

# Larry and the Snake

Del Johnson, NAD Retirement Administrator

Sitting with Bible in lap, I relished the pre-dawn silence. Two babies slept peacefully in their cribs, and Andee (my courageous and lovely wife) needed her rest. But all was not serene that Sabbath morning 25 years ago in Guam. I startled to the sound of a clattering racket in the direction of the bathroom. At first I thought wifey had stumbled out of bed, but it soon became clear that there was an intruder in the house.

Stepping quietly to the door, I opened it and flipped on the light. There in the bathtub, swaying to an internal rhythm, was a Brown Tree Snake. Mildly poisonous, *Boiga irregularis* was not indigenous to Guam. A hitch-hiker from the Solomon Islands in the 1940's, it had decimated bird populations and disrupted electrical distribution by electrocuting itself across power lines. But now, *Boiga irregularis* was in my home, right down the hall from my baby sons, and across the hall from my sleeping wife. I quickly shut the door and began to plan how I would protect my family. First, I must awaken my wife.

"Andee, honey, wake up. Honey, there's a snake in the house." Looking back now on thirty years of married life I can understand the error of that approach. But at the moment speed trumped style. She awoke, and over my objections ("I can handle this!") raced out of the house seeking reinforcements.

called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world." (Rev. 12:9) Only when our Savior dispatches the loathsome intruder will our homes be secure, and our

Recalling Dr. Grundsett's herpetology class, I sought a tool with which to pin the creature. While a mop would probably have been low on the good professor's list, it was ready at hand, and I swung into action. Quickly opening the door, I entered and pulled the door shut behind me to contain the threat. The bathtub was empty. The floor was clear. And then, I saw him; *Boiga* had sought solace in the medicine cabinet, but had carelessly allowed a loop of coiled scales into the open. With no thought for my own safety, I raised the broom and closed the cabinet. Now he was provoked, rattling amongst the contents of the cabinet.

The bathroom door burst open. There was Larry, resident Student Missionary, neighbor and friend. Awakened by Andee's frantic pounding on his window, he had raced to my rescue. Hair disheveled, eyes wild and wielding a bread-knife, he was much more frightening than a little brown snake.

As I carried the dispatched and troublesome reptile out of the house, I was content. The babies were safe, home was secured, and Larry had been disarmed. The sun was barely up. A blow had been struck against an ecological nightmare. A few more birds would survive. Perhaps another power outage had been avoided. And it occurred to me that perhaps my life would be different if I had the same fight reflex against "that old serpent,

children truly safe. Global devastation will end, and divine power will flow unhindered throughout the endless galaxies. "The great controversy is ended. Sin and sinners are no more. The entire universe is clean. One pulse of harmony and gladness beats through the vast creation. From Him who created all, flow life and light and

Reflections  
 A Newsletter for Members of the NAD Retirement Plans of the SDA Church

gladness, throughout the realms of illimitable space. From the minutest atom to the greatest world, all things, animate and inanimate, in their unshadowed beauty and perfect

joy, declare that God is love. {GC 678.3}



## NEWS NOTES

### FROM MORT

Contributing Reporter: Mort Juberg

**Washington, D.C.** Pastor Barry Black, a rear admiral and retiring chief of chaplains of the U.S. Navy, will become the 62nd chaplain of the U.S. Senate. His appointment was to take effect after his retirement on August 15. He is the first military chaplain, its first African-American and the first Adventist pastor to hold the post, which has a two-year term. In the Navy he supervised 1,000 chaplains

**Gland, Switzerland** The Lake Geneva Sanatorium has received the "Health-Promoting Hospital" designation from the World Health Organization. This Adventist hospital is the first Swiss hospital to receive this recognition. The institution was opened in 1995 and it has identified health education and a tobacco/alcohol-free environment as an integral part of its mission.

**Euro-Asia Division** Two years ago 300 young men answered the call to become Global Missionaries in the 12 countries of the Division. After three months of extensive training, they began work in 300 cities. Their commission was to plant a new congregation and the Division promised to buy a house that would become a place of worship. Since then 2,600 people have been baptized, more than 2,000 are studying the Bible and 262

house churches have been purchased.

**Mandeville, Jamaica** Northern Caribbean University is the newest location for an Ellen G. White Research Center. Since 1974 the Ellen G. White Estate has established research centers on the campuses of 11 college and universities outside of the United States in memory of Ellen G. White.

**Fortaleza, Brazil** More than 80 regional and church representatives attended an ADRA (Adventist Development and Relief Agency) hosted by the South American office of the agency. The meeting provided an orientation for new leadership and enhanced current leadership's understanding and knowledge of ADRA's work.

**Watford, England** Recent studies show that one in 13 adults in England are dependent on alcohol. Adventists, who have been in the forefront of promoting alcohol abstinence, have voiced a growing concern about the problem of alcohol consumption in Britain. It is hoped that the House of Commons in the British Parliament will be the venue to address the problem.

*Source: Adventist News Network*

# Bulletin Board August 2003

If you don't read or keep anything else—read and keep these items!

**Payroll Information: Checks mailed/direct deposits released: August 27, 2003**

Send comments and suggestions to: Sharon Kuykendall, Editor, *Reflections*, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904-6600 Email: sharon.kuykendall@nad.adventist.org

ARM 1-800-447-5002 Healthcare Assistance Queries

ARM Email address: RetireeHealth@adventistrisk.org

Submit medical claims: ARM, PO Box 4088, Silver Spring, MD 20914

PAID Rx 1-800-473-3455 Verify pharmacy participation with PAID Prescription

Jack Harris 503-255-8565 President, NAD Retirees Association— 15530 NE Knott #48,  
Portland, OR 97230 Email: Hjackharris@cs.com

General Conference of SDA 301-680-6000

Payroll 1-888-838-8955 Bulletin Board of **Payroll** Information

Fax 301-680-6190 Retirement Fax Number

Phone: (301) 680—

Barbara Yowell 6244 Lost checks, direct deposits, 1099R, Tax Withholding, Change of Address  
PAYROLL Email: Payroll@nad.adventist.org

Dolores Allen 6249 Gen'l Retirement Office Info

Chris Meier 6192 Reporting a Death, Disability Reviews

Sharon Scheuneman 6287 Tuition Assistance for Children

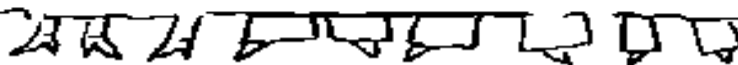


## 2003 RETIREE CONVOCATION REPORT ● JACK HARRIS

In a nut shell, it was everything anyone could ask for. Good food, excellent preaching, outstanding music and great fellowship. Even the weather favored us with moderate temperatures, a mild shower or two (at night) and comfortable days. Enough to whet one's appetite for the next one, which will be at Columbia Union College, July 28-August 1, 2004.

With it being in Washington DC, and it's endless area-wide attractions, a few miles from the General Conference Headquarters, and all those historic and beautiful sights, it is predicted to be one of the best convocations for everyone. We would love to see you there.

Plan ahead, it wasn't raining when Noah built the ark



**ADDITIONS-2nd Quarter-2003**

Achenbach, LeRoy E.  
Aguirre, Vicente M.  
Anderson, Jr., Lewis O.  
Baerg, Freberin P.  
Barton, Patricia J.  
Beers, David L.  
Beglau, Edythe M.  
Bennett, Ray M.  
Blessing, Rosella M  
Bockmann, Robert D  
Bouit, Jean Jacques  
Brannam, Mary E.  
Burghart, Daryl D.  
Call, William C.  
Cameron, Nelly  
Campat, Felicitas  
Chavez, Reggie  
Chipman, Conrad  
Colburn, Larry R.  
Cone, Benjamin  
Connell, Sheila Ann  
Corrigan, Marylyn  
Craig, William E.  
Crawford, Menelva D.  
Dail, Roderick S.  
Del Rosario, Felisa C.  
Deweese, Clifford Elmer  
Dixon, Josephine  
Dronen, George C.  
Egbert, A Elaine  
Erlandson, Virgil V.  
Essex, Charles R.  
Exson, Evelyn T.  
Faura, Annie  
Figueroa, Rafael A.  
Finney, Winona C.  
Forney, Richard H.  
Frank, Dorothy M.  
Freed, Leona June  
Furst, Lyndon Gerald  
Gayoba, Rogelia Y.  
Gibbon, Richard Dee  
Gibson, Therman O.  
Goodson, June  
Gough, Warren G.  
Graham, Ronald B.  
Greve, David O.  
Greve, Mary Lou  
Grinnell, Glenna

Hampton, Margie Sue  
Hernandez, Domingo  
Herzel, Frederick L.  
Higgs, Jerry  
Ilchuk, Anneliese  
Janes, Connie B.  
Jepson, Lyle D.  
Johansen, John I.  
Johnson, Carolyn R.  
Johnson, G. Gene  
Johnson, Leola Dolly  
Johnson, Sadako  
Jordan, Joseph  
Kejmar, Frank A.  
Klein, Edward Eugene  
Kromminga, Elizabeth E.  
Laabs, Leonard E.  
Lang, Sharon L.  
Lee, Sang Won  
Lehrer, Robert D.  
Long, Jack A.  
Luong, Phuc S.  
Lytsell, Eleanor L.  
Massengill, Thomas J.  
McCleary, Louise S.  
McDaniel, Ilea A.  
McNichol, Daphne P.  
McPherson, Clyde Gordon  
McTaggart, Allan E.  
Mecklenburg, Curtis  
Mendoza, Betty C.  
Mercurio, Inderia L.  
Merrill, Ellen R.  
Mikesell, Lois  
Mitchell, Donald R.  
Musten, Diane R  
Norwood, Lewis Dale  
Nystrom, Paul F.  
Osorio, Joseph B.  
Parrott, C. Warren  
Patton, Carol J.  
Paytee, Lorenzo W  
Peters, Daniel M.  
Pettit, Edward P.  
Pierce, Jeanette B.  
Pierson, Elizabeth Louise  
Porter, Victoria A.  
Prowant, Charles L.  
Reitsma, Barbara J.  
Rhodes, Florence Y.  
Ryding, Melanie C.

Sanders, Angie  
Sanders, Howard G.  
Saunders, Jacqueline J.  
Scarborough, Frances L.  
Schalk, Virginia L.  
Schnell, Galen L.  
Seeley, M. E. Maud  
Sellow, Eugene  
Seumalo, Misako  
Silvestri, John B.  
Simons, Helen T.  
Skadsheim, Melvin A.  
Smith, Loretta Faye  
Solazzo, Michael  
Springett, F. Jean  
Starr, Billy Lee Roy  
Stribling, Mildred JoNell  
Sutton, Richard O.  
Tallman, Patricia H.  
Taylor, Barbara  
Thomas, Carol A.  
Thomas, Nancy L.  
Thorne, Dudley A.  
Trubey, Ardith E.  
Tulgar, Hermine  
Ulmer, Roy J.  
Vallieres, Mary C.  
Williams, Benjamin O.  
Williams, Carolyn Joann  
Williamson, Diane  
Wilson, Matilda E.  
Wood, Marian L.  
Yergler, Evelyn R.  
Yoshimi, Ino  
Zelenak, William  
Zummach, Kenneth L.

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**DELETIONS-2nd Quarter-2003**

Afflebach, Jean E. - 84  
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Anderson, Lucille E. - 86  
Anderson, Ruth V. - 84  
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Backy, Lael O. - 65  
Balharrie, Anna - 91  
Barton, Kenneth A. - 84  
Berry, Marjorie - 81

Bidwell, Marian R. - 77  
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 Bowman, Hubert W. - 99  
 Boyce, Blanche - 92  
 Bradford, Jack - 75  
 Bren, Walter G. - 95  
 Brower, Virginia M. - 94  
 Brown, Phyllis E. - 84  
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 Christ, Ruth W. - 85  
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 Craw, H. Allen - 85  
 Cronk, Andrew J. - 78  
 Daniels, Poleen - 75  
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 Edwards, Catharine M. - 103  
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 Fortin, Madeline - 79  
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 Jackson, Elizabeth E. - 90  
 James, Bill - 85  
 Jensen, Mabel G. - 96  
 Jewkes, Harold W. - 94  
 Joseph, Avie G. - 89  
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 Kravig, Marlis J. - 80  
 Larson, Richard J. - 99  
 Laurell, Josephine - 84  
 Lee, Donald S. - 85  
 Leggett, Richard S. - 76  
 Lemon, Philip F. - 84  
 Lewis, Martha K. - 87  
 Lindsay, Lena Frances - 91  
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 Logan, Fleta E. - 89  
 Lorren, Vivian - 94  
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 Morgan, Leo - 76  
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 Murray, Evelyn - 86  
 Murray, William S. - 78  
 Nichols, Ardis L. - 69  
 Nixon, Elvira L. - 89  
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 Olmstead, Lila Mae - 95  
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 Turner, James D. - 79  
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 Vaughn, Betty J. - 75  
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Walker, Hazel A. - 91  
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Washburn, Maisie - 78  
Way, Hedy T. - 71

Wearner, Frieda M. - 87  
Weiss, Stanley Paul - 85  
Wells, Lester S. - 99  
Whitten, Yvonne - 89  
Wiedemann, Robert W. - 77  
Williams, Carolyn Joann - 57

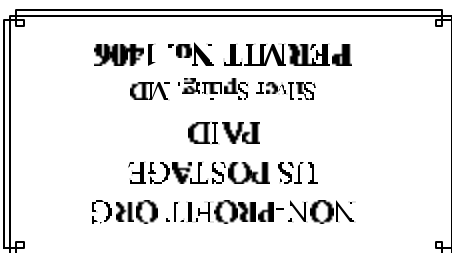
Wilson, Matilda E. - 92  
Winslow, Florence M. - 88  
Yergler, Evelyn R. - 71  
Yoshimi, Ino - 103  
Zummach, Kenneth L. - 78

My soul wants to sing the song  
of a thousand angels,  
My eyes want to see the streets of shining gold  
My heart wants to laugh  
with the friends of a long-lasting sorrow,  
My mind wants to ask the questions of the ages  
and get answers from the Maker of the heavens  
and earth that watches me  
And will not let my foot slip.  
My ears want to hear the melodious tune  
of harps played masterfully,  
My hands want to feel the holes  
Of my Saviors hands,  
My feet want to walk a hundred miles in every  
direction and not once see the pain of sin.  
My nose wants to smell flowers  
that will not wilt,  
my tongue wants to speak  
in words of great knowledge  
My thirst wants to be quenched with living water,  
And my life wants to be modeled  
After the Messiah in everything I do.  
That is what I want.

**WHAT I WANT**  
Julie Ann Grimstead



[Julie is a sixth grade student at Tualatin Valley  
Junior Academy near Portland, Oregon]



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