



Media Musings

Published by

Africa Inland Mission Retirement Center

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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

A BLAST FROM THE PAST

Extract from a letter of the General Secretary of the North American Home Council to Field Directors and Deputation Secretaries, dated May 7th, 1953. (photos added by editor)

Dear Brethren,

I think you would like to know about the erection of "Scott Home" at Media. When we received the gift of Media some years ago, it was first of all looked upon as a place for Missionaries on furlough to go down there and spend a bit of their furlough time. This part of its ministry, however, has not been greatly used. It is too far off the beaten track, etc.; therefore it has had its main usefulness as a place for the care of our retired workers who, as long as they can do so, are given a little cottage to live in and take care of themselves.



As some grow older, they need a better provision, which we believe has now been



made in Scott Home. Mrs. Miller, a practical nurse and mother of Don MacKenzie, accepted candidate for the boat work in Tanganyika, is going to reside there in an apartment which leads to individual rooms where missionaries may be placed..

We thank God for this, and for certain securities which have made this possible.

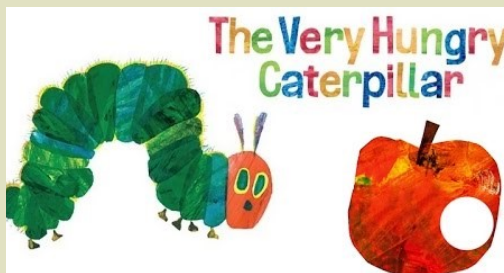
Sincerely yours in Him
Sig. RALPH T. DAVIS,
General Secretary.



As we look back on all that God has provided since this letter was written, let us rejoice in this provision and give thanks once again for Media.

MEDIA EVENTS

Spring Tea was enjoyed with a Butterfly/New Life Theme. Great fellowship and food provided by our residents. Special chocolate egg favors added to the decorations. Dave Hornberger read about the very hungry caterpillar and Carla Walker sang. The next month was our Memorial Day Indoor picnic with more great food and fellowship. We remembered the fallen heroes—both military and missionary.



Paulo Feniman from AIM's South America office shared challenges in sending missionaries from Brazil to Africa, Elly Admiral engaged the ladies in a zebra art project and Tuesday night games featured Miss Olive's favorite game—Rumikub.





Les and Mary Anne grew up in the Congo, with their missionary parents Gurney and Laura Harris (later Helen, when his mother Laura died) and Raymond and Sarah Stauffacher. They went to school together at Rethy through 10th grade and Les finished his high school in the USA and Mary Anne at RVA. Les graduated from Trinity College in FL and Mary Anne from Columbia Bible College and later the University of Chattanooga.

Following their marriage in 1965, they taught Bible together in the public schools of Chattanooga before leaving to serve in the Central African Republic in 1966. They served in a variety of ministries: Christian Education, training pastors and wives in Bible School, itinerant ministry to encourage pastors, translating Theological Education by Extension materials. Les also served on the board of AIM Air.

The Harrises returned to the US in 1986, in order to establish a home in Largo FL for their college bound daughters. Les served as AIM's Donor and Church Relations Coordinator. They traveled nationwide on behalf of AIM's missionaries. For 2-3 months each year from 1995-2008, Les taught in a Missionary Training Institute in Chad and both made trips to the Central African Republic to hold pastors' retreats, Christian Ed retreats, and teach in the Bible School.

They have 3 daughters, Sarah, (Fred) Feliciano ; Myra (Bruce) Noden and Sharon (Steve) Entwistle, The Nodens served in Mozambique and Namibia. Sharon and Steve served at RVA and in CAR with the Mbororo before the war broke out. They are now in Mozambique. Sarah & Fred live in Hudson, FL where she cares for their 4 children. Fred, is a Counselor .

Les and Mary Anne moved to Media in 2013 and love it. They are grateful to be entrusted with the role of chaplain. They also minister in local nursing homes, and are very involved in their church.

TRANSITIONS
Promoted to Heaven



Lib Marsh

vals
Arnie



Martha Hughell & Betty DeGolier

New
Dottie
Ege-



arri-
&
ler

moved to Scott Manor



Esther Beverly



Bob and Mary Ehmann to Camp Ministry
in Alaska for 5 months



Some activities “outside” of Media: Les & Mary Anne and Craig Fraley go to Superior Assisted Living each week to share music and a Bible Lesson. Most everyone is involved in a “Birthday Group” and get together to celebrate and share a meal in homes or at a local restaurant. The Chinese Buffet is a favorite spot.



The latest building project is turning a quad into a duplex and the latest addition to the property is a Columbarium initially visualized by Jonathan Hildebrandt



STORIES

FROM AFRICA

Most People Groups have a version of how man was created Here is the Basukuma (Tanzania) version.

Creation of Mankind

In the beginning, God (Liwelelo, Lobooyo, Likube, Mumbi) formed man out of clay. He made three of them, molding them just like the Basukuma do their clay pots and little figurines. They were well-made but needed to be dried and fired to make them usable.

He gathered a lot of wood and piled it high, putting the clay figures into the pile well spaced out so that they would be heated properly. Then he lit the fire. Since it was such a large pile of wood that had to burn, and would take a long time, God decided He would take a walk and come back later. So He left. His walk kept Him away for longer than expected and when He returned He found the fire had completely burned up and all that was left was a pile of warm ashes.

He started digging in the ashes and found His clay figures. They were all well glazed by the fire but the final color of each one of the clay figures was determined by their proximity to the hottest flames.

One was black, burned thoroughly from too much heat. This one was the first black person.

One was sort-of reddish, tinged by the heat with a mixture of smokiness. This one was the Asian/Arab/Indian person.

One was pale because it didn't get too much heat and absorbed mostly smoke. This one was the “nzungu”, the white person. And with all the various shades of smoke coming from a fire, that is why some white people are whiter than others

R.Baker