



# Media Musings

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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. □The Editors

## MEET THE STAFF

### Peggy Whittaker



Peggy B. Whittaker was born in Clermont and since birth attended the Christian & Missionary Alliance Church. At age 10 she accepted Christ as Savior. She counts it a blessing to have had the example of Christian faith shown through the lives of a number of AIM missionaries who also attended the church. Peggy married during a time when she had turned away from the Lord but in the 1980's after the marriage ended she asked the Lord's forgiveness. By then she had been blessed with two little ones and married to Ron Whittaker who had 2 children from his 1st marriage. Peggy started doing housecleaning which included several homes of AIM retirees. Peggy also taught Sunday School for several years.

When the need for a cook at Scott Home was presented to Ron & Peggy they said "yes". Ron enjoyed this but his health continued to deteriorate and Peggy took over more responsibility in the kitchen. They were Scott Home Managers for 3 years and had the privilege of assisting the Scott Home residents in anyway possible to feel "at home" and "with family" while continuing the cooking and cleaning. After Ron's death in 2008 Peggy chose to move out of Scott Home but continues to cook, clean and assist the residents whenever possible.

In 1998, Peggy's son was suddenly called home after a car accident nearby. Her stepson resides in Washington state and stepdaughter in Chicago. Her daughter is married and lives locally and Peggy is proud "Nana" to a precious grandson just over 1 year old.

## MEDIA HISTORY DID YOU KNOW?

The History of Media includes the fact that in the mid 1950's there were just 6 missionaries who had retired and were living in various homes that had been built. These homes were named after AIM leaders such as Scott, Hurlburt, Philpott, Torrey, Nelson, Davis. Through the years some homes have had to be torn down, replaced and additional homes built. These were named after those who actually occupied them. Eventually all the homes were numbered and later given street addresses to comply with 911 regulations.

Today there are 66 missionaries living in 42 units and in Scott Home.

There have been various Athreats@ to Media through the years such as fires and storms. One such was on Wednesday and Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, 1944, when a particularly severe hurricane went through the area, blowing down dozens of trees. The only damage done to the houses was one window in the Library broken, and the electric wires between McKenrick=s and Slater=s cottage knocked down by a falling limb. There were 23 pine and 25 oak trees blown down, including a large oak behind the Frutchey cottage. Fred McKenrick had just stepped out the back door to turn off the pump and had no sooner closed the screen door behind him as he stepped back inside, when the tree fell just where he had been. It completely blocked the back entrance.

Sixty years later there were again severe storms that came - four hurricanes one right after the other. Electricity was lost for a few days but there was little damage to homes though once again a number of trees fell.

Much thanks is given to God for His protection of the Media property and personnel over many years.



# EVENTS / ACTIVITIES

## COUNTRY FAIR



## TALENT NIGHT



## LABOR DAY PARADE



## GAMENIGHT



**Missionaries and Staff serving the community in Awana and Mailbox Correspondence**



## MEET SOME OF THE MISSIONARIES

### Roger and Gerri Coon

Roger grew up outside of town near Lake Erie in NW Pennsylvania where he loved to wander the ravines and forest. Geri's childhood was rural central Mississippi with cotton picking and Big Creek village school. While at Wheaton College Roger married Joyce in 1951. After college and grad school they were in a pastorate for 3 years, then on to (Kenya) 1959 where both their skills and training were devoted to the development of ministries and curriculum for children and youth in the schools and churches. 3½ years later Geri and Jack arrived following studies at Kansas City Bible College (*Calvary now*), married 1954 and several years in a pastorate, then Wheaton grad school. The Phillips with 4 children (*later 5*) and the Coons with 2 girls found themselves neighbors. The children grew up and attended RVA together and the parents became good friends. Jack taught at the first AIM higher level pastor training institution: Scott Theological College. Roger established the Christian Education Department of the A.I.C. and assisted with the formation of Scott. Both Joyce and Geri served on the faculty. Jack had crashed in his Navy F4U corsair gull-winged fighter shortly after WWII and lost both legs above the knee. When they applied to AIM to teach at Scott their application said we hesitate to accept anyone over 30 with any disability and more than one child—Jack was 37 and they had 4 children—times were changing with the onset of air travel and institutions. After both their spouses died, Roger and Geri were married in 1993 and settled down at Media. They enjoy visiting their 7 children and 21 grandchildren and 3 great-grands so far.



### Judy Newman



Judy Cooke Newman grew up in northern New Jersey and attended Paterson State Teachers College and Moody Bible Institute. She joined AIM in 1959 and arrived at Kijabe, Kenya in 1961. For the next 20 plus years she taught 1st & 2nd grade at Rift Valley Academy (school for missionary children). She was also involved in teaching the Bible hour in nearby Kenyan schools. In 1987 Judy and Walter Newman married, and together served in the Comoro Islands for one year where Walter set up the dental ministry. Upon return to the USA resided in Hawthorne, NJ. Walter went home to be with the Lord in January 2000. Judy came to live at Media in December 2000 and has been involved in Mailbox Correspondence Course ministry.

## SCOTT HOME UPDATE

### MEDIA WISH LIST

The new building is nearly completed and for this we praise God. Residents who plan to move in are "downsizing" and eagerly looking forward to that transition. Anticipation is in the air as we look forward to using the large central room for special meals and meetings. There are some furnishings needed to make this a reality. Would you like to be a part of making this come true?

Here are a few things on our "Wish List" to which you may want to make a contribution:

- Tables
- Chairs
- Piano
- Decorations
- Kitchen supplies



If you or your family or small group or other church group would be interested please contact the Media Office for information.

### We Are Grateful for:

- LOWES who donated rockers, tables and plants for the front of Scott Home, which are now being enjoyed by many.



- Betty Cardel and Lois Low, who have given of their time and resources to decorate a couple of the homes.



### MISSIONARY MUSINGS

#### Five Beggar Boys

It was at Adams Arcade (shopping area in Nairobi) where I saw them. They stood cautiously in the distance wondering whether they should ask this Mzungu (white man) for some money. Before they could ask, I called to them and challenged them to a foot race. I can run faster than you can! They looked at each other and replied, No, you can't. We can beat you! So we went to the bottom of the ramp & started. Well, you can imagine who won the race and these boys were so proud that they ran faster than the white man and were happier than if I had given them some money! P. Beverly

