



MPI UPDATE

Keeping you informed. [Mission Projects, Inc](http://www.missionprojects.org)

March-June 2006

Website:
www.tagnet.org/mpi

MAILING & DONATIONS

Mel & June Anderson

Bozeman, MT
406-587-2969

NEWSLETTER

Beverly Christensen

Castle Valley, UT
435-259-5683
redrockbev@yahoo.com

FRIENDS OF MPI:

The following persons were elected into office by the MPI board:

President:

Ed MacKenzie

Vice President:

Loraine Hamilton

Vice President:

Gary Andregg

Treasurer:

Jerry Harris

Communications:

Fred Adams

Lay Workers TINY CHILDREN WITNESS FOR JESUS

By Fred Adams

Note: The experience below is a continuation of Genaro Oliva's story in the previous issue of the MPI Update. The original format has been retained, as it appeared in the MPI Newsletter in 1992.



Janet & Genaro Jr.

Adventist layman Genaro Oliva lives in a small dwelling with his wife and eight children in the mountains of Chiapas, Mexico. Genaro has dedicated his life to full-time evangelism, and his older sons often accompany him in his work. One morning as the family sat down for their breakfast of beans and tortillas, they noticed that four-year-old Genaro Jr. and six-year-old Janet were missing.

A few minutes later the children appeared, and much to the surprise of their parents, they had been visiting the home of an unbelieving family down the street. For many months this family had rejected the Gospel, yet these two children decided to follow the example of their daddy and share their faith with them. The family felt touched by the testimony of these tiny →

PRESIDENT

Ed & Ruth Mackenzie
Yakima, WA
509-965-0385
ermk43@yahoo.com

VICE PRESIDENTS

Gary & Karen Andregg
Hope, ID
208-264-5487
gkandregg@yahoo.com

Eddie & Lorraine Hamilton

Salmon, ID
208-756-4432

TREASURER

Jerry & Wendy Harris
Castle Valley, UT
435-259-5987
missionprojects@frontiernet.net

COMMUNICATIONS

Fred & Diana Adams
Placerville, CA
530-642-9441
800-905-5674
fdadams@directcon.net

HUICHOL PROJECT

Karen Kotoske
Palo Alto, CA
650-328-1737
amistadgdl@hotmail.com

Dagoberto Cirilo
Guadalajara, Mexico
amistadgdl@hotmail.com

MPI MEMBERS:

We consider *each and every person* who supports us with your prayers and/or contributions to be a part of the MPI family as well!

children, and accepted Bible studies from Genaro.

After this experience, Genaro Jr. and Janet continue telling others about Jesus. They like to visit homes early in the morning before the families leave to work in the fields. Upon entering a home, Genaro Jr. prays silently while six-year-old Janet tells the family how much Jesus loves them. *"He wants you to repent of your sins and give your hearts to Him"* she continues. *"Then you can live in heaven with Jesus when He comes."* The testimony is short, but it leaves a strong impression upon the listeners! Even though she cannot read, Janet holds an opened Bible as she speaks. Genaro Jr. finishes with a prayer, and the children ask if the family would like their daddy to study the Bible with them.

At least one family that was initially visited by these children is now receiving Bible studies from their dad Genaro, and the parents plan to be baptized in the near future.

If God can use these small children to lead families to salvation, He can certainly use any of the rest of us who are willing to do what we can!

Note: Genaro and his family eventually moved to another area, and are no longer sponsored through MPI. I've been out of touch with them for many years, but look forward to the day when we can meet in Heaven and see the results of the seeds that have been planted

through the united efforts of MPI donors and workers on the front lines - such as these precious little children.

~ Fred Adams ~

Worthy Student Aid

Dear MPI Friends,

It is a pleasure for me to greet you and congratulate you on such a good and noble work in benefit of some of us that yearn to come out ahead but whose economic situation does not permit us to do so.

I grew up in a small town in south Mexico and completed high school. Finishing there, I opted to go to college, but without economic resources, since my mother could only give my siblings and me food and a roof over our heads. I went to the city of Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Chiapas, where I found a college and a job as a cashier in a self-service shop. This helped me sustain my studies and help my family at home. But only a few months passed when I had an electrical accident, and as a result, they amputated a third of my left arm and part of my right leg.

Because of what happened, I lost my job and could not continue at that college. My family didn't know how to help me recover, and caused more injuries to me. I became very depressed and tried to kill myself. An Adventist family heard of my condition and begged me to come to Linda Vista, where I chose Education as my major, specializing in Physics and Mathematics.

Even though I am still not an Adventist, coming to this institution has been a great blessing. Now I am in the fourth semester of my studies, but because of my condition I cannot work normally and my mom has no money. For this semester, I was going to go home for a lack of resources, but thanks to God and your help, I believe that I will be able to finish my studies.



Flor Fulgencio



Worthy Student Conclusion:

I want to finish my degree to show myself that everything is not over for me. I want to support my mom economically and I want to walk with Jesus. May God bless you all and thank you for your support.

With Appreciation, *Flor Fulgencio*

Note: Flor attended Week of Prayer meetings at Linda Vista and was baptized shortly before press-time. She needs prosthetic limbs so she can live a life closer to normal.

MPI Elects New President

Reflections From Recent Board Meeting

As the new President, I would like to personally thank Karen and Gary Andregg for their many years of dedicated service on behalf of Mission Pro-



Ed And Ruth MacKenzie

jects, Inc. Gary has served as our President for over ten years. Karen noted that they would like to spend more time with their grandchildren. The Andreggs have agreed to continue serving as Vice Presidents. We look forward to working with both of them for many more years to come.



Fred Adams' presented the Lay Workers reports. As usual, Fred shared thrilling reports from both our Lay Workers and needy Students. If we did not know better, we would think that Fred was personally in the field working side by side with these dedicated individuals.

Every year MPI receives new requests for additional Lay Workers and for Bibles and literature, to build and to roof churches and schools. There are always more requests than we are able to fill. Yet somehow in our small humble way the work advances. Men, women and youth are won to Jesus. New groups of believers spring up here and there. Annual baptisms run between 450 and 600. We praise God for each miracle. Each one is precious in his sight!

This year La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital teamed up with Mission Projects, Inc. to hold a couple of campaigns. The Hospital Chaplain, Collet Montejo, held a series in Belize City. Ruth and I held another in the Spanish Village of Buena Vista. We reported our experience in a previous newsletter. I visited the Buena Vista Church the first Sabbath after my return to Belize in January. I was pleasantly surprised when seven more individuals were baptized that day, bringing the total baptisms to twenty-four.

As I write, students from DayStar Academy are returning from Belize. The students conducted a follow-up campaign at Buena Vista. They worked with one of our Belizean Lay Workers, Joel Recinos. Joel and his wife were baptized in 2003.

The Buena Vista Church is full to overflowing. MPI sponsored this Church about ten years ago. The footings for an addition have been laid. If you feel impressed to help with this project, please mark your gift: *Buena Vista Church, Belize*. Thank you.

God is good!

The MacKenzies travel internationally conducting Lay Evangelism Campaigns. Ed is a retired CPA and has spent a lot of time over the last three years at La Loma Luz Hospital, developing and overseeing the Hospital's accounting system.

Huichol Indians

Persecuted Huichol Will Become Fishers of Men and Fish!

By Karen Kotoske

We are grateful to God that He is opening the way for the forty-six Huichol persecuted Adventists who have been living at the SDA campgrounds south of Guadalajara since being cast out of their homelands in the Sierra Madres Mountains of Mexico last August.

The friendly pueblo of Aguas Milpas, which is near the mountains where they once lived, has donated over 200 acres to these brethren where they will be able to live in religious freedom. The land, accessible only by boat, is situated 25 miles up the lake on a barren hillside above a large hydro electric reservoir.

The residents of Aguas Milpas who are donating the land to our brethren are fishermen (we are told this lake has the best bass fishing in all of Mexico).

American sports fishermen come here and so we believe the Adventist families too will become fisherman as well as grow corn. The challenge now is to help them to build simple homes and a church.

But the first priority is finding two boats for them, one for transport and one for fishing: A small one, like 10' to 12" like a flat bottom Jon boat for fishing, and a 21' with a good motor for transporting goods and people.

God is so good. We thank MPI donors who raised \$3,500 for these dispossessed and faithful Huichol. There is more to do, but we know God will provide.



La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital Gains New Administrator

By Ed MacKenzie

Grant and Ardis McPherson, and Friend

Mission Projects Inc. and La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital join in welcoming the McPhersons to Belize as Grant takes up his new responsibilities as the Hospital Administrator.

Ardis and Grant first visited the Hospital in November of last year. The McPhersons wanted to see the Hospital for themselves before deciding if this was where the Lord wanted them. From the moment they stepped on the campus, they both felt impressed that this was indeed the place where the Lord wanted them to be. It was hard for Grant to leave aging parents in the College Place, Washington area.

It has been a joy to become acquainted with the McPhersons and to share our vision for the future of the Hospital with them. We look forward to working with the McPhersons for many years to come. While the Hospital presents many challenges, the McPhersons recognize that these challenges also represent opportunities.

The McPhersons ask for your prayers as they step out in faith to take up their responsibilities. We pray that the Lord will be their guide, that the Holy Spirit will give them wisdom and patience each day and that they may be a blessing to the Hospital and to those who walk through our doors.

Please see Grant's report located elsewhere in this issue.

Africa Lay Workers

By Steve Grabiner

Devil Worshipers Delivered!

In the Eastern province of Zambia, there was a pair of twin sisters. Not so unusual, except that this pair of sisters were both involved in a 'spirit church.' That is a church, that is, for demon possessed people. Both women were involved in devil worship. They had many charms and materials used in their spirit worship. They had followed the demons for many years.

Then, one of the local elders began to visit and work with these twins. He shared with them many truths from Scripture. He unfolded to them the love of Christ, and Christ's victory over the power of evil. They felt drawn to Christ, yet also drawn back to the ways of the demons. The local elder brought them to one of our Bible workers, Bob Muparuri.

Bob visited with them many times. During a campmeeting, they came and he asked if they truly wanted to be free from the demons and to worship Christ. He asked if they had any materials left from their demon worship and they said yes. He told them to bring all the items so that they could be burned. They brought them all. In the midst of a small group of praying believers the materials were consumed by fire.

As the group prayed, both women, at the same time lifted their hands, and cried out. Soon the women were rejoicing to follow their Savior. This happened many months ago, and the spiritual growth of the women has followed. They have both since been baptized and are faithful members of the church today.

Despite the many years of giving their service to Satan, they now rejoice in using their last remaining years in service to Christ.

Africa Lay Workers

Making a Friend for Eternity

Leonard Chiinda has been a Bible worker for Riverside for almost nine years. During that time he conducted many evangelistic series and translated for many others.

Recently he conducted a series of meetings in a remote village. Before doing so, he decided that he would spend some time simply making friends there. While visiting, he heard of an old man who was very indifferent to spiritual matters. More than indifferent, he frequently opposed his own children and fought their desire to go to church. The children would secretly go to church meetings and when he discovered this he would deny them food. Despite the hardships, they would continue to attend church.

Upon arriving in the village, Chiinda decided that he would try and visit this man. He began a friendship with him. When the evangelistic series started, this man was the very first student to come to an afternoon Bible study. As the studies progressed, the man joined the baptismal class. Soon he stopped smoking, and felt convicted that he should not continue living with two wives.

He ultimately decided to divorce his second wife. At the end of the meetings, this man who had been so opposed to Christianity for many years made a full surrender. He gave himself to Christ in baptism. A special joy for Chiinda was to see that the divorced wife also accepted Christ and was one of 76 people who were baptized.



Riverside Farms continues to serve the community through training, evangelizing, and outreach programs such as a new life-style center in the making.



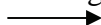
La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital Administrator's Corner

By Grant McPherson

Since this is my first communication with you, let me start by saying that my wife Ardis and I are really excited about the opportunity to join the team here at LLL. We want to thank the board members of MPI for allowing us to have this experience. It had been a dream of ours to serve as missionaries for the Lord's work for nearly thirty-five years.

On Tuesday, February 14, 2006, we arrived in Belize after driving five thousand miles from the Walla Walla Valley, located in Washington. We were able to visit with family members along the way, and after waiting three days for our papers to be approved, crossed over into Mexico and then on to Belize. As we drove the last eighty miles we knew that our driving adventure was coming to an end. The next two weeks were spent clearing customs, unloading our sixteen foot cargo trailer and starting all of the dozens of steps to obtain proper immigration documents.

Ardis and I have moved on several occasions, but until you make an international move you have not really moved. We look back at it with smiles on faces and happy thoughts in our minds as we saw how the Lord was leading,



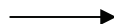
even when we made wrong turns, and dumb immigration mistakes. So many times we in North America judge the rest of the world by our way of doing things.

I would just share a thought that both in Mexico and Belize the local people have been wonderful and gracious. We did face a number of governmental issues in Mexico, but they are behind us and we look forward to traveling in Mexico again.

Early in March, 2006, DayStar Academy arrived to start a four week long stay. It was a great introduction for us to the many varied mission groups that come to Belize and to LLL to assist with the work in this area. They worked on the expansion of the Seventh-day Adventist church in Buena Vista and held a campaign there. They also were wonderful help with projects at LLL. At the end of the four weeks we had to say goodbye and it was done with a lump in throats because they had become part of our family.

On March 3, 2006, I flew back to the states for the MPI board meeting in of all places, DayStar Academy, Moab, Utah. I had never been to that part of Utah and I was doubly blessed in meeting the MPI board members and to enjoy God's second book, Arches National Park and the surrounding area. I must say though that it was a bit of shock to go from temperatures in the eighties in Belize to being in a major snow storm in eastern Utah. The white snow on the spectacular red rock was just beautiful.

Upon returning to Belize, I only had two days to get back into the saddle, and then a dental team from Loma Linda, California arrived led by Dr. Parks from northern California where he practices. They attended to nearly three hundred young people in just four days. They worked primarily in the village of "Valley of Peace." It is such a beautiful location and its name fits the location so well, but the community is there because of civil strife in other locations and many of these people are actually refugees from about fifteen years



ago, when the United Nations and the government of Belize worked together to provide new homes for about four thousand refugees.

On the last day that the dental team was with us we picked up seventy-one students and sponsors from Spencerville Academy from Maryland. They participated in many activities including a campaign in Bullet Tree, starting construction on a second Seventh-day Adventist church in Bullet Tree, painting the wing at LLL, and their choir singing for local churches and governmental officers. That large of a group presented many challenges, but the young people were cooperative and the sponsors were well organized.

Included within the group was Jim Lanning, ADRA Director for Acquisitions. In preparation for this trip, ADRA had sent two containers of medical and relief supplies for the benefit of the people of Belize. It was a wonderful experience to be a part of the distribution process that happened over the next several days. Nearly two weeks after the team returned to the states we were still able to provide vital medical supplies for both governmental and private clinics.

At the present time we have five young people from the states, in various stages of their medical training, volunteering, and we are using these supplies to supplement their work as they hold clinics in outlying villages in western Belize. We must never forget that our medical work allows us to enter into a relationship with individuals that might not ever happen in any other way. Please remain connected to MPI and to LLL as we look forward to a strong working relationship with ADRA in the future.

There will be much to report in the future, but for now let me share with you that prayer and God's leading is our daily need as we develop this relationship. These past two months have shown Ardis and me how we constantly have to ask for the Lord to lead each day. We ask for your prayers daily, without them we will only be partially successful.



**Seventh-day
Adventist Church
in Buena Vista,
Belize**

**DayStar group pre-
paring ground for
an addition to
church above**



**DayStar Adventist Academy students setting up tent
for evangelistic campaign at Buena Vista**

Memorial Gifts

Unless otherwise specified, your Memorial and Special Occasion gifts are used to purchase literature and other evangelistic materials for use by our laymen.

At Rest

Eastham, Chet

By Lloyd & Coralee Looney

Carter, Bill

By Darald & Darlene Edwards

Finkbiner, Leo

By Arline Finkbiner

Kurtz, Sandy & Milan

By Ruth Wiebold

Locke, David

By Don & Marilyn Locke

Special Needs

Video projectors for Laymen in Mexico	(\$750 each)
Bibles for lay workers in Mexico	(\$1,500 needed)
Church roofs	(\$800.00 each)

Important Notice!

Do you wish to continue receiving the MPI Newsletter?

We are more than glad to keep you on our mailing list if you enjoy reading it. Our purpose is to provide you with a first-hand report of ongoing mission work, giving you the opportunity to pray for and support the projects of your choice. However, there may be some folks whose interests are elsewhere, and these newsletters just get thrown into the trash without being read. We want to be good stewards of the resources God has entrusted us with. Therefore, we will remove the names of those we have not heard from in the past two years. If you have not communicated with us recently, and still wish to continue receiving the MPI Newsletter, please let us know right away!



Go Ye Into All the World

Please return this card with your tax-deductible donation to:
M.P.I. ● P.O. Box 1950 ● Bozeman, MT 59771

Indicate amount donated to each fund

\$ _____	La Loma Luz Hospital (Belize)	_____	Lay Workers in Africa
_____	Huichol Evangelism Work	_____	Lay Workers in Mexico
_____	Spanish Literature	_____	Lacandón Indian Project
_____	San Lorenzo Needs	_____	Church Roofs
_____	Worthy Student Fund	_____	Use where most needed
_____	Bibles for Mexico	_____	Other _____

We encourage you to support your local church with your tithes & offerings also.

I'd like to make my gift by charge card: Visa Mastercard

Card # _____ - _____ - _____ Exp. Date: ____/____

Name _____ Signature _____

Address _____

Worthy Student

Your contributions to the Worthy Student Fund are making a big difference. Since we are unable to feature each of the dozens of students needing aid, MPI prefers that donors give to the Student Aid fund rather than to a specific student, in order to assist as many as possible. Thanks! ~ Fred Adams

INSIDE:

Twin Sisters Delivered From Devil Worship



Mission Projects, Inc.

P.O. Box 1950

Bozeman, MT

59771

Non-Profit Organization

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