

Reflections

February Issue
2005

A newsletter for beneficiaries of the NAD Retirement Plans of the SDA church.

God's Love Letters

Del Johnson, Administrator

My heart leapt as I recognized the handwriting on the envelope. Andee had preceded me to college, having also preceded me in birth. Though separated by miles, our hearts beat as one, our spirits clung as magnets, and love letters bound us as sole mates.

Out dropped two circles of paper. This was not the familiar floral decorated rectangular sheet with Andee's rhythmic writing. Instead, the longhand was inscribed in a circle, like the track of an old-time vinyl record! "Dear Del" was on the outside, and script spiraled in towards the center. Soon I was rapidly turning the disk and reading of her day, how much she missed me, and other such mushy subjects. As I approached the center, I began to feel somewhat giddy, and not just from declarations of undying love.

The first page flourished to an end, and I hastened to the next page. But instead of beginning at the outside again, and working in, my best friend surprised me by beginning at the center and spiraling out! By the time I reached, "Love, Andee" on the outer ring, I didn't mind if I never saw another concentric circle.

A few days later, another letter landed on my desk. This time a hard cylinder dropped from the envelope. Andee had written a love letter on the back of some used adding machine tape. She did not know that while the letter was in the tender care of the U.S. Postal Service, I had broken my right arm playing soccer, and unrolling the tightly wrapped tube of paper with the fingers of one useable hand became a serious challenge. The yoyo approach worked for the first few feet of missive. Holding one end in place

with foot or knee became the next method. And while the message was one of mushy joy, the challenge of the reading awoke in my heart a delight with the creative and unpredictable way in which my love showed her affection to me!

In May we will celebrate our 32nd anniversary, Andee and I, and I still find her creative and unpredictable. I think of the creative and unpredictable ways in which God sends his love letters to us. The close harmonies of an acappella rendering by the Heralds of a Wayne

Hooper arrangement, the beautiful colors of a Nathan Greene painting, a child's ready smile, an unexpected letter from an old friend, a quick glimpse of a red fox dashing off into the forest, the familiar thump of plane tires hitting runway 28 in Baltimore at the end of a safe trip; all these remind me of His unfailing love.

In the 8th Chapter of Romans, Paul reaches poetic heights, describing what it means to be victorious in Jesus. And then he sings a climactic doxology. "38For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

I quote the last paragraph of Ellen White's The Great Controversy. "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 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."



🌀 Bulletin Board/February, 2005 🌀

If you don't read anything else -
Read and keep these items!

Checks/EFT Release schedule for 2005: February 25

Spouse Allowance Disclosure

Some retirees are eligible for, and are receiving, a Spouse Allowance. Eligibility for that benefit enhancement include:

- ▶ 20 or more years of service credit,
- ▶ Marriage to current spouse at least one year before your retirement benefits began
- ▶ Spouse is not receiving an employer-provided retirement benefit or did not receive an employer-provide lump sum retirement payout

Eligibility for this benefit would have been determined during the initial application process-before your benefits started-and would not be added at a later time.

The Spouse Allowance portion of a retirement benefit is a **conditional** benefit and is subject to reduction or discontinuance under certain circumstances. As long as the marital status* of the retired participant remains the same as it was on the benefit effective date and the spouse does not receive employer-provided retirement benefits of his/her own, the retiree remains eligible to continue receiving the Spouse Allowance. (*A divorce or death of a spouse would constitute a change in marital status.)

However, should any of these circumstances change **at any time**, it is the retiree's responsibility to provide that information to the plan office as soon as possible to avoid any benefit overpayments that would have to be recovered. Thank you for your cooperation in helping us to administer plan benefits according to policy.

Phnom, Penh, Cambodia ~ In a country that had no Adventist church members just 10 years ago, hundreds attended a series of meetings in Phnom Penh. This is believed to be the largest Adventist outreach ever held in this Buddhist majority South Asian country. More than 100 buses transported Cambodians to the meetings. The meetings are the result of community work by Global Mission pioneers and local laypersons.

Silver Spring, Maryland ~ The Adventist Church now has 13.4 million baptized members with another 25 million who attend weekly worship services. The world church grew by approximately one million members this past year.

Camp Lejeune, North Carolina ~ A U.S. Marine Corps court-martial has sentenced a Marine, who came to a belief in non-combatancy after signing a two-year re-enlistment, to seven months in jail. Observers say this is a highly unusual outcome for such a case. He will be imprisoned, suffer a rank demotion to private and be given a Bad Conduct Discharge from the Corps.

Source: Adventist News Network

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

Website: <http://www.nadadventist.org/ret>

ARM 1-800-447-5002 - Healthcare Claims Queries

ARM Email address: RetireeHealth@adventistrisk.org

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

Medco Health 1-800-841-5396 - Verify pharmacy participation with Medco Health

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

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, Verification of Benefits for loans, housing, Medicaid
Payroll Email: Payroll@nad.adventist.org

Dolores Allen 6249 - General Retirement Office Information

Chris Meier 6192 - Reporting a Death, Disability Reviews

Diane Jacobson 6289 - Tuition Assistance for Children



NEWS NOTES FROM MORT

Contributing Editor, Mort Juberg

Montemorelos, Mexico ~ After 40 years the church's Universidad de Montemorelos has completed the Quest to open a dental school. An opening ceremony was held in connection with the university's 62nd year of operation.



Journaling from Jack

Contributing Editor: H Jack Harris

These Old Hands

Way back in 1946 I sat with other church members in a small church in North Dakota. It was sundown, Saturday evening. The pastor asked each of us to open our hands wide and look at them. He invited us to notice the various creases and wrinkles. Then he invited us to look a little closer and see even smaller wrinkles, the smallest possible ones. He pointed out that out of the billions of people born since the Garden of Eden, no one has ever had hands exactly like those tiny wrinkles we have in our hands. They are called finger prints. We are really unique aren't we?

Think about it. The telephone company runs out of numbers for a given area so they have to change the area code to meet the need for additional numbers. The automobile license makers have to add alphabetical letters to numbers in various positions on the license plate to meet the need. When we start counting, as in keeping track of the national debt, the numbers go beyond billions, then into trillions and they just keep adding numbers and "illions."

But back to hands. Like many other things about each of us, we take them for granted all too often. We remember them mostly when they are injured, or when arthritis announces it's arrival. Or worse yet, if we have been so unfortunate as to lose one of them through accident or other cause. Then they are really missed.

What have your hands done over the years? Where have they been? Whose life have they touched, and how did they touch others? There are different ways you know.

Ask a murderer, or a rapist, a thief, or a child molester, and the list of possibles goes on and on, doesn't it?

The word "hand" appears 788 times in the Bible, so it

has some significance and importance. But back to that later. I got to thinking about my own hands, you know, the cookies that disappeared, the dishes that didn't get washed when Mom wanted them done, the wood for the fire that dad asked me to split.

But over the years they have been busy. They wrote letters daily to my girl friend while in the service of my country. They almost tremblingly fashioned the words "will you marry me" when I was physically far away and couldn't afford a phone call. Besides it would have been easier to take it if she wrote, "Sorry buddy, but my mother always told me to choose a man with class and promise" than if she shouted it over the long distance line. She used her hands to write back and say, "The answer is yes unless I get a better offer."

My hands were uneasy and clumsy when I held the new little bodies of both of our children when they were born. Many times these hands have dried the tears of those children who came to bless our home. They reached out and caught their falls numerous times. They caressed their little faces. They stroked the face of my wife as she lay ill in the hospital. They plunged feverishly through the lake waters at the Wisconsin Youth Camp when an adventurous youth swam beyond his depths and limits and carried him back to his tearful mother. They have folded in fervent prayer over the sick and dying. They have baptized the repentant, buried those who God had called home, and extended warmth and welcome to visitors in our churches and in our home. These hands are the mark of where I have been and what I have done. My finger prints tell the tale for the good or not so good.

But most importantly, these hands are waiting eagerly to clasp the hands of my Savior when He welcomes me home. Because of His grace He won't care where these hands have been or what they have done. He will say, "See, I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands." Isaiah 49:16 All heavenly nature will welcome us. Isaiah 55:12 assures us that "even the trees will clap their hands." Oh blessed day, may it hasten on.

ADRA provided immediate relief to survivors of the tsunami! Go to www.adra.org to donate. Or send check or money order to: ADRA International; 12501 Old Columbia Pike; Silver Spring, MD 20904. 1-800-424-ADRA (2372).



Sri Lanka:

- ADRA disinfected three buildings and a school early this week. Additional equipment, including protective gear, arrived to increase the disinfection process.
- Approximately 400,000 people will benefit from ADRA's efforts to decontaminate, disinfect, and deodorize coastal areas in cooperation with the government.
- Medical aid distribution is ongoing with helicopters aiding in the distribution of supplies.
- Approval has been provided for distribution of food and non-food items (NFI) like shelter, clothing, or mosquito nets to internally displaced persons (IDPs) in 17 camps.

Thailand:

- ADRA will reinstall all water systems and rehabilitate wells for residents in this district that live on the islands of Phrathong and Surin. Residents of these islands were evacuated to the mainland due to limited access to potable water and are being housed in tents while ADRA repairs their water system.
- ADRA will assist with the reconstruction of the Kamala District School.
- ADRA is working with the Phuket Mission Hospital to develop additional interventions for the long-term support of Tsunami victims. These interventions will focus predominantly on the physical and psychological needs of those affected by the tsunami.

India:

- A project to restore fishing equipment for 380 fishermen affected by the tsunami in Nallore District of Andhra Pradesh is being implemented.
- ADRA is setting up shelter for 200 families and health education for children in the Andaman Islands
- A health project and NFI distribution is planned for the Pondicherry and Karaikel regions of the Andaman Islands.

Indonesia:

- A 16-member medical team opened a clinic at the Sibreh Public Health Center in Sibreh (about 10 miles outside of Banda Aceh). The team treated nearly 1,000 people over the weekend. Patients are receiving medical attention for fractures, diarrhea, upper-respiratory infections, psychological trauma, stress, infections, and malnutrition.
- ADRA continues to maintain a presence in Meulaboh and is coordinating relief efforts with other

agencies for this region. Equipment to treat acute respiratory infections and damaged lungs arrived in this region earlier this week.

- ADRA secured tetanus treatments for about 600 people and already distributed anti-typhoid and anti-malaria injections.
- ADRA is coordinating with the Meulaboh Education Department to repair and reopen schools and supply the 50 tents that arrived earlier this week, as temporary structures for elementary schools.
- UNICEF asked ADRA to be the lead agency in the repair and refurbishing of schools (junior high and senior high) in Meulaboh region and to help coordinate the donated supplies, logistics and liaisons with Education officials and other non-government organizations.
- ADRA Indonesia is working with the World Food Program to organize boat delivery of food to some villages north of Meulaboh that have not been entered.

**New Plan Beneficiaries,
4th Quarter 2004:**

Abraham, Paul C	Cinquemani, Alvina
Aeschlimann, Ernesto A	Collins, Ted A
Albertson, James Young	Colvin, Gerald F
Aldinger, David M	Cooley, Sally A
Allen, William M	Coonley, Kenneth R
Anderson, Marilyn E	Copeland, Renee L
Ashlock, Edith K	Cottrell, Ruth Ann
Atherton, Barbara J	Day, Elizabeth A
Aukee, Mary Lou	DePalma, John G
Avery, Irma A	Downey, Ruth E
Bailey, Ornan A	Duong, Tam
Battistone, Joseph J	Easton, Carol A
Berger, Fred	Fernandez, Helen H
Blackburn, Orville Phillip	Frood, Reginald J
Blum, Dennis C	Gabriel, Sallyann
Brown, Arletta J	Gallagher, Rosemary
Canaday, Larry T	Gepford, Jon W
Cane, Sharla R	Gifford, L. Stephen
	Gilbert, Patricia
	Gonzalez, Caroll

Grannan, Carol L	Reinholtz, Laun L	<i>continues to work for</i>	Espe, Benito L 74
Greene, Betty L	Rodriguez, Consuelo	<i>Adventist Health as Vice</i>	Estrada, Trinidad 77
Grice, Lionel C	Roeske, Siegfried H. A	<i>President, Delivery of Care.</i>	Farnsworth, Charlene 68
Grosboll, Harold N	Rogers, James L	<i>We apologize to Dr. Huff.</i>	Fillman, Ruby Ann 78
Gurubatham, Joseph E	Roth, Arloine W	~ Del Johnson	Finkbiner, Leo J 79
Guthmiller, Milbert	Sage, Linda L	<i>[Not all new beneficiaries</i>	Fogg, Pauline 97
Hancock, Robert L	Sanchez, Margaret	<i>under the Hospital Plan are</i>	Franz, Joyce R 83
Hankins, Bernard D	Sanders, Gloria D	<i>necessarily retirees]</i>	Gendron, Mary F 79
Harden, Leona M	Sands, Maryellen	<u>Recent Deaths, 4th</u>	Gibson, Mildred F 95
Hubbard, Dean Leon	Saunders, Jennie	<u>Quarter 2004:</u>	Gooden, Elita 81
Hustwaite, Russell E	Scheidt, Thyra	Adams, William 73	Hall, Charles J 78
HuynhNgo, Quyen	Schermerhorn, Eugene O	Adlawan, Fidelino F 71	Harr, Vesta R 98
Jacobs, Lloyd R	Sedano, Linda R	Alcaraz, June A 85	Haywood, Jack L 80
Keeler, Mary Lee	Simon, Gwenylen R	Allen, James E 82	Heidinger, F Elisabeth 72
Kelly, Weslyne A	Soares, Winifred K	Althage, Irvin G 86	Hill, Marjorie 78
Kennedy, Hope	Spotts, Donna C	Andersen, Aretas M 70	Hill, Mildred I 97
Kinsey, Rosita Elise	Sreckov, Stanley	Anderson, Anna R 80	Hodge, Bernice 72
Kirk, Gail P	Swanson, Pamela A	Angell, Dorothy E 83	Holden, Melba M 84
Kofoed, Tommy F	Tate, Carl L	Atkins, Orpha D 89	Houck, Constance R 83
Kramer, Judith A	Taylor, Eunice A	Baker, Georgia Dell 93	Hutton, Coby Lee 90
Kramer, Miriam R	Thompson, Eunice I	Baldwin, H Marvyn 93	Jackson, Thomas J 79
Kumalae, Jonah	Trefz, Eleanor J	Banks, E Ruth 77	Jarnes, Haakon I 89
Lam, Hannah	Tull, Linda J	Baughman, Vera L 89	Jenson, William H 72
Le, Nghiep Cong	Uffindell, Roy R	Bell, Jennette 86	Johnson, Dorothy H 101
Leialoha, Lemuel K	Uhran, Shirley A	Blehm, Walter D 80	Johnson, Eula T 102
Leukert, Klaus D	Ulloa, George F	Bobst, Richard V 88	Jones, Lola R 94
Lewis, David L	Uyeyama, David A	Bowers, Harriet N 84	Kannenbergh, Doris 87
Linser, Heinz	VandeVere, Barbara Jean	Bowles, Vesta Scott 93	Kearbey, Clyde F 94
Lostaglia, Percy D	Varela, Augustine	Burpee, Murle E 65	Kinnear, Helen B 102
Magnuson, Georgi Ann	Vaughn, Doreen	Buxton, Hawley P 90	Knauft, Rudolph C 87
Martin, Judy L	Villa, Mercedes	Caldwell, Doris 86	Lambeth, Cecil E 92
Mata, Ramon	Vogt, Glenn B	Campbell, Alyce E 88	Latham, David E 84
Mayes, Ruby C	Wagner, Eloise Daye	Carethers, Amerson R 95	Lemons, Gertrude H 91
McBroom, Ronald Dale	Wainwright, Kathleen	Carr, Dalles L 71	Leno, Goldie N 88
McDermott, Marilyn O	Walter, Dorothy E	Carr, William R 73	Lenz, Carl 97
Millet, Marilyn J	Walter, M. Daniel	Cato, Marion G 98	Leonor, Noemi E 69
Mills, Jonathan	Wehtje, Marcia M	Chastain, Myrtle A 88	Lindsay, Mildred E 90
Molina, Rosa B	Wery, Ellsworth J	Cherry, Lillian J 83	Link, Rosemarie 76
Munson, Carlotta I	White, Shirlee Jean	Cobb, Dolly 88	Lund, Donald E 75
Musselwhite, Robert Y	Wilson, Gayle R	Crowson, Nancy O 81	Malone, Edith 80
Oakford, Carolyn A	Wong, Mary Lou	Cunningham, Robert L 86	Martin, Mary I 70
Park, Eui Kyung	Woodbury, Milo J	Danforth, Charles J 81	Matelski, Roberta 89
Patterson, Rachel K	Worrel, Karen M	Davis, K Dwight 70	Maudlin, Ruth O 80
Phelps, Donald P	Wortman, Anne M	Devnich, Dave H 65	May, Alma H 101
Pinto, Isabel B	Yahiku, Paul	Diaz, Geraldine G 78	McHenry, Winston H 86
Powery, David D	<i>Correction: In the Novem-</i>	Dittberner, Dorothy J 87	Medlock, Dwight G 72
Prakasam, Dass	<i>ber, 2004 listing of new</i>	Dodgson, Arthur 83	Michael, Iva Katherine 80
Preddie, Cislyn P	<i>retirees, we listed Wynelle</i>	Eccles, Elfreda I 87	Michaelson, Ardella 77
Quicker, Mary G	<i>J. Huff as a new retiree.</i>	Edgerly, Frank A 65	Miler, Bettie 75
Rector, Paul J	<i>This was an error. Dr. Huff</i>	Edwards, Opal 81	Mills, Merle L 89

Miner, Carl E 85	Richardson, Durward K 84	Smith, Joseph E 86	Vargas, Ovidio 76
Montgomery, Charlie 88	Rittenhouse, Ellen G 86	Smith, Marian B 76	Vinciguerra, Elizabeth 77
Moreno, Helen N L 74	Ryan, Marjorie J 87	Snow, Earl W 81	Wagner, Alice Darlene 77
Moses, Marie E 90	Sawvel, Milo C 81	Staubach, Alice L 83	Wagner, Ellen G 84
Murphy, Myrtle G 97	Scherencel, Arnold J 78	Stauffer, Dean F 84	Waller, Llana E 78
Nelson, George B 99	Schwartz, Richard C 79	Studley, Dorothy 87	Weis, Bess B 72
Nicholas, Erma 83	Seeley, Mary 71	Sullivan, Katherine 93	Welling, Irene O 78
Nukka, Amanda S 100	Shain, Martin C 89	Temple, Charles V 84	Wellman, Mildred 88
Patterson, Idell Alice 85	Shaner, Jeanne 90	Thomas, Ida 67	Wilson, W Charles 81
Phillips, Charlotta 93	Short, Donald K 89	Trubey, Naomi L 94	Youngberg, Robert R 83
Plakotaris, Mike 85	Simkin, Eleanor C 83	Tyndall, David 86	Zollbrecht, John C 97
Rasmussen, Clifford J 78	Simons, Richard W 81	Valcarcel, Zoila 83	
Reid, William F 77	Smith, Addie L 88	Van Wickle, Max 92	

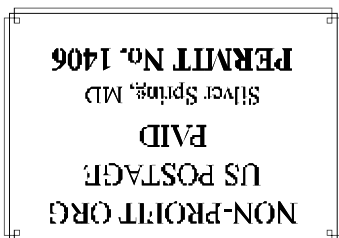
Out & About...

Jeffrey Brown who had been selected as Secretary of the Bermuda Conference was elected President. Colin Dunbar who had been elected president, declined the invitation.

Doug Kilcher, from the Mid-America Union office, and a former professor at the Seminary, is the new secretary of the Texas Conference.

Bob Leiske has passed away in Texas. He followed his father, Bishop A. Leiske as moderator of the program American Religious Town Hall of the Air.

James R. Davidson has been elected President of Carolina Conference.



General Conference of SDA
NAD Retirement Plans
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Springs, MD 20904-6600

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