s), your high school graduation year, and your maiden name.

Thanks to Mary Janish for news from Ethiopia and Esther Campion for Canada.

CODE SCHOOL

BA	Bingham Academy	IC	International Christian
CC	Carachipampa Christian	KA	Kent Academy
EL	ELWA Academy	RV	Rift Valley Academy
GH	Gowans Home	SA	Sahel Academy
HC	Hillcrest School	WA	West African Christian Academy

50s

LOIS (THOMPSON) FREWING (BA '56)

Since my short stay at BA I've enjoyed reading *Simroots*. I had to leave BA because of a very serious illness. God has healed me and I am doing fine. I enjoy looking at pictures from Bingham in my time period. My grade 1 teacher was Mary MacDonald. She has gone to be with the Lord. There were 5 of us Thompsons that went to BA. My husband David is also an MK. His parents were in S. America with G.M.U. for over 30 years of service.



Al & Connie McElheran
(amcelher@asoma.org.ec)

60s

BOB BOGEMA (KA '67)

Never even got close to visiting Nigeria. It's almost like a past life to me now. After graduating from college (Western Michigan University - BS in Mechanical Engineering) I went into the



Bob (KA '67) and Anne Bogema

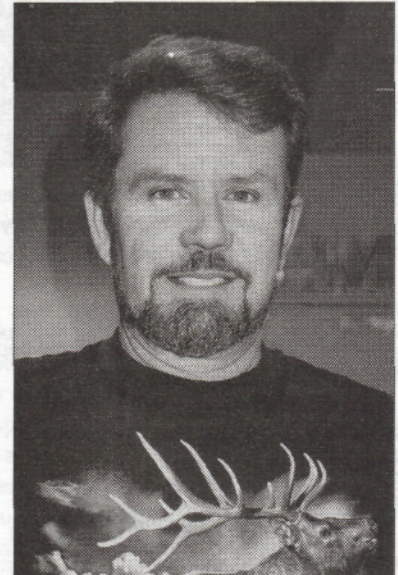
enlisted Navy for six years rather than visit Viet Nam. I spent four and a half of those in Londonderry, N. Ireland, where I met and married Anne. Since 1977 till now I've worked for Kellogg Company (Corn Flakes etc.), and been from Sidney, Australia, to Manchester, England, to all the U.S. plants on many projects. Home base was always Battle Creek, MI, till 1997 when I transferred to the Memphis, TN, plant. Planned retirement should be in six years. We plan to retire in Ireland as Anne's family is all there and my family now consists of distant cousins. Our kids (Elizabeth & Justin) can visit us there and we can visit them here.

70s

JIM NASH (BA '70)

Bingham Academy seems like light-years away—yet in ways it was only yesterday. In 1962 my folks were kicked out of the Sudan and decided to stay home and finish raising their three children in the States.

I graduated from high school in 1970, and my mom and dad went back to Africa. The next 4 years of college were a challenge—financially,



Jim Nash

emotionally, and making God—my God—and not just Mom and Dad's God. June of 1974 found me married and involved in residential building.

Because of building and preaching skills (though the preaching took 20 years to develop), the next 13 years were spent in planting churches in rural Washington and Montana. Six children added to the excitement and challenges of life—4 girls and 2 boys—in that order.

From 1987 until 1995, we pastored 2 churches in the Grants Pass, OR, area. In 1995, my wife of 20 years and I were divorced—after shedding many tears and asking God a zillion questions. In 1997 I remarried . . . and in retrospect . . . the wrong person. In 1999 she left me for another man.

Though we make wrong choices in life, our sovereign God takes the heartache and pain and gives us the opportunity to turn them into stepping stones rather than stumbling stones. It is our choice to either be bitter or get better . . . to regress or regain . . . to blame or bloom . . . to forego blessing or to forgive and reap blessing.

God has been soooo good. He has taught me lessons I couldn't seem to have learned any other way. His grace and mercy have been overwhelming in my life. His redeeming love has flooded my soul.

I have 3 sons-in-law that love the Lord. They

have given me 4 grandchildren. My extended church family have loved me, believed in me, and trust that God is not finished with me yet by allowing me to minister with them and to them.

My fellow MKs . . . if you are out there wondering if God really loves and cares about you . . . if you are wondering if there is hope for a messed up and battered life . . . wondering if there's any gain after the pain . . . or if it's worth it . . . the answer is still yes . . . yes . . . yes . . . a thousand times yes. Our fight is not against flesh and blood . . . and we already know Who wins the war. Turn your eyes, your heart, and your will back to Jesus, for He longs to make us whole . . . to make us like Himself. Though He may choose to hurt us, He will never harm us. Remember, if we don't like last year's harvest, let's change what we sow today, so we'll have a favorable crop tomorrow. (jgnash@hotmail.com)

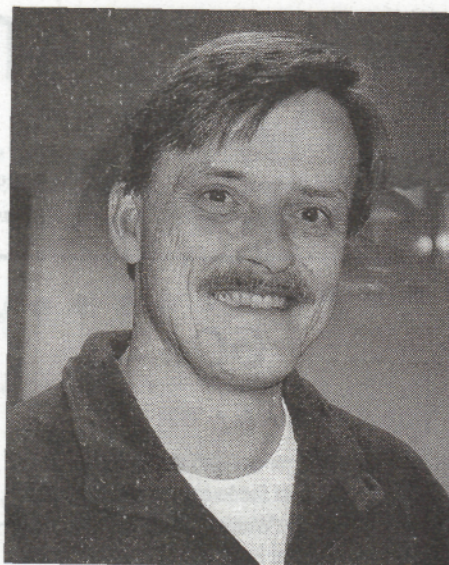
TIM & LORNA JACOBSON (BA '71)

Tim is the new SIM Canada candidate department director. (lornatim@netcom.ca)

BRYAN & PAULINE (FREDLUND) ROBERTS (KA '72)

(e-mail 10/99)

My introduction to KA was, to say the least, extremely traumatic, and by the time I had managed to settle down and make some friends I was shipped away across the sea for senior schooling. The next boarding school was much worse and made any problems I had at KA look like a party! I do have some good memories though and was very pleased to meet up with old KA'ers when I attended Prairie Bible Institute in Three Hills, Alberta, Canada in 1972-5. I can still remember the special song that students made up about KA, tune and all, and it comes into my mind at the oddest times and I find myself singing



Dave Harling (KA '78)

it! My husband's name is Bryan and he is a Welsh man. We have two daughters, Sarah who will be 18 years old on 17th October, and Elizabeth who was 15 years old in May. If we survive the next three years we should be OK. Seriously, the girls aren't that bad, just teenagers! They both are Christians and help out at our local church in various ways, so we are very blessed indeed. Bryan is the caretaker/handyman for our church and has been for the past 17 years. I was teaching Religious Education, Physical Education and English at a local secondary (high) school, but became unwell and had to finish. I have osteoarthritis throughout my body which affects me differently on different days. Hopefully I will be able to do some other type of work in the New Year, to help financially, but for now the house is more than enough for me to cope with. The pain often keeps me awake at night and then I am too tired

in the day, but I get some really good spells when I feel so good I want to go back to teaching. It is sometimes hard to understand what is going on in my life, but I know that if I didn't have God to support me I certainly wouldn't have made it this far.

TY & CINDI GUY (KA '75)

(e-mail 3/00)

We have one daughter, Aria (13), and 3 sons: Micah (12), Simon Peter (10), and Joshua (11 months). Cindi is from Iowa, and we met when I was in college at Azusa Pacific University. I began pastoring South Shores Baptist Church in July '98. It is a congregation of about 600. We have 2 services: one traditional and one contemporary . . . and a gorgeous view of the Pacific Ocean . . . (that would be fun to share with any MKs who wanted a great California vacation . . . cheap).

BILL & ELIZABETH (RASHLEIGH) BROERS (BA '77)

Since 1987, Bill has been the station manager and Elizabeth the hostess at Bingham Academy. There are 180 students enrolled at BA this year. (bbroers@lycosmail.com)



Minna Kayser

MINNA KAYSER (BA '77)

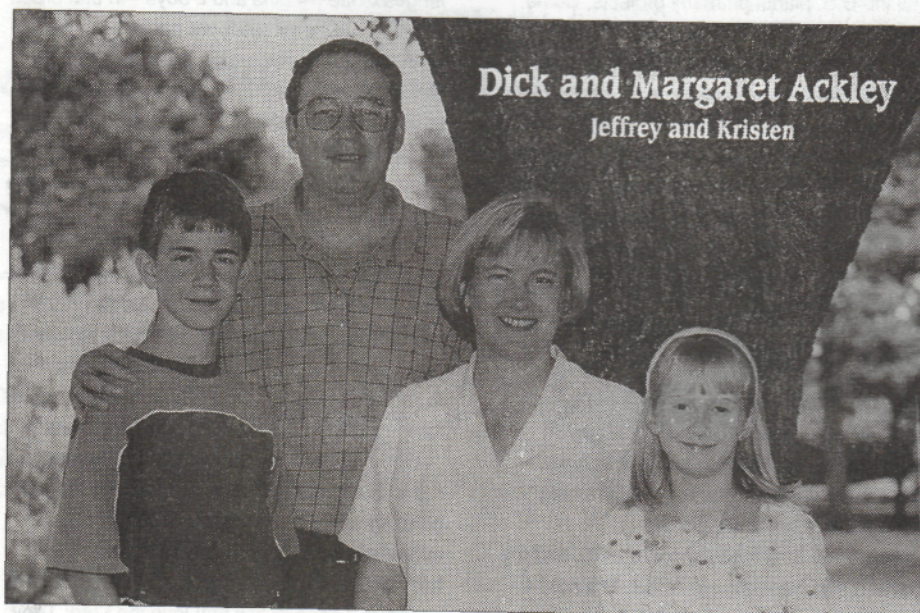
(e-mail 1/00)

Finished a BA (Psyc) degree in April '99. Moved to Bellingham, WA. Looking to the Lord for work and further education opportunities. Building an Internet business in the health food industry. My nephew is living with me while attending school and work in Bothell, WA. (mjkayser@hotmail.com)

TIM & LAUREL KIETZMAN (KA, HC '77)

(e-mail 12/99)

We have heard God calling us to Pakistan as medical missionaries. I quit my job, and we are now fully supported, but waiting on the Lord for





The Egbe Gang (Reunion '97) submitted by Debbie Warren

Back: Tim Kraakevik, John Mark Kraakevik, Chuck Frame, Don Campion, Tom Frame, Mark Jones, Lila (Price) Spencer
Front: Steve Kraakevik, Debbie Jones Warren, Alice Frame, Mari (Haney) Bendorfeanu, Mrs. Frame, Carol (Pullen) Sterken
Not in photo, but at reunion: Ruth (Frame) Van Reken, Don Price

our worker's visa to get in.

On the last day of InterServe's Mission Training International (MTI) all the families selected a large stone of remembrance to build an altar to the Lord. Each member of our family wrote one thing that God had done for him. Our son Ben's was most memorable. "Thank you, Lord, for helping me feel better about the mission field." Pray with us that our children (Ben, Tim, Josiah, Michael) would feel God's call on their own lives, not just their parents' lives.

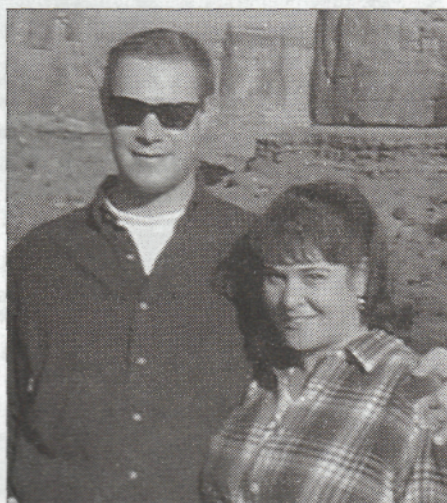
Language can be fun(ny) at age 40! Our linguistics prof repeated, "Swallow your tongue! Repeat after me: ngoong." Trying to comply, one of our fellow linguistics students gargled and nearly choked, "gnng." The prof said, "You're not swallowing your tongue." The student answered, "Well . . . I'm swallowing SOMETHING!" Pray for the ability to laugh at ourselves and enjoy learning Urdu.

We had an eventful 2-week trip to Pakistan. Tim helped in the clinic and performed some surgery with Mitch Ryan, his future partner. Laurel organized the hospital library. We met most of the expatriates, and joined them for church on Saturday night. We ate many different foods, mostly spicy lamb and chicken dishes, served with "nan"—an unleavened bread somewhat like a pita. We experienced the environment a little, with blazing dry heat and no a.c. While we hiked along the irrigation canal, 300 feet above the town, the near mountains looked like craggy, fantasy novel creations: steep, dusty brown, and jagged. When the sky was clear, we could see the gorgeous, snow-capped Karakorum mountain range in the distance.

One evening, during after-dinner conversation, suddenly, ZZZZT! Everything went black. To our amazement, the conversation continued as if nothing had happened. Black-outs are

common. After dinner, Laurel went to wash a load of clothes, but—whoops! The electricity was still off. During the winter, we expect to have electricity about 25% of the time, so we will need to bundle up even indoors. Walking through the crowded Gilgit market, we noticed men buying and selling, milling about, and staring at the strangely dressed Westerners (us). But something was missing . . . where were the women? Well, there were a few, covered thoroughly and shadowing their husbands. If Laurel went out with her head uncovered, she was a spectacle! At the Gilgit Eye Hospital, women are treated with dignity and respect. This is unusual, since women's rights in Pakistan are culturally protected only under the authority of a man.

We are presently in Indianapolis, IN, studying Muslim evangelism for 6 weeks at Arab International Ministry. We are in a bit of a holding pattern, since our visas appear to be slowed by the coup. (kietzman@surfsouth.com)



Jim and Shauna Ockers

JAMES & BARB PATERNOSTER (KA, HC '78)

We've been in Ann Arbor, MI, for 3 years now, where James, still with InterVarsity, works alongside students in 5 of the University of Michigan's professional schools. Barb has her hands full with all of us, plus students stopping in, and sundry church work. Abigail, almost 6, is having the time of her life with kindergarten, learning to read, and extending her social network. Abraham, 3-1/2, wants to do whatever Abby does, borrows her bed and books for his afternoon quiet time, but has his own

take on life. Paul, 2, is a jokester and a mimic, notices what others do and is quick to try it out for effect. We're enjoying life in a college town, especially a town that's within a couple of hours of almost all our extended family. And God has shown his kindness to us in the midst of some tough things, too, bringing home to us the reality that He doesn't waste even what's not good, and drawing us to trust Him more and more. (JLPaternos@aol.com)

80s

MARY ANNE (GRAY) (BA '83) (Janish 9/99)

Mary Anne and Toni attend a small Baptist church in Canmore, AB. Mary Anne often plays for weddings, for church, and in a small band. She also works 3 days a week at the Banff YWCA.

DAVID SPADY (KA, HC '83) (e-mail 12/99)

My wife Shelley is a Christian singer, and I now have 2 children, Tyler (4) and Ashley (2). We are all planning to attend the July reunion. (spadybunch@aol.com)

JIM & SHAUNA OCKERS (KA '88)

I (Jim) work as a computer systems/internet-work engineer. My employer, Pason Systems, is moving from Grand Junction, CO to Golden, CO, in December. Shauna and I recently moved to the Denver area so I could continue to work for Pason in their new location. We live in Arvada, close to the office. Shauna is a Registered Nurse.

My hobbies are computers and Internet network systems and servers. Incidentally, way back in 1995 I registered the domain MIANGO.COM. If anyone from KA wants an e-mail address

@miango.com let me know and I'll set you up. I also am trying to take flying lessons because the SIMAIR pilots were so cool! Maybe someday I'll be that cool. Flying lessons are very expensive though . . . I also enjoy eating Lyle's golden syrup and Marmite (not together!). It took a long time, but I finally found a source for that stuff.

We are expecting our first baby in May of 2000, so big changes in our lives are coming! We have been richly blessed by the Lord in our lives. I especially appreciate *Simroots*—it sure brings back a lot of memories!

BTW, we are monthly supporters of the *Simroots* project and were disappointed to learn that only 50% of the money needed came in for the last issue.

If you want to see a picture of us, I have a couple on the web at <http://www.ockers.net/pictures>. (ockers@miango.com)

Unknown Year

PAUL & HELEN (HAY) JONES (BA)

The Hays are ministering in Malawi.
(ei-malawi@malawi.net)

Staff

DALE & CAROL LINTON (RV)

(e-mail 2/00)

Banquet - In just one week, Downing Hall will once again be transformed into an elegant setting for the Junior/Senior Banquet. The juniors and their parents are on campus this weekend to begin the great transformation. The theme and setting are a well kept secret until Thursday evening when the staff is invited to view the dress rehearsal of the banquet entertainment. This year, the senior girls threw down the gauntlet to the senior guys and demanded that they be asked to the banquet with creativity. To say the least, it has been crazy. Poetry reading, serenades, rooms full of flowers, and outdoor candlelit dinners have been just some of the ways the guys have responded to the girls' challenge. It's been quite cute to watch.

RVA outreach - This term RVA has sponsored two special outreach activities for the students to participate in. Quite a number of 150 lb. bags of beans and corn were delivered to several schools and churches in the valley below us. The December rains didn't do much for them, and this food was to help tide them over until the April rains come. A few weeks ago many of our students participated in constructing a church among a previously unreached people group.

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

Only the following schools and classes have current class reps. If you'd like to volunteer for a class, please contact the editor.

BINGHAM ACADEMY

CLASS OF 1976

Malinda (Estelle) Duvall
31 Pinehurst Drive
Taylors, SC 29687

CLASS OF 1977

Edward Estelle
RD #1 Box 155A
Stamford, NY 12167
(607) 652-3111

CLASS OF 1980

Christina (Freeman) Grafe
P.O. Box 772
Cortez, CO 81321-0772
(970) 564-1098
grafe@fone.net

CARACHIPAMPA

<http://www.sim.org/ccs/>
<http://carachipampa.org>

Helen Steele
c/o PO Box 7900
Charlotte, NC 28241-7900
steele@bo.net

ELWA

CLASS OF 1984

Pamela (McCarron) Graham
207 John Ford Road
Ashfield, MA 01330
(413) 628-3335
RLAKE 82@aol.com

GOOD SHEPHERD

<http://gss.mknet.org>

Betty Froisland
2737 Sage Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80907
(719) 634-1435
froisland-GSS@juno.com

GOWANS HOME

Ruth Whitehead
8550 Eames Street
San Diego, CA 92123-2120
(619) 571-0130
ruthw@flash.net

INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

www.ica.ed.ci
ica@ica.ed.ci

KENT ACADEMY

CLASS OF 1965

Jim Eitzen
8612 Snowden Loop
Laurel, MD 20811
(301) 776-7779
Jeitzen@means.net

CLASS OF 1966

Sherrill (McElheran) Bayne
2229 Ransom Drive
Ft Wayne, IN 46845
(219) 637-5358

CLASS OF 1967

Grace Anne (Seger) Swanson
1565 Gascony Road
Encinitas, CA 92024
(760) 942-6109
grace@inetworld.net

CLASS OF 1968

Charlotte (Jacobson) Giebel
500 Brooks Avenue
Rochester, NY 14619
(716) 235-3422
DGiebel500@aol.com

CLASS OF 1969

John Price
(wants replacement)
6212 Paradise Point Drive
Miami, FL 33157
(305) 971-1211
JHPilot@aol.com

CLASS OF 1971

Jim Kastener
1125 Nottingham
Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230
(313) 331-0818
Fax (313) 966-1156

CLASS OF 1972

Karen (Seger) Keegan
222 Hyle Avenue
Murfreesboro, TN 37128
(615) 895-9011
simroots@sim.org

CLASS of 1974

Carol (King) Harvey
1917 Rocksprings Rd
Lavonia, GA 30553
(706) 356-2569
ckharvey@alltel.net

CLASS OF 1975

Ruth Ellen (Hewitt) Howdyshehl
7069 Sears Road
Horton, MI 49246
(517) 563-8202
thowdy@aol.com

CLASS OF 1977

Annegret (Schalm) Horton
6303 Leger Bay
Regina, SK
Canada S4X 2K4
(306) 949-5610
annegret@pneumasoft.com
<http://www.pneumasoft.com/sim77/>

Debb Forster

2135 Manawa Lane
Tega Cay, SC 29715
(803) 548-3196
joyfuldebb@juno.com

CLASS OF 1978

Elizabeth (Jackson) Quinn
9 Cider Lane
Nashua, NH 03063
(603) 595-6300
fax: (603) 880-6503
lizard@inr.net
<http://www.users/inr.net/~lizard/class.htm>

CLASS OF 1981

Frank Dubisz
738 S. Westridge Avenue
Glendora, CA 91740-4333
(626) 398-7787
FADubisz@fuller.edu

RIFT VALLEY

Rich Dunkerton
133 Cedar Lane
Laurel, NJ 08021
(609) 784-0251
RJDunk1@juno.com

FAMILY ALBUM

ATKINS

David (BA), an MD in nuclear radiology, and Helen live in Bothell, near Seattle, WA. Their children are Andrew, Jonathan, Ryan, and Cassandra.

Andrew (BA '74) and Judy live near Toronto, ON, where Andrew is General Director of Emmanuel International Mission, and Judy is their church's secretary. Caleb, Josia, and Angelica are their children. The whole family enjoys the winter sport of hockey.

Elizabeth (BA '75) and Tim Folkers, with Tiffany and Cassie, live in Costa Mesa, CA. Tim has his CPA business in their house and recently passed his stockbroker exam.

Esther (BA, RV '80) and Ron Berry live up the street from her parents. Ron is a caddie at Pebble Beach, one of golf's premiere courses, while Esther works in the Bible bookstore with Harry and Blanche. Their two children are Lee and Tana.

BALISKYS

(Janish 11/99)

Kevin (BA, RV '88) and Jane's courtship took place in Germany and Korea, and they were

married on June 19. They are making their home in Heidelberg, Germany.

Loren (BA, RV '87) and Tama are involved in pastoral ministries, providing a large home and care for refugees.

Allen (BA '84) and Beth have Sophie, Connor, and Olivia. Allen works in leadership for an integrated forest management company.

BRANDLES

(parents' e-mail 2/1/00)

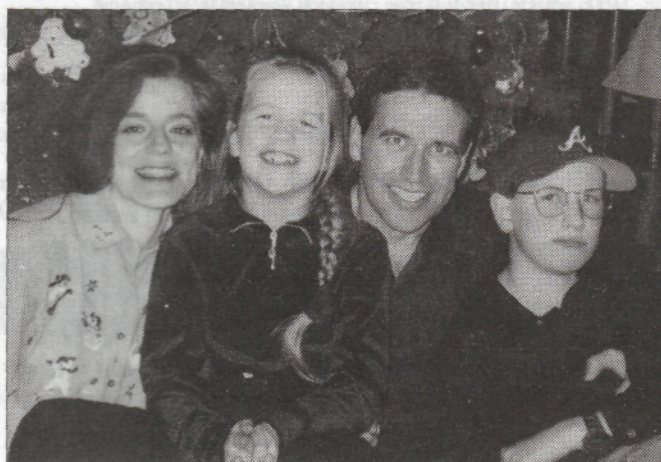
Stefan received a Doctorate in Computer Science in 1998 and married Christina Fandrich in October 1998. He is now teaching Computer Science at Taylor University, Indiana.

Annemarie is married to Bob Wright and lives in Idaho where they have their own business.

EDIGERS

(mom's letter 10/99)

Merle (BA '75), with Berean Missions, teaches on prayer in the Bible Institute in Quito,



Carla & Duane Ediger, Brooke, Jason

Ecuador, and is pastor of a church group. They have found a building to rent and so don't have to have the services in their home in the future. Carol helps to home school the children.

Jo (BA '73) taught nursing for 7 years but is now in the process of changing vocations. She hopes to go back to school, so we'll see how the Lord leads. Gary works for a pharmaceutical company and travels a lot.

Duane (BA '70) works for the FDIC and inspects banks all over TN. They just built a new house.

HARRISONS

(e-mail 11/99)

I just received my *Simroots* and as always completely enjoy reading about all the "long lost kids" that I spent so much time with. It also made me realize that I am one of those "long lost kids" because I never send a blurb in. So here is the Harrison Blurb. I, **Cathy (Harrison)**

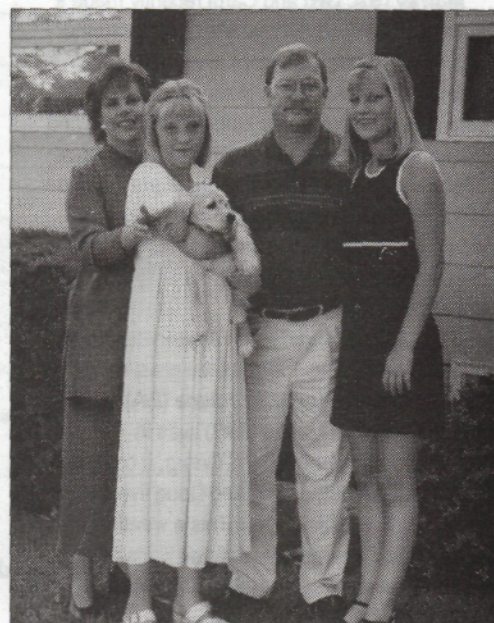
Warkentin (BA '81), live in Fernie, BC, and am happily married to Grant (and have been for 16.5 years). We have two wonderful and beautiful daughters, Shannon (13) and Stephanie (11). Grant works in the Maintenance Dept at our local hospital, and I am a librarian at our public library. We attend the Baptist church here.

(c_waarkentin@hotmail.com)

Jeff (GH), his wife Laureen and three chil-



Merle & Carol Ediger, Brandon, Chris, Laurel, Cheree, Melanie



Jo (Ediger) & Gary Klaassen, Brittany, Chelsea



Back: Grant Warkentin, Norm Harrison.
Third row: Cathy (Harrison) Warkentin, Betty Harrison, Laureen Harrison, Jeff Harrison. **Second row:** Shannon Warkentin, Stephanie Warkentin, Ben Harrison. **Front:** Melody Harrison, (sitting) Justin Harrison

dren, Justin (14), Ben (10) and Melody (8) have just moved to Christina Lake, BC. (They all have the same red hair as Jeff—even his wife, dog and ginger-colored cat.) Jeff has taken a one-year leave of absence from his job in Victoria in the Water Dept to help at home as Laureen has been diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis. We just moved Mom and Dad (Norm and Betty) to Three Hills, Alberta. They have just retired.

HODGES (Janish 1/00)

Murray (BA, GH) and Carol recently made a trip to Collingwood, ON, where Gowans Home was located, where he went to high school while his parents were in Ethiopia. An old school buddy arranged a luncheon for them and invited all he could find of former school mates. There were about 12 who came. Murray, a photographer, talked of going to Ethiopia to do a pictorial article on Ethiopian Air Lines. He also keeps busy with piano tuning.
 (mhodges@telusplanet.net)

Brian (BA, GH) ran in the Jasper-Banff relay again with the "Doc Jocks" at the great age of 55. He is married to Rose. **Julene (BA)** is married to Greg, and Marcia (BA?) lives in Edmonton with her husband Georg, a computer technician. **Sharilyn (BA)** and Doug live on Prince Edward Island. Doug has a weather shop in Victoria where he sells all kinds of weather instruments. No news on Carolee.

IWANS (Janish 9/99)

Ruth (BA) lives with her family Ralph, Nathan (10), Lewis (6), and Kayla (2) in Wofford Hts, CA.
Dave (BA '79) and Kristie (a nurse) have Megan (8), Anna (5), Seth (3) and Emma (1).
Paul and Mark (no news)
Steve (BA '77) and Cyndie arrived home from Kenya last Aug. Three of their 4 children are in school in MN.

KLASSENS (Janish 1/00)

Kathy (BA '79) is settling into her new office at First Alliance in Scarborough, working full time as Minister of Adult Ministries. She really loves her work and God is blessing. The Lord is providing contracts for **Ken's (BA)** building business. His wife Sylvia is busy caring for Ken, Tim, Dan and Hannah and her household, besides volunteering at Tim and Dan's elementary school.

KLIEWERS (Janish 11/99)

Marilyn and Don, with their children Crystal and Luke (and his wife as of Aug. 21) are all at Trinity Western Seminary and University.
Marcie (BA '74), married to Doug Rempel, works as secretary at the local high school. They have 3 children: Karla (16) and twin boys, David and Andrew (nearly 13).

Loren and Heidi live in Kelowna where Loren

is in charge of computer information services and programming for a major customs broker. They have 3 children: Jessica, Marcus and Sarah.

Philip has worked at several jobs including trucking with his own equipment.

PITMANS

Marvin (IC '99) is attending Oregon State U.

Nancy (IC) is devoting her energies to gardening and puppy training. She just got a job teaching pre-school at a nearby church school. She's married to Tim, who is enjoying his engineering job.

Steve (IC) is in Kosovo with the US Navy Seabees building barracks for NATO peace keepers.

STEELES (Helen 2/16 e-mail)

Mom, **Betty McIntosh**, is one of our mission's older MKs! She was one of the original students at CCS—formerly Bolivian Indian Mission Children's School. She retired from active missionary service in 1998 after working as our SIM guest house hostess here in Bolivia for many years. She now lives in Grand Prairie, TX, near my brother Bob and his family. She is enjoying helping out where needed and being near to 5 of her 8 grandchildren!

Helen (that's me) is a former CCS boarding student (was still called BIM Children's School) and is currently teaching kindergarten in the mornings and pre-kinder in the afternoons at CCS. It's a privilege to teach where I once was a student, but of course with the building project, more memories go down every year! I do enjoy teaching in the new building, so I won't complain! My husband, Arden, is the SIM Eastern Andes Area director.

Our oldest is **Annette**, who graduated from Tambo (New Tribes school here in Bolivia) in 1991, then from Bryan College, and now is a youth pastor's wife in Kittanning, PA. Annette and Rodney were married in July 1996.

Jonathan (CC '93) graduated from Philadelphia College of Bible (PCB). He returned as an SIM SSTER in Jan. '99 and is working in a group called ZOA which is promoting a missions vision among Bolivians with the goal of sending Bolivians as missionaries to other countries. He married Monica on June 12, 1999.

Michelle (CC '95) graduated from PCB in Dec. '99. She moved to Grand Prairie, TX, and is working in a bilingual teaching situation and hopes to teach a Spanish second grade in the fall. (antaproca@juno.com)

David (CC '98) is a student at PCB.

SYMPATHIES

to Loren (BA, RV '87) and Tama Balisky in the death of their newborn son, Aden. (ward_balisky@bc.sympatico.ca)

to the family of Richard Spahr who died June 6, 1999. He and his wife Norma served in Ethiopia for 42 years.

to the Roy Wallace family in the death of Francis (Kerr) Wallace (BA staff) who died June 29, 1999.

to the family of Elaine Harding who died November 29, 1999.

to the family of Jerry Swank who died December 31, 1999.

to the family of Pastor Max Weber, who died at the age of 86 on January 8, 2000, in Monnetier-Mornex, France. He was a Missionary at Radio ELWA in Liberia and in Ivory-Coast, former Director of Villa Emmanuel and Editor.

to the family of Jonathan Maxwell (GH) who died January 30, 2000, of leukemia in Wheaton, IL. He was working with SIM Ethnic Focus in Chicago as literature coordinator and also as a volunteer chaplain in a hospital during the last years as well as teacher of English in a Bible course for Chinese engineers in the U.S. for Lucent Labs. He published *Insights for Outpatients*. Mrs. Maxwell will be retiring in Sebring.

to the family of Frieda Quarles who died February 22, 2000.

to the family of Waltraud Ziegler in Parakou, Benin, West Africa, on February 27, 2000. Waltraud will be missed by many here, especially the young MK students whom she taught German and French.

DONATIONS IN HONOR OF

Thank for these special donations:

Sharon Rutt Rabe donated \$25 to Simroots in honor of Lyda Rutt.

Alister McElheran donated \$25 in honor of the McElheran family.

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO PRODUCE SIMROOTS?

We cannot continue running in the red! Some of you are already donating generously, and we appreciate you! Some of you just need a reminder to send in a donation today. Obviously, if everyone sent in just one dollar, we'd nearly have it covered, but we all know life is not so perfect! So dig deep and please help us produce the next issue.

Our last issue cost \$1962 (U.S. dollars) for printing, labeling, sorting, and postage, and we only received half that amount in donations.

We sent copies to 1,696 addresses and have made 228 addresses corrections since then.

Clip and Mail

ADDRESS CHANGES OR ADDITIONS

Clip and Mail

The mailing list is only as useful as it is current. Please help us by sending in changes and supplying ALL of the following information. Thank you.

First Name _____ Spouse's Name _____

Maiden Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____ City _____

State/Province _____ Zip/Postal Code _____ Country _____

Phone (Home) _____ Phone (Work) _____

Fax _____ E-Mail _____

Occupation _____

High school graduation year (based on U.S. system end of grade 12) _____

Mission school(s) attended or affiliated with on mission field (please list all) _____

Affiliation with school as a _____ Student _____ Staff _____ Parent _____ Other _____ Date of address change _____

I am sending a donation of \$ _____ to SIM in honor of _____

☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list.

Send changes to **Karen Keegan, 222 Hyle Avenue, Murfreesboro, TN 37128-8535** or e-mail simroots@sim.org.

ELWA Reunion 2000

Who's coming:

- ✓ Former ELWA staff (missionary & Liberian), retired or relocated
- ✓ Present ELWA missionaries on home assignment
- ✓ MKs, Liberian friends and other special friends

Where: Trinity International University,
Deerfield, Illinois

When: June 16-18, 2000
(Dinner Friday through lunch Sunday)

Cost: \$93.20 per person covers the entire week-end

For further details contact:

Judy Slater
157 S. Archer Ave.
Mundelein, IL 60060
847-566-0683

JANNSlater@aol.com

Cut-off date: May 15, 2000

Is this your first time
receiving *Simroots*
(newsletter for adult SIM* MKs)?

We welcome participation from all adult SIM MKs from all schools including home schools, boarding schools, government schools, and all MKs who didn't attend school overseas. We hope you'll tell your classmates and spread the word to write to us. Let us know if you'd like to become a representative for your school or graduating class to help us locate your peers.

** Includes all merger missions (AEF, AEM, ICF, and the former Sudan Interior Mission)*

SIMROOTS

SIM USA

222 Hyle Avenue

Murfreesboro, TN 37128-8535

United States of America

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

ZEELAND, MI 49464

PERMIT NO. 52

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED