

The

# Connection

twr alumni newsletter

August 2007

## ALUMNI PROJECT CHOSEN FOR 2007: *ALA'S DIARY*

The project selected by alumni voters for the rest of 2007 is the Arabic program *Ala's Diary* for youth in the Middle East. Please prayerfully consider how God might use you to assist in this project. The following information about *Ala's Diary* was prepared for us by Marion Welch:

### THE NEED:

Youth make up almost 50 percent of the Arab population in the Middle East. Today, these young people are faced with greater and more difficult challenges than ever before. They are being exposed to the media and other forms of modernization, and they have many questions and needs. These young people need someone to understand them—a friend with whom they can speak openly about their worries. Most of all, they need to hear a clear presentation of the gospel in a way that will lead them into a life-changing experience with the Savior.

### THE VISION:

Radio represents one of the few ways to reach Arab youth with the gospel in the privacy of their own homes. Trans World Radio's Arabic youth program, *Ala's Diary*, began airing in April 2003. The weekly 15-minute program is broadcast from a strategic transmitting location in the Middle East. It appeals to the younger generation through drama that combines dialogue and music in a modern, attractive way. The drama starts with a problem, presents the cause and its effects, and then suggests solutions. Many of the challenges faced by young people are presented: puberty, love, anger, and more—all from a biblical point of view.

The program's effectiveness is demonstrated by the number of letters and e-mails received. Approximately 50 responses arrive at TWR's Middle Eastern offices each month. In addition to the broadcasts, the program has its own website: [www.aladiary.com](http://www.aladiary.com). For more information or updates, you can log on to this website.



Here is a letter from a youth in Jordan who listens to the program:

*"My name is Kais, and I've been listening to Ala's Diary for a while now. I really want to experience the different life you talked about. I've been trying to win that life but, unfortunately, (it's) no use! I wish you could be my help, not like the others who just repeat traditional words. I really need your help to get the chance to live this special life."*

Gifts should be sent to: TWR, Alumni Project, PO Box 8700, Cary, NC, 27512-8700. Please also make a notation that you are giving as a part of the Alumni Project. This will enable us to know how much we have contributed. Also, if you would like to help cover the costs of our alumni organization, please know that your gift will be matched by TWR.



## ALUMNI BOARD NOMINEES

It is time to select nominees for the Alumni Board for November 2007 until Fall 2008. Here are some guidelines:

- Be sure to ask the person whom you are nominating if he/she is willing to serve.
- Please include a paragraph about this person indicating your reasons for the nomination and giving some background that will help the alumni in their voting.
- Our annual Alumni Board meetings are in October or November in Cary, NC. Be sure the candidate is willing to attend, not counting unforeseen circumstances.
- We need members with positive attitudes and a strong interest in the ongoing ministry of TWR.
- You may nominate yourself.

We will be voting for three board members. The terms of the following board members will be ending, and they have requested not to be on the nomination list this time:

Duane and Millie Gow  
John and Ann Polloni  
Chuck and Barb Roswell

Couples are able to serve together, so will be voted on as one unit. Please send your nominations to Skip Britton at [skipbritton@earthlink.net](mailto:skipbritton@earthlink.net) by August 26.

## ALUMNI DIRECTORY 2008

The Alumni Board in agreement with Kris Carraway voted to publish an Alumni Directory in 2008. We are aware that there were some errors in our previous edition and also that there have been changes in many of the lives of our alumni, making updated information necessary.

To be able to accomplish this enormous task, we need your help as soon as possible. If you have not done so in the last six months, please send any changes in your information to Denny Milgate, Ann Polloni or Skip Britton. Please give us only the information that you are willing to have published in the directory. For example, if you do not want your phone number listed, then please do not include it in the information you send.

We would appreciate receiving information concerning Missionary Kids. Some of their friends may enjoy contacting them or knowing about them. Please check first with your family before sending their information. Please tell MKs that they can be included in the directory, but we are including only those who are 18 years old and over. It would be helpful to mention where they lived when their parents were serving with TWR.

### ON THE BULLETIN BOARD: ARIZONA TWR ALUMNI REUNION

Sunday, August 19, there will be an Arizona TWR Alumni Reunion at the home of Stan and Karen Hustad, in Tucson, AZ. The event will begin at 1 p.m. with a lunch provided by the Hustads. Please contact Karen at [karenhustad@aol.com](mailto:karenhustad@aol.com) for details and to let them know if you plan to attend. This will be a great time for fellowship. You are invited if you are a retiree, an MK, or have served in any capacity with TWR.

## OBITUARIES

*Prepared by Chuck Roswell and Susie Milgate*

It has been suggested that we include an obituary column for the friends and colleagues who have passed away. This issue mentions those who have died in the last eight months. Our sincere condolences to their families. We welcome your help in notifying us of other TWR alumni homegoings we may have missed.

### **Thelma Muller**

*Homegoing: November 25, 2006, at age 82*

Thelma and Dick Mueller served on Bonaire from 1965-68. Dick is retired and lives in Oak Ridge, TN. His email address is [rcmuller@bellsouth.net](mailto:rcmuller@bellsouth.net).

### **Janny Van der Steen**

*Homegoing: January 19, 2007*

Janny and Hans served with TWR since the founding of TWR-Netherlands on Sept. 1, 1965 in Baarn, Holland. The office was in a small bedroom and the studio was in their attic. The studio was furnished with equipment donated by Philips, where Hans worked as an engineer until 1965. At that time, there was no evangelical broadcasting in Holland. Janny took part in the production and presentation of a weekly children's program. In 1984, they moved to Monte Carlo, where Hans served as Studio Manager until 1986. After returning to Holland, Hans was involved in program scheduling, teaching radio production and producing programs for local radio stations. Janny and Hans retired in 1995, but still served as volunteers, to promote TWR in the Netherlands. Janny is survived by her husband Hans, who lives in Baarn, Holland, as well as four children and seven grandchildren. Hans Van der Steen can be reached at [hvdsteen@planet.nl](mailto:hvdsteen@planet.nl).

### **Margaret Reeder**

*Homegoing: January 2007*

Margaret was the wife of John Reeder, former Director of TWR-Australia. He is currently Director of CSN Australia and interim pastor of his church of 60 members. A memorial service for Margaret was held in Blackburn, Victoria, Australia on January 25, 2007, with some 420 people attending. She is survived by her husband John Reeder. His address is 5/6-8 Rosslyn St., Blackburn, Victoria 3130 Australia.

### **Dr. Henk Welvaart**

*Homegoing: February 21, 2007*

Dr. Welvaart was a medical doctor to many TWR families on Bonaire. He later retired as a doctor and became Bonaire's Justice. He is survived by his wife Irene Welvaart who lives at #24 Punt Vierkantweg, Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles.

### **Mary Kennedy**

*Homegoing: March 28, 2007*

Mary and Dick Kennedy served with TWR on Bonaire. Dick would like for memorial gifts to be sent to the Mary K. Kennedy Memorial, Ashville Pregnancy Support Services, 947 Haywood Road, PO Box 6116, Asheville, NC 28816. Please contact him for more information. Dick's e-mail address is [r.l.kennedy@charter.net](mailto:r.l.kennedy@charter.net).

## **Rev. D. Andrew MacDonald**

*Homegoing: July 12, 2007*

Andrew and Barbara MacDonald started service with TWR in 1977, and in the following year were stationed in Cape Town, South Africa, recording interviews, programs and church services. From 1979 to 1992, the family lived in Manzini, Swaziland, where Andrew held the positions of Program Director and, later, Director of Ministry Development. Andrew was transferred to Johannesburg, South Africa in January 1993 where he opened up the new Africa Regional Office. He served as Director of Ministry for Africa until July 1995, when he was appointed a consultant to TWR-Africa, a position he held until the Lord called him home. He is survived by his wife, Barbara, their three sons and their wives, and five grandchildren.

*(Facts gathered from an article written by family members and sent out on the Alumni.net.)*

**Reverend Stephen Boakye-Yiadom**, TWR International Director for Africa, died unexpectedly on Saturday, June 2, 2007. Stephen was resting at home on Saturday when, at approximately 4 p.m., he was called home to be with the Lord. He was 63.

Stephen, originally from Ghana, Africa, served with TWR faithfully since September 1975, when he joined TWR's German partner, ERF, as an intern. In 1976 he went to Nairobi, Kenya, as an ERF missionary to establish a new office and production center in the country. Within a few years, he was appointed as TWR's General Secretary for Africa, and in 1992, he was elected to direct TWR's Africa region from Johannesburg, South Africa.

"Stephen was more than a pastor and leader," said Ray Alary, Human Resources Director of TWR-Africa. "He was our friend, who showed his care and love to each of us who worked with him. Stephen always told us that we were not simply a group of people working together who used radio as a tool to share the gospel. He would tell us that we were a family, and he showed this every day in the way he acted and lived out his life."



A memorial service was held at the Kempton Park Methodist Church on Thursday, June 7. David Tucker also made this an International Day of Prayer for the Africa region, TWR-Africa staff and the Boakye-Yiadom family. Stephen is survived by his wife, Grace, their son, Akwasi, and their daughters, Herta, Hanna and Akosua. Please uphold them in your prayers.

*"The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want..*

*He makes me lie down in green pastures,  
he leads me beside quiet waters...*

*Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,*

*I will fear no evil, for you are with me..." Ps. 23:1-4*



### **CONTACTS AT TWR'S CARY OFFICE**

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HUMAN RESOURCES: Kris Carraway-Director of Human Resources (email: [kcarraway@twr.org](mailto:kcarraway@twr.org); ext. 3786)  
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