



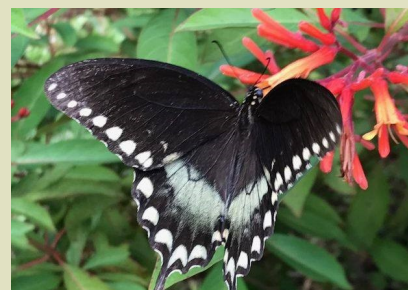
Media Musings

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We are excited to bring you the next newsletter of the AIM Retirement Center, "Media". The reason for the newsletter is to keep you informed on what is happening at Media as well as give information about the missionaries who live here. The 80+ residents and staff represent more than 2,200 years of ministry. We hope this newsletter will help you get to know some of them and what they do at Media. You can also find this at www.retirementcenter.aimsites.org. The Editors

The Caterpillar (Worm) and the Butterfly

We see lots of butterflies at Media and look forward to seeing them appear each year. Peggy Bragg has caught some of these beauties with her camera. There is something joyful and peaceful about watching them flit from flower to flower drinking in the nectar.



Have you ever seen a butterfly develop. It is most intriguing and magical. They start out as tiny eggs (about the size of dot). These hatch into caterpillars with a voracious appetite. When they have finally had their fill and shed their skin a few times, they attach to a limb, a cocoon develops and the transformation begins. The caterpillar dies as the cocoon forms. After a



couple of weeks a crack develops and a butterfly starts to emerge. It is not beautiful - it is wet and weak and it's wings are crumpled and will emerge as something beautiful but an hour or so later comes this gorgeous new creature perfectly designed by God.



Many compare this process to Christ's death and resurrection. It is a beautiful picture. But others have compared it to Christians and their new life in Christ. We are born with the ability to become beautiful and unique, though it may take time to get there. Spiritually, we start life as sinners (caterpillars) and have a voracious appetite for wrong doing. It is not a pretty sight. This is not how God wants us to be. Like the caterpillar we cannot change ourselves. We need God's help Who, through His Son Jesus, provided a way for us to be "new creatures". Some have said this



"spiritual transformation from death to life is a cocoon experience." In any case we are told in 2 Cor 5:17 "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." When we accept Christ as Savior we die to our former life (caterpillar) and a totally different creature emerges and we become the beautiful creatures God has designed.

OUR GOD IS AN AWESOME GOD.

MEDIA EVENTS

Christmas Tea was again special with great food, decorations and the Bella Lago String Trio (the Flacks daughter, Naomi, is in the middle). The Hyssong family blessed us with music to lift our hearts. The Sudan missionaries used the occasion of Russ & Lynn Nobles Nobles as a photo-op (Jean, Russ, Lynn, Andrea, Gill, Martha, Elly.) John & Elaine continue to delight us with their duets



A big change for Media is that we now have a central location for mail. It was interesting to watch the new "boxes" arrive and be installed and see the mailman bring answers to many of our questions when he brought the first mail. The ladies, Carla and Jean, enjoyed watching and waiting until he was done and they could try out their new key.

Not this anymore



But this





Chuck was born in Los Angeles, CA. Although he and his family attended church they never heard the gospel there. It was not until 9th grade when a schoolmate witnessed to him and he accepted Christ as Savior soon after. In High School Chuck met Ruth Dix's mother, Grace King who was a counsellor there. She and her husband were Chuck's mentor's for many years. Chuck was a wood and metal shop teacher to Jr. High students in LA schools for 40 years. He has 2 children Sharon and Craig After his first wife died in November 2000, he was wondering what God wanted him to do next. He visited Kenya (RVA) with Ted & Mary Honer in June 2001 and fell in love with teaching there. He returned to the US, applied to AIM and returned to RVA in September 2001. He taught wood or metal shop for a total of 53 years.

Esther was born in Toronto, Canada into a Christian Home. Her grandparents were missionaries with SIM, Guy and Joyce Playfair, so she had a missionary influence in my life. She became a Christian at age 5 and attended camp as a teenager. Later she was a counsellor and staff member of the camp. Esther worked for a bank in Toronto and in 1980 went to Briercrest Bible College in Saskatchewan, graduating in 1983. She worked for another bank from 1986 to 2001. God began the process of calling her to AIM in 2000 and she was accepted as a Dorm Parent in February 2001. Raising support in 5 months, she was in Kenya by August She was a dorm parent for 1 year and for the next 10 years worked in the RVA business office and 2 years in the Titchie Office.

Esther & Chuck arrived at RVA around the same time but, of course, did not know each other. They were married in 2006 at Esther's home church in Toronto and left RVA in August of 2014, arriving at Media the same month. Esther is on staff and helps with caretaking at Scott Manor.

TRANSITIONS



Martha Hughell moved to Superior Assisted Living - Wedding bells rang for Garry Eppy & Ruth Wheeler - Carolyn Dewey arrived as a new resident - Betty Steinbacher moved to Scott Manor - Sally Olsen moved to Brookdale Assisted Living—Mark & Jan Olander arrived as our newest residents - Andrea Pontier, who volunteered here while waiting for support, will soon be on her way to Sudan.

HERE AND THERE AT MEDIA

Some folks took advantage of Director Scott being out of town and had a little fun on the "Dog Subject". He came home to find that dogs of every shape, size, and color had taken residence. Our ladies have been busy making hats. The red ones went to the American Heart Association for February newborns and the the larger ones to the military. Working on a box for Africa next



The Scott Manor ladies made February door decorations. They are very creative! The photographer apologizes for cutting off heads!

Group from YWAM



We are grateful for the Volunteers and Sowers who come and work hard on many projects.



Geri & Roger enjoy sitting outside in their lawn chairs talking and reading and greeting the passers by.



The Media men meet most afternoons to pray; the ladies meet together Wed. mornings and in individual groups Mondays.

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