

# The Beam

ARMS Christian  
Fellowship Group



Al Heath, AC5OA, SK, page 9

Volume 48, Number 1

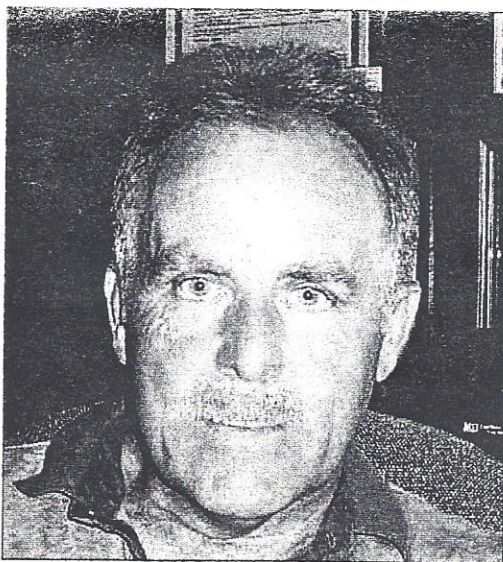
Spring, 2004

## Meet your new officers— ARMS Vice-president Mike Rafferty, K7PTL

What a blessing it is to hear the check-ins all over the country for the ARMS Net. I began checking into the net in 1979 and have enjoyed it the whole way. The net control station was Emil, W7FQ, in Grants Pass, Oregon.

I was born in Kalispell, Montana, on August 27, 1949. My dad took a job punching cows near Bozeman, and I started school in Manhattan. The teachers did the best they could with me until we moved to Missoula in 1960.

Dad was a radio operator with the Marine Corps in WWII



and never lost his touch with a key. He enjoyed sitting alongside a receiver as a short wave listener, so I believe that was my first exposure to the world of radio operation. I was the first in the family to

get a ham ticket, but Dad wasn't far behind. Mom got her license, as did my wife, Mary, (K3PTL), each of my two brothers and our son (NØPHD) and his wife. I also worked with, "Elmered," our pastor and his wife as well as two

—Continued on page 3—K7PTL

## From the editor's desk: Looking for a new editor



For the past 11 years I have enjoyed being the editor of *The Beam*. However, several recent events have caused me to take a close look at my involvement with ARMS and to consider some changes. But first let me give you some background.

My wife, Wealthy, suffers from a rare disease called Sjögren's syndrome. It results from an over-active immune system, and there is no cure for it. The only long-term treatment involves suppressing the immune system. Sjögren's has affected her in several ways, including no saliva or tears, partial loss of hearing and a peripheral neuropathy in her legs and feet, causing numbness, tingling, burning, aching and general loss of mobility. More than once she has

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# The Beam

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95 Prawn Road, Port Angeles, WA 98363  
E-mail: [dshortess@tenforward.com](mailto:dshortess@tenforward.com)  
Web site: [my.tenforward.com/arms](http://my.tenforward.com/arms)

Editor ..... Dave Shortess, W7PTL  
Tape Editor ..... Denis Parker, WD4ACH

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## ARMS Christian Fellowship Nets

Eastern .. Mon. & Thurs., 7:00 a.m., Sat., 9:00 a.m. 3.907 MHz  
Southeast ..... Sat., 9:00 a.m. 3.900 MHz  
Midwest ..... Sat., 8:30 a.m. 3.905 MHz  
South Central ..... Sat., 8:00 a.m. (Central time) 7.2265 Mhz  
Rocky Mountain ..... Mon.-Sat., 7:00 a.m. 3.893 MHz  
Northwest ..... Thurs., 7:00 a.m. 3.984 MHz  
20-Meter ..... Mon.-Sat. 1500 Z (ST), 1400 Z (DT)  
(10:00 East., 9:00 Ctr., 8:00 Mtn., 7:00 Pac.).. 14.3075 MHz  
Halo Net ..... Every day, 1800 Z... 21.390 MHz



## ARMS Motto

*Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.*  
Galatians 6:10 (NIV)

*Continued from page 1—Editor*

been confined to a wheelchair or to the use of a walker.

Several medications can be used to suppress the immune system, including chemotherapy drugs. She has been on prednisone for about seven or eight years. This is a rather potent steroid which, in the long term, can have some serious side effects. However, a person cannot stop this drug “cold turkey” but must be “weaned” off of it over a long period of time. Last year Wealthy’s doctor attempted to do just that over a period of 10 months. By the eighth month her immune system went on a rampage, virtually disabling her. Massive infusions of prednisone brought her back, but the doctor was determined to get her off of it, or at least reduce the dosage. On the first of January of this year the doctor started her on another immunosuppressor, methotrexate, gradually increasing its dosage while reducing the prednisone.

By early February we began noticing some delusions and confusion in Wealthy’s thinking, and by the middle of the month it had developed into full scale dementia. The doctor immediately stopped the methotrexate and put her back on the earlier level of prednisone. However, as the dementia deepened, Wealthy went into a coma for about nine hours and spent eight days in the hospital while they tried to figure out exactly what was going on. Exhaustive tests all turned out normal, so the conclusion was that it was the medication. She is now on an anti-psychotic medication, and that has slowly brought her mind back to normal. However, the doctor said there is no guarantee that the dementia will not return sometime. Also, the neuropathy is still affecting her legs and feet, although she seems to be getting some of her strength back.

I say all of this for two reasons. First, I wanted to explain what was going on with Wealthy and why I was out of circulation for most of February and early March. We want to thank all those of you who have been praying and sending along their expressions of concern and comfort during this very trying time. Second, as I said above, all of this has

*—Continued on page 4—Editor*

*The Beam* is published twice a year to provide information and inspiration for the members of the ARMS Christian Fellowship Group. To submit material for *The Beam*, contact the editor, Dave Shortess, W7PTL, at 95 Prawn Rd., Port Angeles, WA 98363, or [dshortess@tenforward.com](mailto:dshortess@tenforward.com). (E-mail submission is preferred.) Deadlines are 3/15 and 9/15.

Regular membership in ARMS is open to any licensed radio amateur who can subscribe to the ARMS doctrinal statement. Further information about membership in ARMS can be obtained by checking the ARMS web site, at [my.tenforward.com/arms](http://my.tenforward.com/arms), or from the secretary-treasurer, Ora Gifford, KE7BF, 708 Hillcrest, Grandview, WA 98930.

Annual dues for membership in ARMS are \$8.00. Active missionaries are exempt. The dues year runs from June 1 through May 31.

**Check out our ARMS web site:**  
**[my.tenforward.com/arms](http://my.tenforward.com/arms)**



other couples in our church here in Pennsylvania.

After a couple years at the University of Montana, I enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1969 and went through boot camp in San Diego. Fun and memorable times! I heard a fellow describe Navy boot camp one time, including the comment that during the 4th week you undergo the "classification" process. He said, "That is when they tell you what you want to do during your years as a sailor." I "aced" the Morse code test during classification time so they told me I wanted to be a Sonar Technician.

I learned all about the work of a sonarman over the course of several months including troubleshooting the electronic equipment associated with the "surface" sonars (not submarine) as well as ASW operations (Anti Submarine Warfare). I spent the next five years on board the USS Towers (DDG-9). It was a guided missile destroyer that was home to 350 officers and men with a length of 437 feet and width of 47 feet. It was similar to the USS Cole which you heard news of regarding the terrorist attack a few years ago in Yemen.

The Lord began to nudge me by His Holy Spirit during some of those long tours at sea in the middle of the Pacific and along the gun line off the Viet Nam coast. Simply put, I knew there was more to life than what I had experienced and also sensed it was of a spiritual nature. I had never attended a church service in my life and knew nothing of the Bible, but I knew I would have to talk with God to gain some kind of understanding. I also figured praying would be the way to do that but knew nothing about that either. A shipmate of mine gave me a small tract on how to pray. That, along with a few visits to churches in southern California, was used to steer my attention toward the truths of God and His saving grace. Mary and I were married and our son, Travis, was born while we lived

in San Diego.

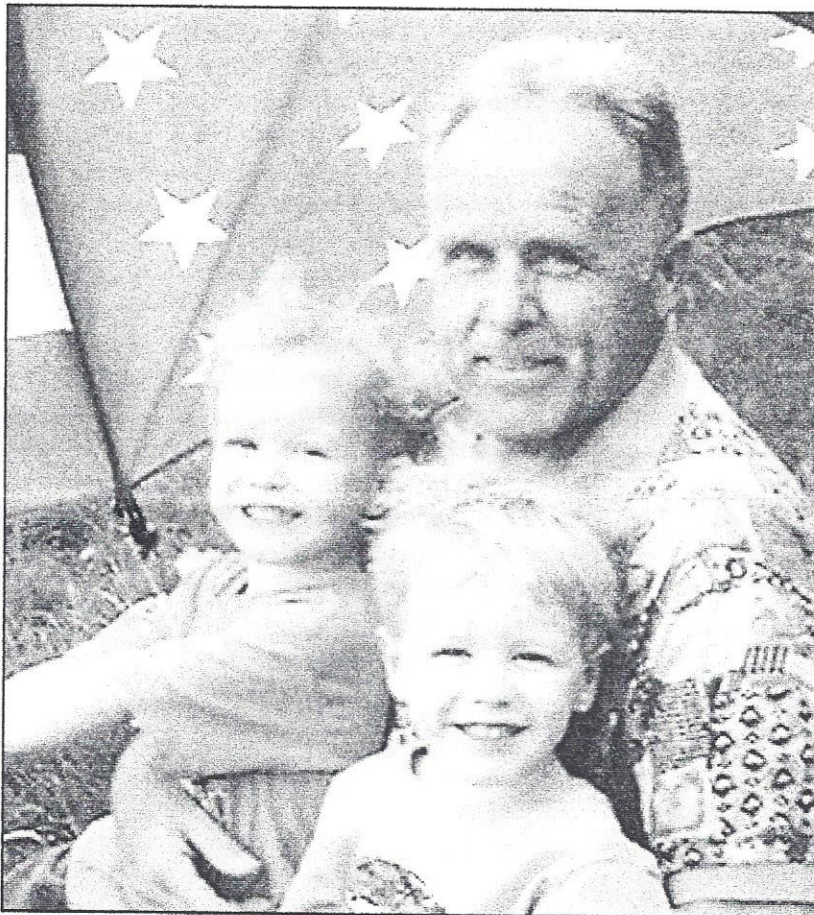
After separation from Uncle Sam's yacht club, I began flying in Missoula. Flight instructing and ground instructing kept me quite busy for a couple years before we packed up and moved to the north-central Montana town of Chester. I was a crop duster for an outfit that worked the wheat fields in that part of the country along the Canadian border. It was during that big life style change that the Lord got my attention. In a small church I surrendered my life to Christ, as did Mary. We eventually moved to Great Falls, Montana, where I flew the air mail contracts around the state during the middle of the night. You get a good education in the cockpit when you fly five nights a week—all year long—in all kinds of weather.

We later moved to Denver, Colorado where I flew UPS freight in old Convair 440's during the night and was later hired at Continental Airlines.

I have been very active in various ministries over the years, especially as a teacher and discipler/counselor. That has continued since our move to Easton, Pennsylvania in November of 1994, including a call to preach occasionally. I am in a state of continual preparation for a message or Bible study lesson it seems. That is how I spend most of my time on over-nights in cities around the world. As you might know, I now fly the Boeing 757 and 767 to cities in North/Central/

South America, the Caribbean and to Europe as well as Hawaii. I have flown as a flight engineer on the DC-10, and flew the DC-9, MD-80, B-737 and B-727's over the years.

I also enjoy playing guitar—either the acoustic 12-string or my cherished Les Paul Gibson electric. I've joked with Mary; we would not be living in a style we've become accustomed to if I had to make a living playing guitar, but I do



Mike and his twin grandsons

*—Continued on page 4 — K7PTL*



caused me to reassess my involvement with ARMS.

In addition to editing *The Beam*, I have also been responsible for the ARMS Directory, the ARMS brochure, maintaining the ARMS web site and serving as net control on Mondays for the ARMS 20-Meter Net. When the situation with Wealthy was at its worst, I e-mailed ARMS president, Gerry Brunk, K4RBZ, resigning all of the above positions. However, now that things appear to be returning to some semblance of normalcy, I have had a few second thoughts. I have agreed to take back the Monday net control position, at least until Denis, WD4ACH, is settled in his new house and is able to get back on the air and return as Thursday's net control.

I have been *The Beam* editor for a long time, and I think, in light of my wife's somewhat tenuous health situation, now is a good time to think about a change. As for the editorial responsibilities, gradually I would like to pass them on to others. They wouldn't have to all go to the same person. Right now I gather and edit the articles for *The Beam*, put them together on the computer in their

final format, have them printed at a local printer, stuff the envelopes, maintain a mailing list and print the mailing labels, and mail them out under our bulk mailing permit. Every year or two we put out a directory, and I prepare that from my mailing list database, have it printed and mail it out with *The Beam*. The same is true of the brochure, although we haven't put out a new one for several years. It is overdue. I put together our web site, provided free by my local ISP, using BB Edit Lite. It is rather straightforward with no bells and whistles, just basic information. It needs to be up-dated only occasionally. Obviously, several people could be responsible for these various positions.

I would be happy to have someone volunteer initially to be the assistant editor for an issue or two, during which time I would pass along what I have learned about the job and accumulated over the years. In so doing I would gradually shift the responsibility to the new person, making the transition to the new editor a smooth one.

There are certain qualifications that the new editor would need to have. Primarily, he or she would need to be adept at a computer, have e-mail and have ac-

cess to a desktop publishing program. (I use PageMaker for the Mac, but there are several other good ones out there. Recent versions of *Word* apparently work well.) Also, the editor would need to be active on the ARMS 20-Meter Net on nearly a daily basis in order to stay in touch with the officers, section directors and members at large. If you feel inclined to fill this position, one that is so important to the on-going activities of ARMS, pray about it, and if you feel the Lord's leading, let President Gerry Brunk, K4RBZ, (brunkger@emu.edu) or me (dshortess@tenforward.com) know and we can go from there.

It is with very mixed feelings that I look ahead to stepping down as *The Beam* editor. I have enjoyed many aspects of the work, not the least of which is the many friendships I have developed as a result of the job. I receive newsletters from a number of missionary members and feel a close kinship with them as they do the Lord's work either here or overseas. I feel strongly that ARMS provides a positive, Christian presence on the ham bands. *The Beam* is an important cohesive element for maintaining that presence.

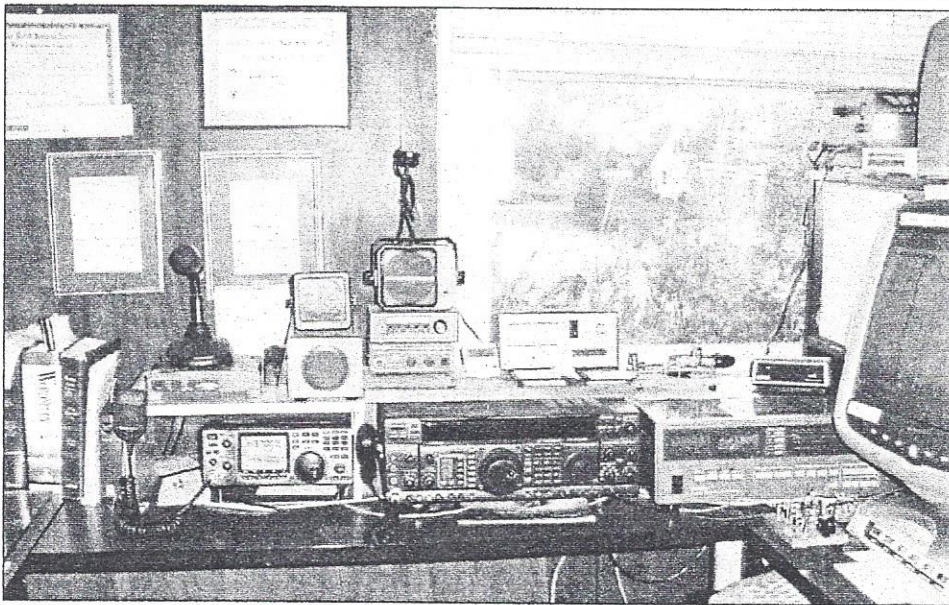
—Dave Shortess, W7PTL

Continued from page 3 — K7PTL

enjoy it. When I have the opportunity at home, I play some blues licks, and I am getting acquainted with my own little digital recording studio which has a 40-gig hard drive and a CD burner. Travis plays the electric bass while I play the guitar during our chorus singing at church on Sundays and other occasions.

I look forward to hearing all of you on the ARMS Net. We have a huge opportunity to reach the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ for all those who are lost and in need of Life! Let's take advantage of the two-hour time slot we enjoy on the 20 meter band by having a renewed vigor given us by His Holy Spirit. Amen!

Serving you in Christ,  
Mike, K7PTL



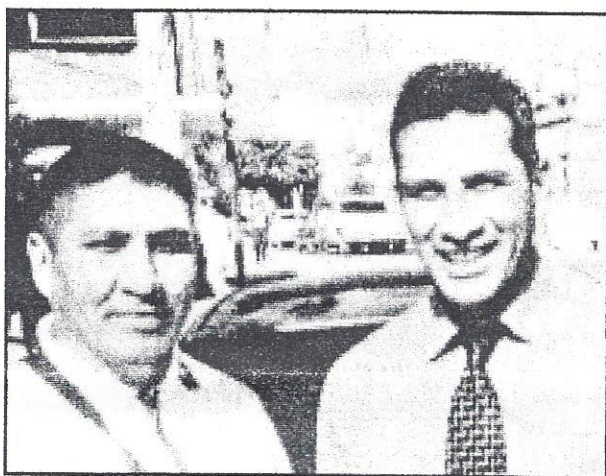
This is a view of Mike's shack, located on the second floor of their home in Easton, Penna. It's a pretty neat layout, but then you would expect that from a pretty neat guy like Mike. That's not too bad a view out the window, either.



# Missionary reports

## Gerald Pieper, XE1MP, Guadalajara, Mexico

Greetings from Guadalajara, Mexico. We continue to make progress on the temple in Ameca (below). I had started on my own putting up furring strips on the temple walls. Not too bad work for



Sergio and Manuel Hernandez

an 84-year-old, but it was slow going. Then, out of the clear blue sky two carpenters showed up for Christmas vaca-

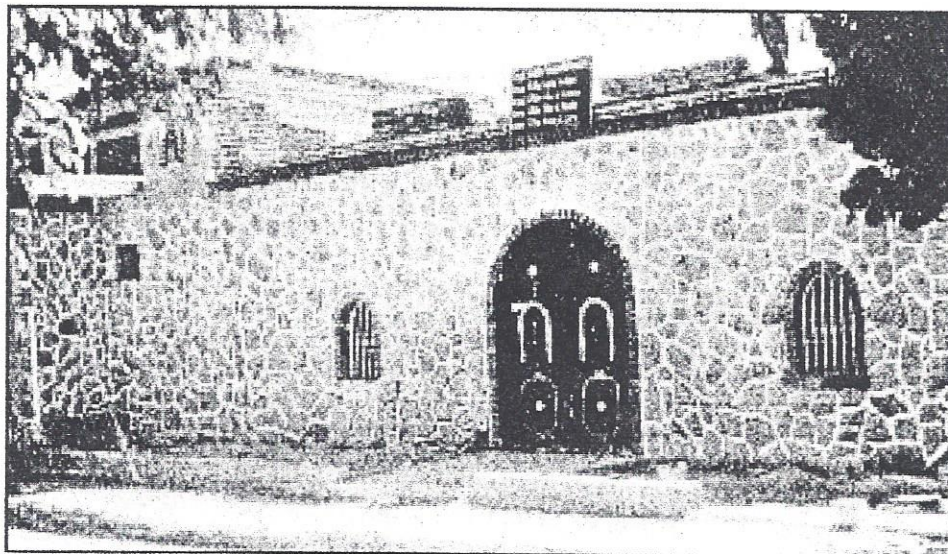
tion. Their names are Sergio and Manuel Hernandez. They were ready to show off their skills as carpenters, so quickly I brought more furring strips and a stack of plywood. I used all my Christmas money on that.

These two carpenters are originally from the Ameca area but now live in Salinas, California. They come down every year for Christmas vacation in Ameca. This is my first time we put them to work. They got about half of the plywood put up. Then they had to return to California. Praise the Lord anyhow!

We don't have one amateur carpenter in the membership here. So yours truly and Pastor William Sierra went to work. In spite of my age I can still do some carpentry. We hope to have all the work done by April.

Then we can have a dedication service. You all are invited to come.

—Gerald Pieper, XE1MP



## Leon Winter, DU/WX6I, SIL, Bagabag, Philippines

What is the LMTTT? In God's wonderful timing, the LMTTT is a new program that will speed the completion of the New Testament and someday the Old Testament as well, for all the peoples of the northern Philippines. The first module of the **Luzon Mother Tongue Translator Training** took place at our Bagabag Center last September. The next of six workshops were held in November.

Several groups were in attendance. Twenty people representing six language groups from the northern Philippines translated Matthew 2:1-12, the Christmas story. The passage was studied, translated, edited and re-edited. The work was then checked by a translation consultant to be sure it was accurate. Photo-ready copies were produced on the last day of the workshop. The Philippine Bible Society agreed to print copies in time for distribution to the churches before Christmas.

Filipinos are training Filipinos to train other Filipinos in Bible translation. Although SIL coordinated the workshop and provided the translation consultants, all the teaching and mentoring was done by Filipino translators who had been trained at earlier SIL workshops.

Please keep this work in your prayers. Especially pray that the newly trained students will be able to come back for the next sessions. What a great and awesome privilege these Filipinos have to bring the whole of the Scriptures to their people. It was our privilege to lend assistance in various ways.

On another front, as you may know, this year Sally began a new position, in addition to teaching grades 3 and 4. The principal of the two schools, one on Mindanao and our school in Bagabag, has gone on furlough. The school on Mindanao is phasing out so

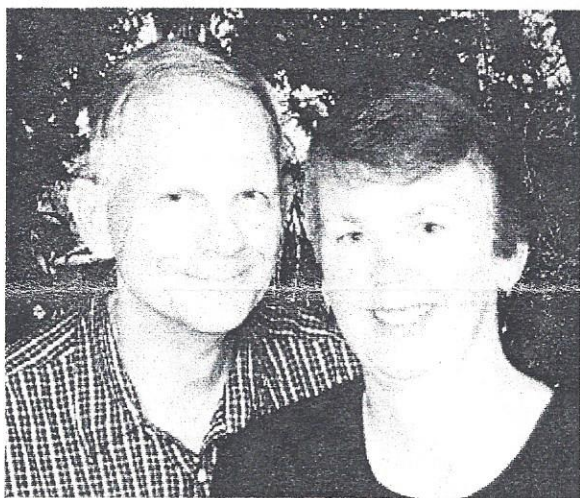
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—Missionary reports continued

the position of principal needed to move to our school. The position fell to her. So, until we return to the US in 2007 for furlough, she has two hats to wear: classroom teacher and school principal.

This year our teaching staff is truly international. Steve Willis is from England and is teaching Science, Social Studies, and Bible for Grades 5-7. He shared the teaching of other subjects with Brigitte Kohler, from Switzerland, and Sue Harman, from the U.S. Brigitte was teaching Math, but, alas, left us in December. She was a great blessing. Sue is a very positive person and taught the Language Arts subjects. Ros Albright, wife of our helicopter pilot,



Leon and Sally Winter

teaches her son in grade 2 part-time. She is Canadian. And Sally, from the U.S., completes the staff. By the way, our students come from five different countries, as well!

I continue my job in the Publications Department, working with computers and communications. I have a wide variety of tasks that keep me extremely busy.

Pray for us as we try to fulfill the roles which we feel God has given us. Pray also for our SIL Center as we begin construction on buildings to become more of a training center. Much is being planned as we seek God's direction.

—Leon Winter, DU2/WX6I, with Sally

## **Dave Newell, WA4DUP, Source of Light Ministries, Madison, Georgia**

It was our privilege, November 14-22, to visit our Discipleship Training Center (Branch) in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, South America. Bruce Homontowski, one of our SLM appointees who acted as our interpreter, and Holly Bryan, a 17-year-old who is volunteering in the Madison office, traveled with us.

We had a good but intense schedule, speaking in nine services, meeting with the SLM Bolivia Advisory Board, and talking with our Bolivian staff in four separate planning sessions.

Bible study lessons, hand-knitted slippers, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and candy were distributed in two orphanages. The dentist just shook his head when he learned that we gave out toothbrushes as well as candy, but we told him the kids never get candy. He understands a little better now! We carried a lot of candy to Bolivia, as well as Gospel tracts, which were also given out.

Two services were conducted inside a prison compound where 2500 people were being confined. Certificates were given to inmates who had completed SLM Bible courses. We handed out bread, candy, and tracts to the adults, and candy and Beanie Babies to the children.

Yes, there were children and mothers living in the prison along with the men. This was in an area (actually a village) where the prison guards would never go.

Our last service was in a remote jungle location south of Santa Cruz. The church was an open-sided, thatched roof structure with slabs of wood for seats. The electricity for the three light bulbs came from a generator we carried with us to the location.

This church was started as a direct re-

sult of the SLM Bible study materials and is pastored by one of the SLM Bolivia Board Members.

This is what SLM International is all about. First there is evangelism, and evangelism leads to discipling. Discipling leads to leadership training, which ultimately leads to church planting. Once a church is planted, the process can begin all over again.

—Dave Newell, WA4DUP

## **Ben Watson, KBØOUC, Source of Light Ministries, Madison, Georgia**

Since our move to Source of Light headquarters here in Madison, Georgia, I have been working on transcribing courses into braille and slowly beginning the transition into the Africa field department. Right now Gene Smith, present Africa field director and I are working in a co-director arrangement. Pray for both of us, for Gene as he trains me and for me as I get trained, that I will be able to learn all of what I need to know.

News from our African fields is exciting. For example, Daniel Sappour reports that several members from a church in Wichita, Kansas visited in November and led a training seminar for pastors in mostly Moslem Northern Ghana November 10-14.

Bello Johnson in Ivory Coast reported giving sample lessons to 20 churches during September and October. This encourages me because Ivory Coast's political climate is anything but stable.

Sampson Hinnah is now back in Liberia after fleeing for a time to Sierra Leone. His wife and an adopted son remain in a refugee camp in Ghana. Pray with us that the situation will be stable enough so they will soon be able to be reunited.

Work continues to go slowly. I finished some minor revisions on *The New Life in Christ, Course 1* and am now working on *New Life in Christ, Course*

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2 as well as *Explorer's 1* and 2 for our discipleship ministry in Kenya. *Explorer's 1* has been transcribed by Helping Hands Braille Ministry of Grand Rapids, Michigan. I now have the British and American braille files on my computer at the office.

One of Source of Light's newest projects is a booklet called "Born In The Mud." It is the life story of Christopher Boda. Christopher is a member of the Banjara tribe of India. The Banjaras are the original gypsies.

This story was written by Bill Shade, one of our ministry representatives. This outstanding story is being aired on "Unshackled," the broadcast of Pacific Garden Mission. If you'd like to order the book let me know and I'll send particulars. It has been written to be used in a VBS or Bible club setting with five installments, but it could be used in other settings with both children and adults.

I've had a volunteer working with me for a few days, a retired missionary from Niger who worked with blind people. She's proofreading the print files of the lessons I've been working on most recently. It's been fun to work with Nadine.

Recently we met a really neat couple named Roger and Laura Keenley. Roger works as employment coordinator for Multiple Choices Independent Living Center in Athens, Georgia, about 30 miles north of Madison. His wife Laura is assistant activity director in the largest nursing home in Athens. Roger is blind while Laura is sighted. We met them because I needed to buy a new cane.

This led to something that you'll just have to visualize. I am now fulfilling another one of my dreams. I'm now playing baseball.

It's somewhat different in that the ball beeps and the bases beep and everyone wears blindfolds, but we have a sighted pitcher and catcher and we

actually use a bat. At our first fielding and batting practice last Saturday, I had 16 chances to hit the ball and missed 15. Oh well, it's only Spring Training. Maybe this Saturday I'll hit two balls.

*—Ben Watson, KBØOUC for Gladys*

## **Jeff Johnson, KO4TS, JAARS, Waxhaw, N.C.**

Last fall we spent two weeks in Orlando, Florida at the Wycliffe U.S. headquarters attending Training Camp. Under Wycliffe's recently-revised system, Mary Beth became a member before attending (actually three days before our wedding). Training Camp no longer has the pressure of a "candidate school," but it was a good orientation for Mary Beth. I was also privileged to attend, and I found it a good refresher. (Besides, I had no choice.) Grandma and Grandpa Johnson came from California to stay with the girls, who appear to have been properly spoiled!

Rebekah has settled in well at high school and is also on the church drama team. Both she and Rachel are taking jazz dance lessons at a local Christian performing arts center. Rachel recently had her upper jaw "broken" again, only the third time in 25 years that the orth-

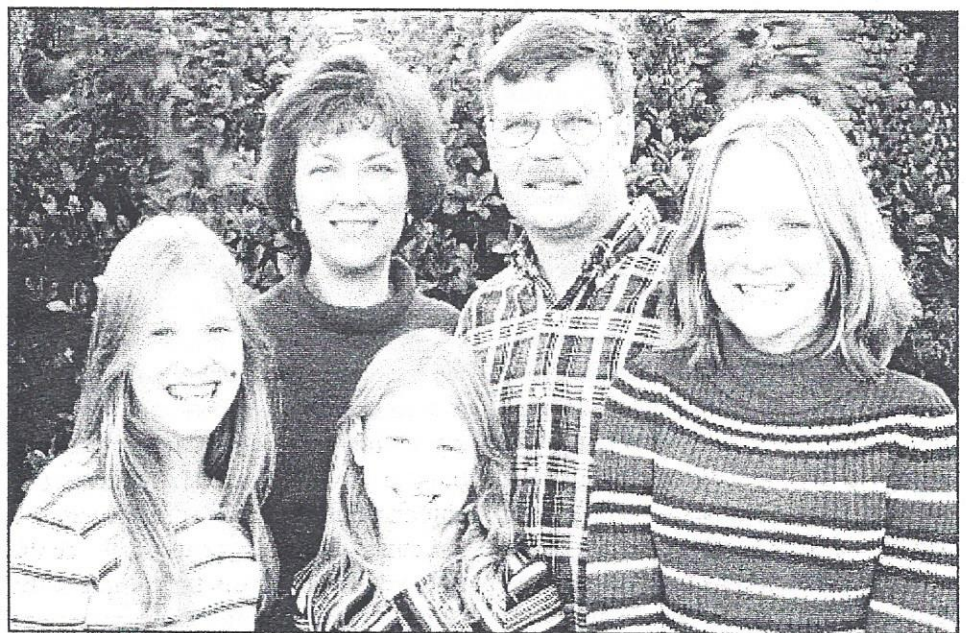
odontist has had to repeat it. This time it worked so well that he needs to put on upper braces to help with the alignment, before moving to full braces for serious correction in the future. Ruth enjoys attending Awana at church on Sunday nights. At this year's Grand Prix (like Pinewood Derby in Scouts), she won the second place trophy for speed in her age group.

At the hangar, a "permanent" service manager started training the first of December and took over fully the first of the year. This has allowed me to resume my duties as a "line" mechanic and, hopefully, also to fly again.

And now here are few words from Mary Beth—

Valentine's Day was our eight-month wedding anniversary. I can hardly believe how fast the time has gone or how much my life has changed since last Valentine's Day. This time last year, I was single and still in the house I had lived in with my late husband, Mitch, and our son, Joseph. I was working full-time as a technical writer, completing the Wycliffe application process, and planning a wedding. This year, I'm living in a new home, married and the mother of three new daughters, and a

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The Johnsons: Mary Beth and Jeff with Rachel, Ruth and Rebekah



*Continued from previous page—*

Wycliffe member officially assigned to JAARS. What a difference a year makes!

One of my adjustments to our “new family dynamic” has been running a larger household, everything from paying bills and doing laundry to cleaning and cooking for our family of five. I car pool in the morning with Ruth and another family’s kids who go to Waxhaw Elementary, and I get Rebekah and Rachel to the various activities that they are involved in at church and school.

Twice a week, I meet to pray with other moms at two different “Moms In Touch” groups - one for the elementary school and one for the middle and high schools. We pray for our children, their teachers and the schools. I’m enjoying these and other things, such as volunteering at the elementary school, eating with Jeff when he comes home for lunch, and being home when the girls get home from school.

At church, Jeff and I led Children’s Church during January. We taught a Bible lesson and did crafts with about 25 kids (K–5) each week during the worship service. Rebekah and Rachel ably assisted us, while Ruth was one of our students.

The 2004 Ladies’ Bible study also started in January. We’re doing “Breaking Free” by Beth Moore. It’s a thought-provoking, self-examining study about finding true freedom through Christ and uncovering those things that can hinder us in this quest.

Jeff and I are going to California for Redwood Chapel’s missions conference in March, so we have been busy getting ready for the trip. We have many things that need to be done between now and then, and sometimes the list seems long and overwhelming. In spite of all there is to do, I’m looking forward to it and the chance to meet and talk with another group of Jeff’s friends. Mom and Dad Berg are coming to stay with Rebekah, Rachel and Ruth those two weeks, and then the girls are going to

fly out the week of their spring break to join us. We’ll all return to North Carolina on April 10.

Have a blessed day,  
—Mary Beth and Jeff Johnson, KO4TS

## **Dave Immel, KE4EW, JAARS, Waxhaw, N.C.**

Greetings from Waxhaw! Things at the Center as well as in our family continue to move ahead.

Kristen and Jeff are doing well in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Jeff had an opportunity to go to Algeria for 10 days (on 24 hour notice!). He was assisting in disassembling several aircraft to be shipped back to Harrisonburg. Kristen continues to enjoy working with 3-year-olds at the Day Care Center.

Amanda will graduate from Bryan College this May. She will be going on a missions trip to Italy during her spring break. Last fall she became engaged to Jason Erickson. They will be married this summer and will live in the Seattle area. Heidi will finish her freshman year at Bryan. She has become re-acquainted with a girl she knew during our time in Papua New Guinea—small world. This summer she would like to work in the child care center at JAARS.

In June Patsy will attend the Wycliffe Bible Translators US Delegate Conference in Orlando. She will be one of nine JAARS representatives.

I’m making the transition back to the aviation radio shop. Now that the helicopter is here we don’t lack for work. We’ll install all new radios and some kits. I continue to help with evaluation of new pilots and mechanics.

Our support last year averaged well below our Wycliffe quota; in addition we had some unscheduled expenses—a second arthroscopic surgery on my right knee, as well as an increase in college tuition. Twenty six years ago we embarked on a journey of faith and trust as God called us into missions. We do not feel that God is now calling us to leave Wycliffe and therefore would ask you to join us in praying that our needed

increase will be supplied. If you would like more details please call or e-mail us at [dp\\_immel@sil.org](mailto:dp_immel@sil.org).

Here are a few JAARS organizational highlights of the past year:

- A Bell Long Ranger helicopter was purchased for Papua New Guinea after two years of significant efforts.

- A Platis Porter PC-6 (turbine aircraft) for Papua, Indonesia (formerly Irian Jaya) supplied through a Dutch organization. We will continue to trust the Lord for the additional PC-12, a larger aircraft.

- Over 20,000 college students, missionaries, church and campus leaders participated in Intervarsity Christian Fellowship’s twentieth Student Missions Convention at the University of Illinois, Champaign. Many of these young people requested additional information about Bible translation!

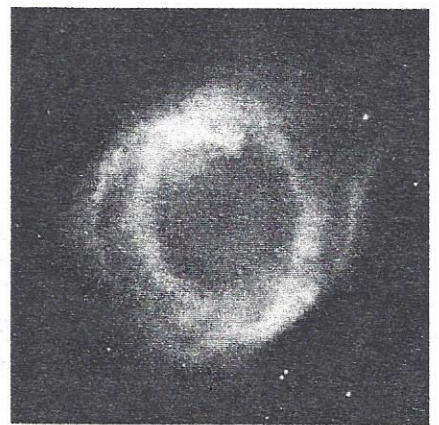
—Dave Immel, KE4EW

—Continued on the next page

## **God’s Eye?**

The Hubble Telescope captured the image shown below, and the NASA scientists immediately dubbed it “The Eye of God.” While the Bible talks about the eyes of God, e.g., “Asa did what was good and right in the eyes of the Lord his God.” (2 Chronicles 14:2), we don’t think it is referring to this constellation.

—Submitted by Bob Collings,  
VE7TRC





## **Don Jensen, KC7WV, Wycliffe Bible Trans., Catalina, Arizona**

"The Lord has done spectacular things for us. We are overjoyed!"

—Psalm 126:3 (GW)

For those of you who haven't heard the wonderful news, Sharon Brown (below on the right) and I are engaged!

We first met three years ago when I phoned Sharon to inquire about some ham radio equipment she had for sale. As we talked, Sharon learned that I was

a missionary with Wycliffe Bible Translators. Sharon had known about Wycliffe since she was a child. Our meeting developed into a friendship and led to Sharon's being called to serve the Lord with Wycliffe also.

Our friendship grew into a very special relationship. After dating for over two and a half years, the Lord made it clear to us that we should serve Him together as husband and wife. Our wedding date is planned for May 15, 2004. Please pray for us as we coordinate all the plans. It is our desire to honor the Lord in every detail.

We plan to continue serving with Wycliffe, supporting the work of Bible translation for speakers of indigenous Indian languages in Mexico. I am serving as the Treasurer and Financial Planner, and Sharon will serve as the Mailroom Manager and Administrative Assistant at our center here in Catalina, Arizona.

Praise the Lord with us for His blessings in bringing us together!

In His service,

—Don, KC7WV, with Sharon



## **Silent key — Al Heath, AC50A**

On April 2, 2004, Elbert Raymond "Al" Heath, AC50A, of Federick, Oklahoma, went to spend eternity with his Lord after a long and courageous struggle with cancer. He was 86. He is survived by his wife, Jeanne, three sons, one daughter, a sister, 11 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

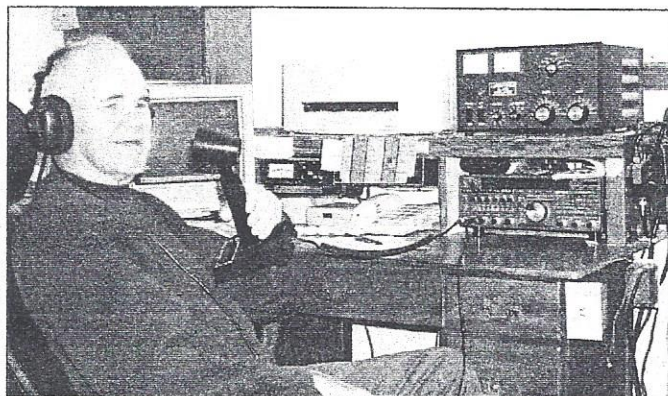
Al was in the Navy in WWII and was a Pearl Harbor survivor. It was there that he learned Morse code and electronics, and when the war was over, he was licensed as W6UZF. He eventually went to work for Rockwell International in California. After he retired from Rockwell in 1973, he moved to Arizona but kept his W6 call. In 1996 he moved to Oklahoma and became AC50A.

Al joined ARMS in 1989 as the result of an acquaintance with Ed Soultz, AA7GM, of Medford, Oregon. He immediately became quite active in the organization, and soon

accepting the position of Secretary. More recently, he has served as the Net Manager for the ARMS 20-meter Net as well as the net control station on Fridays. However, his health required him to give up those positions late in 2003.

Al will always be remembered for his love for the Lord and his warm, caring attitude toward others. Within a year of his death he was still going weekly to a nursing home in Frederick to share a simple worship service with some of the residents there.

On the air he was always a gentleman, even when faced with antagonism and malicious interference. We will miss his gentle spirit. "Well done, thou good and faithful servant: ...enter thou into the joy of thy lord." (Matthew 25:21) — —





# Section Reports

## Southeast Section

Well, it is hard to believe it's time again for another issue of *The Beam*. We are sad to report that Bob, W2CYO, and Joan Kurtz, KA2KJO, will be leaving the SE Section and heading north. They have been very faithful to support the SE Section. Please pray for Bob as he is currently going through treatment for cancer. "God Bless" you Bob and Joan, and we wish you the very best as you relocate.

Speaking of relocating, Andra, Kristin and I will be moving April 1 to a one-level home about six miles from here. It has become increasingly difficult for me to maneuver in our split foyer. I am counting the days to be in a one level house. Lord willing, I plan to put up a trap dipole to operate on the 20 meter net, and a horizontal dipole for 80 meters.

We have moved our annual get-together this year to July 16 and 17. We are going to Mount Mitchell and Grandfather Mountain in North Carolina. Since Mount Mitchell is the highest peak east of the Mississippi river, the temperature is unreliable, so we are praying for good weather in July.

Dave Gillespie, WA4LLR, is working on the arrangements for food and lodging. If you need further info please email me at: wd4ach@juno.com.

Looking for Jesus,

—Denis Parker WD4ACH

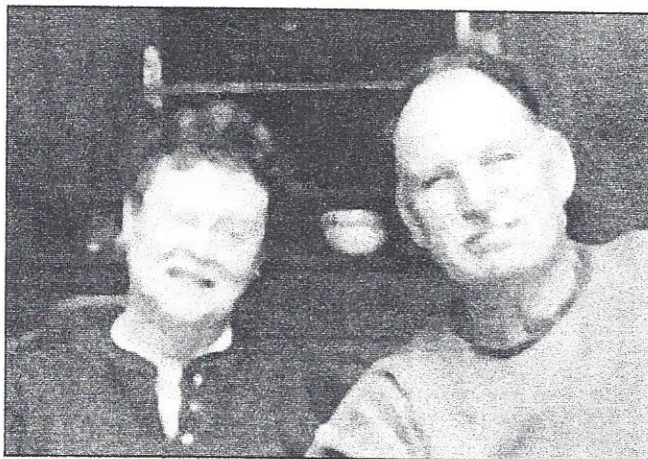
## South Central Section

We have had good success for the last six months with the South Central ARMS Net on Saturday mornings. We meet at 8:00 a.m. central time on 40-meters (7226.5 kHz). There is a core group of about seven that check in pretty regularly, and I have logged about 20 others that have been more sporadic. Several have checked in for one time only or for

signal checks, which we appreciate.

We have some fun with some of the names of guys who check into the net. In addition to myself, Duane, we have another Duane, KD5AQJ and Dwain, AC5EH. As if that were not bad enough, we also have Wayne, K5VRY.

Last month I made a trip through



northern Arkansas and met with K5VSP, AC5EH, W5ADT, and KD5RQJ for a dinner and eyeball visit. Boyce, K5VSP, and his lovely wife, Thelma, hosted our supper together. Above is his picture with Thelma.

We played some guitar music together with me on the keyboard. We hope to have such a gathering again when travel permits.

73 and 99,

—Duane C. Stradley, KM5O

## Midwest Section

Mark your calendars now for the Midwest Section ARMS convention to be held on Saturday, August 14th, 2004, in Mankato, Minnesota. The coffee pot will be on by 8:59 a.m. (note the time change, hi! hi!) at our QTH at 20795 Foley Road. The directions to our place are as follows:

When coming into Mankato from any direction, follow the signs to Minnesota State University. At the university take

Stadium Road going east until you come to Foley Road, which is a "T" intersection. We are just down the road so park and enjoy!

Please feel free to bring along any projects you may want to display or to demonstrate at the meeting. I may have a thing or two also! We will have a portable ham station set up using a stealth antenna for anyone wishing to check into the 20-meter ARMS Net from our QTH. (Note: Many people who have

seen how well it works have stood around with their mouths open in wonderment! My 75-meter dipole antenna that is fed with home brew leader line is more amazing yet!)

At 11:45 a.m. we will travel the approximately 2 and 1/4 miles to the Old Country Buffet for our noon meal, short business meeting,

and our program. You all come. Lord willing, I hope to see you then. I do not have 2-meters, but someone there will have it and would be able to talk you in. Our phone number is: 507-625-8083.

73 and 99,

—Arnie Kopischke, WAØDFT

## Northwest Section

Although longer days have meant propagation is improving on our Thursday, 7:00 a.m. NW ARMS Net, our participation was falling off for a while with only four or five checkins. However, more recently things have picked up considerably.

George, KA7HGE, is back from Arizona, so that's a help, and we were glad to hear Dave, W7PTL, who has turned up again after his wife's health improved. It was good to hear Stan, KD6WZA, back on as well. We will be looking for the rest of you down the line.

73 and 99,

—Bob Hambly, WA7BYD



# From our members here and there

## Egyptian adventure

by Gordon Tiessen, VE7BQA

Leone and I just returned from a trip to Cairo, Egypt, so I will give you a few insights into the trip.

We flew from Vancouver, British Columbia over the North Pole via British Airways to London, Heathrow, and then on to Cairo. The purpose of the trip was to see our kids—my daughter and son-in-law, Barb and Larry Boss. Larry is the pastor of the Maadi Community Church there. It's an International church serving expatriates, embassy folks, as well as local Muslims and a large number of folks from the Sudan.

The services, all in English, are held on Thursday nights and Friday morn-

ings, since Friday is their holy day. They have between 800 and 900 folks attend services, and on the second Thursday night that we were there, 25 folks prayed to receive Christ. They have their baptism services in a swimming pool secretly as it can cost a Muslim his life to convert to Christianity. The Sudanese also have their own services on Sunday. The Lord is blessing the work.

We also took a boat cruise down the Nile, flying to Aswan where the Nile has a dam on it. We cruised to Luxor, and with tours to tombs and temples it took four days. Most of these temples date back to before Christ.

The other trip we took was a seven-hour car trip down the Sinai (that's where Moses got the rules from the Lord) to a place called Sharm el Sheik, a beautiful resort area on the Red Sea. It almost never rains there. One person told us he could remember about three

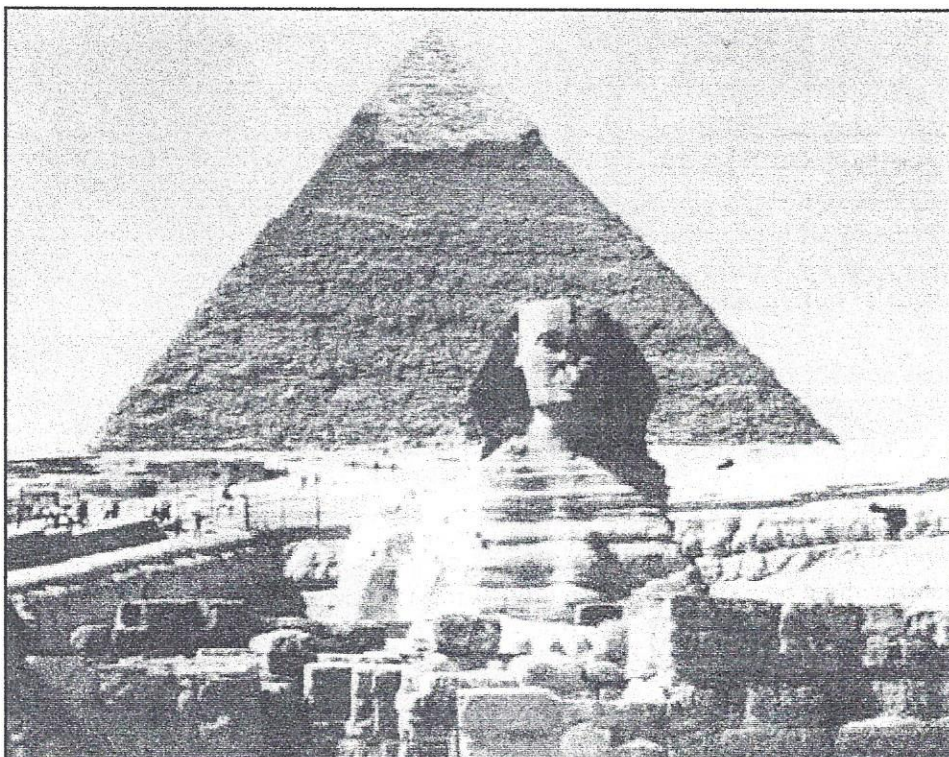
years ago they had some rain. The temperatures at this time of the year are cooler than summer, running between 75° and 100° F.

I should mention that there is a high military presence in the Maadi area. Maadi is a suburb of Cairo. Larry and Barb's apartment is next door to the Cairo American College, and every 100 yards or so around the campus are police armed with automatic weapons. In fact, I almost got into trouble with one as he caught me taking videos of the apartment. However, we got to know them, walking by them on our walks, and they were very friendly. The kids feel totally safe and think nothing of walking on their streets at night. The church services are also surrounded by armed police. I think Egypt realizes the importance of securing their major tourism industry.

I was not able to determine if any of the expatriates we encountered were ham radio operators, but probably not, since most were CEOs of large corporations and fellow Americans. It was a great trip and if these kids come to your mind, pray for them and their ministry.

73's and 99's,

—Gordon, VE7BQA





# Remembering my old quad

by Chuck Winter, N7AAG

Recently I had a call from the Harrah (Washington) Community Christian School. They now occupy the old Harrah Grace Brethren Church building, where I pastored a number of years, and the roof needed to be repaired. They were asking if I wanted to keep the old antenna that was lying up there.

We had left the pastorate in 1994 and headed toward Tennessee and what we believed would be a small apartment in Treveca Towers in Nashville. (The Lord had other things in mind for us.) I had sold all my ham gear and even sold the rotor and antenna switching equipment that had been part of the "antenna farm" on the church roof—including a large Gem cubical quad. Now its collapsed form was in the way of roof repairs. I told the school they could just junk it, as I had no need for it now. We are now living in Sunnyside and there's only room for a vertical and a couple of dipoles.

But the telephone call brought back lots of memories about the quad and the ham shack that occupied an unused up-

stairs room in the old 1928-era church building. For instance, there was another time in the past when the church roof needed to be redone and I had to move the quad. My youngest son and I worked valiantly to lower the unwieldy skeleton of Fiberglas rods and wires to the roof of the Sunday School annex. Alas, the rope broke and the hulk fell the last three feet to the metal roof. It survived; and I survived. I temporarily mounted it there and for the course of roof repairs was able to maintain communications with missionary doctor-friend Sam Marx (WB7ARA/HR3) in Honduras.

Over the years that I carried missionary traffic, my log book filled with entries of traffic to and from medical specialists who gave their time to assist Dr. Sam. One pathologist in Yakima—Jay Johnson (N7CD)—examined biopsies and pap smears sent from Honduras and I radioed the results back to the little hospital in Ahuas, Honduras. Weeks were saved in diagnosing disease and illness. The old quad put out a hefty signal.

One summer I began picking up a growing background noise that gradually grew in intensity until it wiped out my reception. I had made the rounds of power poles in the area doing a "no-no"—pounding on poles with a hammer. I couldn't find the culprit. I needed some help. Gene Kimmell (WB7PBI) in Yakima worked for Pacific Power and Light. He came down and did some superb sleuthing. He was able to trace the offending noise-source to an old neon light transformer in the attic of the little local General Merchandise. With that out of the way the stream of medical traffic continued. Those contacts also included three-way connects for family and friends of missionaries serving in Honduras.

Now it takes much longer to fill up a page in my log book. But the memories are still many and fresh. I enjoy getting on the 20 meter ARMS Net on occasion and look forward to the Thursday morning visits on 80 meters with Northwest friends, most of whom I've never eyeballed, but love as brothers in the Lord. Semi-retired, I minister to the senior saints in our church family and am greatly blessed in return.

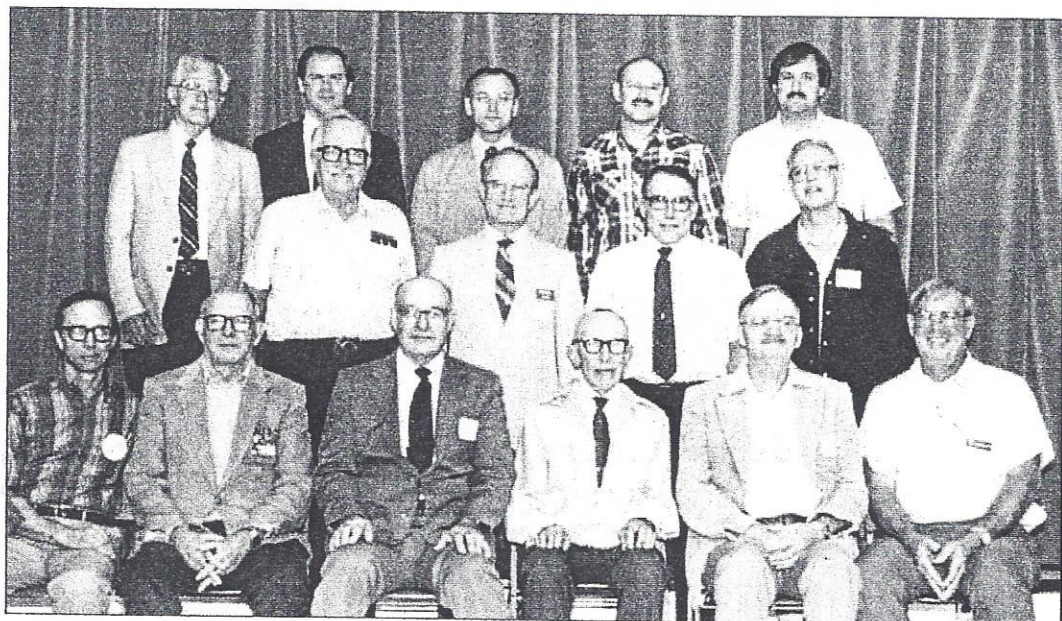
—Chuck, N7AAG

## ARMS Central Section of 19??

The photo at the right was submitted by Bud Owen, KG8BK. It is an old picture of a gathering of the Central Section of ARMS taken a number of years ago. Gradually, over the years, the Central Section grew smaller and smaller until today, it no longer exists.

Some of you long-time ARMS members might recognize some of these gentlemen. Bud did not indicate if he was in the picture, but it would be interesting to learn just who these fellows were. If you recognize any of them, let me know.

—Dave, W7PTL, ed.





# The blessings and the bumps at Happy Camp Bible Church

by Stan Poeschel, KD6WZA

Once again it's time to look back over this past year with thanksgiving to God for what He has done. At the same time we look to the future with anticipation



wondering what God has in store for each of us.

Lighthouse Club started the year well with a really good group of kids. Lighthouse Club is almost like a miniature weekly VBS without the missionary

story. Many of the children who come are from unchurched homes. The hard part for us is having to say that children younger than first grade are not able to come. They can't seem to wait until that magic age of six because they see their older brothers or sisters enjoying this time so much. Pray that God's Word will take root and grow in the hearts of those that do come.

VBS went very well this year even though we didn't have as many children as we normally do. Those who came heard Bible and missionary stories, sang songs, and worked on crafts and worksheets, things that will stand out in their memories for the rest of their lives.

Recently an older teen girl who does not attend church said to me that she remembered the plaques she painted in VBS and the water balloon fight we have at the end of each VBS. There is nothing spiritual about plaques and water balloons but I believe it has given her something to remember and a place to turn to if life seems to crumble around her.

Summer camps had a great impact on

the lives of those from our church who went, as they were challenged in the things of God. It has really been neat to see some of these young people being willing to help out in our morning worship services in different ways. Pray that God would continue to place within them a real desire to serve Him.

This past year has not been without personal struggles as well. Prior to August we were saying that we were experiencing probably some of the best years that we have had here at Happy Camp Bible Church. And then we found out that we were not exempt from some bumps in the road as Satan began to put us to the test in a greater way.

People would say to us "How are you doing?" Our stock answer was "Okay." As we considered the trials Virginia and I have had, we had to admit that emotionally we were totally wiped out, but we were doing okay spiritually. We know that Satan means these bumps for our harm, but God allows them for our good, and we choose to hang on to the latter. Pray for Virginia and me, and the church as we go over these bumps together.

Sometimes it seems as though it would be good to know what the future holds, but God in His wisdom prevents much of that from happening, so we take one day at a time. Our plan is to continue serving at HCBC until the Lord returns or He takes us home.

73 and 99,

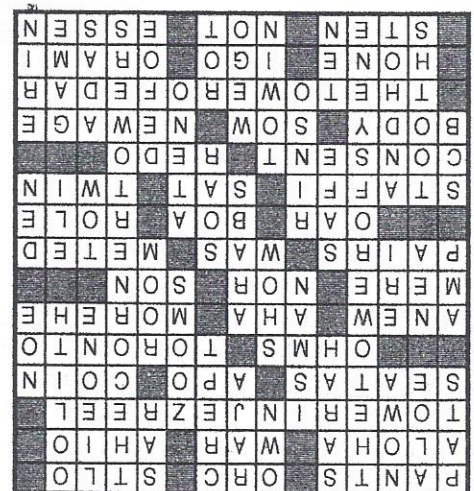
—Stan, KD6WZA, and Virginia

## We welcome our new members!

Bob Watson, WØRGW  
7422 S. 89th St.  
Omaha, NE 68128

Dean Albertsen, KØTVJ  
648 N. 56th St.  
Mesa, AZ 85205

George L. Bush, N2JJJE  
1650 Crawford Rd.  
Schenectady, NY 12306  
(Not related to the president.)



Solution to the puzzle on page 14





# Fortified on all sides

Uzziah built towers in Jerusalem...and fortified them.  
2 Chronicles 26:9

Unless stated otherwise, scripture verses are taken from the King James (Authorized) Version of the Bible.

## Across

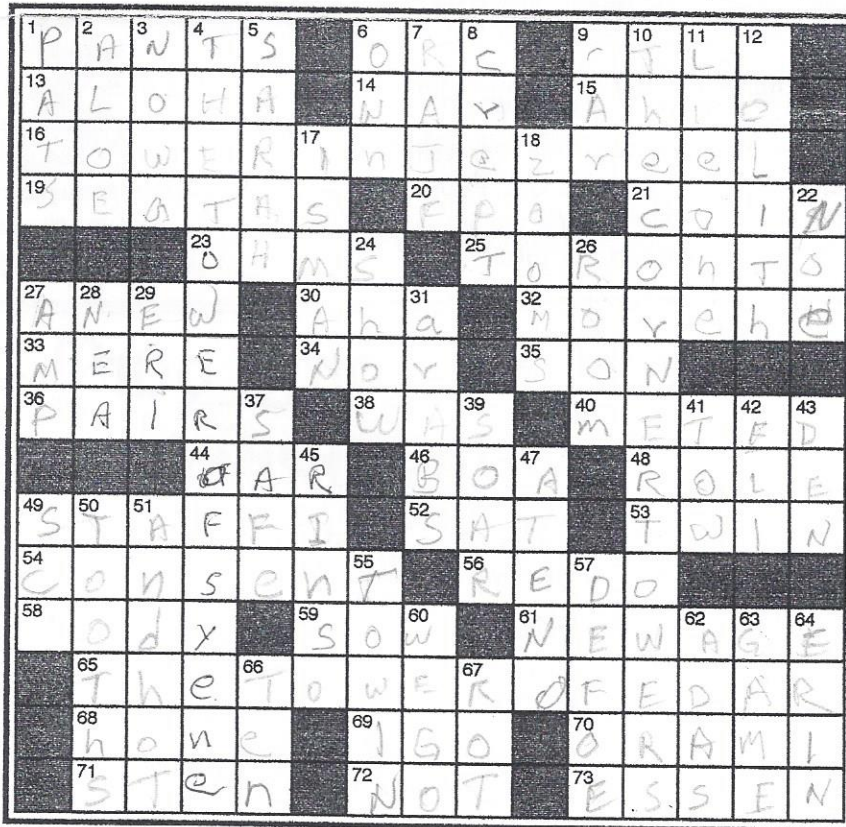
- 1 "As the deer \_\_\_ for streams of water," (Ps. 42:1, NIV)
- 6 Tolkien creature
- 9 W.W. II battle site in France
- 13 Howdy in Hilo
- 14 "...he shall not go out to \_\_\_," (Deut. 24:5)
- 15 "...and \_\_\_ went before the ark." (2 Sam. 6:4)
- 16 **First side:**  
"And there stood a watchman on the \_\_\_," (2 Kgs. 9:17)
- 19 "And the king sat upon his \_\_\_ at..." (1 Sam. 20:25)
- 20 Mil. address
- 21 "They brought the \_\_\_, and he..." (Mk. 12:16, NIV)
- 23 Units of resistance
- 25 Home of the *Globe and Mail*
- 27 "...be in Christ, he is \_\_\_ creature:" (2 Cor. 5:17)
- 30 "...\_\_\_, our eye hath seen it." (Ps. 35:21)
- 32 "...but the \_\_\_ charged them," (Mk. 7:36)
- 33 "...are you not \_\_\_ men?" (1 Cor. 3:4, NIV)
- 34 "...\_\_\_ the shadow of death," (Job 34:22)
- 35 "...or the \_\_\_ of man," (Ps. 144:3)
- 36 "...of all creatures ..." (Gen. 7:15, NIV)
- 38 "...the city \_\_\_ pure gold," (Rev. 21:21)
- 40 "...and \_\_\_ out heaven with the span," (Is. 40:12)

- 44 "And all that handle the \_\_\_," (Eze. 27:29)
- 46 Big snake
- 48 Designated part
- 49 "...for with my \_\_\_ passed over ..." (Gen. 32:10)
- 52 "And there \_\_\_ in a window..." (Acts 20:9)
- 53 "Each has its \_\_\_," (S.S. 6:6, NIV)
- 54 "Thou shalt not \_\_\_ unto him," (Deut. 13:8)
- 56 Perform again
- 58 "His \_\_\_ also was like the beryl," (Dan. 10:6)
- 59 "...for they neither \_\_\_ nor reap;" (Lk. 12:24)
- 61 Self-awareness movement
- 65 **Second side:**  
"...and spread his tent beyond \_\_\_," (Gen. 35:21)
- 68 Whet
- 69 "...for if \_\_\_ not away," (Jn. 16:7)
- 70 "... \_\_\_ trying to please men?" (Gal. 1:10, NIV)
- 71 British gun
- 72 "Eat \_\_\_ of it raw," (Ex. 12:9)
- 73 German steel center

## Down

- 1 Servings of butter
- 2 Burn balm
- 3 "...certain man was sick," (Jn. 11:1)
- 4 **Third side:**  
"...from \_\_\_ even unto the border of Ethiopia." (Eze. 29:10)

- 5 Wife of Abraham (See Gen. 17:15)
- 6 "...after their \_\_\_ lusts," (2 Pet. 3:3)
- 7 Indian prince
- 8 "...men \_\_\_ in unawares," (Jude 4)
- 9 Old patriotic org.
- 10 **Fourth side:**  
"...fortified cities and against \_\_\_," (Zeph. 1:16, NIV)
- 11 "...neither \_\_\_ to another." (Lev. 19:11)
- 12 Sand grain set within limestone
- 17 "...what \_\_\_ the better?" (Eccl. 6:11)
- 18 Runs fast
- 22 "...in the days of \_\_\_," (Lk. 17:26)
- 24 "Who will \_\_\_ us any good?" (Ps. 4:6)
- 26 "...and yet there is \_\_\_," (Lk. 14:22)
- 27 Power booster
- 28 Teachers' org.
- 29 "...of \_\_\_, the family of the..." (Num. 26:16)
- 31 "...Cretans and \_\_\_ — we hear ..." (Acts 2:11, NIV)
- 37 "...but for you it is \_\_\_," (Phil. 3:1)
- 39 "Though you \_\_\_ like the eagle..." (Ob. 4, NIV)
- 41 "...they are quenched as \_\_\_," (Is. 43:17)
- 42 Phinehas's dad (See 1 Sam. 1:3)
- 43 "...and a \_\_\_ of dragons." (Jer. 10:22)
- 45 Oxydol rival
- 47 "I \_\_\_ pleasant bread," (Dan. 10:3)
- 49 Non-arts degree, sometimes (abbr.)
- 50 "...let him go free for his \_\_\_ sake." (Ex. 21:27)
- 51 "...of the anger \_\_\_ displeasure," (Deut. 9:19)
- 55 "...I become like a Jew, \_\_\_ the Jews." (1 Cor. 9:20, NIV)
- 57 *Robinson Crusoe* author
- 60 "...Lord, to whom shall \_\_\_?" (Jn. 6:68)
- 62 Cities in Ohio and Oklahoma
- 63 "...and eat some of my \_\_\_," (Gen. 27:31, NIV)
- 64 The Emerald Isle
- 66 "And Joseph's \_\_\_ brethren went..." (Gen. 42:3)
- 67 "...but the name of the wicked shall \_\_\_," (Pr. 10:7)



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