



A Supporting Ministry

July - August - September, 2002

“I Don’t Ever Want to Go Back There”

By Collet Montejo

When I first met Suzanna Dyck, age 18, I wondered how a young lady growing up in Barton Creek (an Amish Mennonite Community) could become so depressed to the point where she desired to die. For two days she had difficulty breathing. Her face was a picture of fear, terror and confusion.

When at last she spoke, Suzanna poured her heart out. She told of her troubled childhood. Of being forced to go against common judgement, of long, hard hours working in the hot sun. She told of her mom's depression, resulting in her becoming crippled. Tears flowed freely as she told of the numerous times her father tried to bring her to the hospital, but the community leaders said no. Suzanna kept saying, “*I don't ever want to go back there.*”

Suzanna's plight won the sympathy of the entire staff here at La Loma Luz. Everyone made conscious efforts to love her back to health. In the following weeks, we witnessed a living miracle as La Loma Luz became Suzanna's home, and our staff became the

family she never really had. The love, care and attention she received here proved far more effective than any medication.

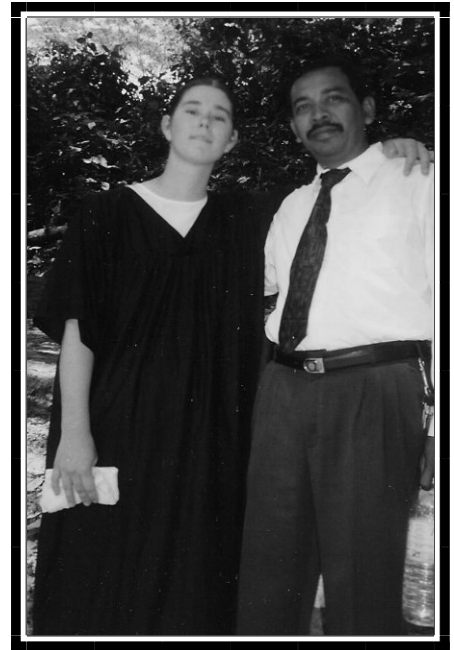
Two months after being admitted to La Loma Luz, Suzanna expressed her heartfelt desire to be baptized as a Seventh-day Adventist. The hospital rippled with excitement. She would be the first Amish person in Belize to become an Adventist.

Joy flooded heaven, and our local church members were jubilant when on Sabbath, April 6, Suzanna waded into the Macal River and was baptized.

Tears filled my eyes as I realized how love, pure love can win a soul for Christ. No preaching, no sermons, just love.

Suzanna's mom has since expressed interest in the Adventist faith. And in spite of negative pressure from her people, she leaves the community to attend church on Sabbath.

We believe God is leading the La Loma Luz outreach program as it slowly makes inroads into this closed community. And we also believe that Suzanna is God's tool to greatly impact her community.



Suzanna rejoices with Pastor Bill Borland after baptism.



Pastor Luis Jesse baptizes Suzanna in the Macal river. She is the first known Amish Mennonite baptized into the Adventist faith in Belize.

Collet Montejo serves as chaplain at La Loma Luz Hospital, as well as evangelist in the surrounding area.

From the President



Karen & Gary Andregg

Dear MPI Supporters,

We recently returned from the ASI Convention in Columbus, Ohio, and want to thank all of you who stopped by the MPI booth. It is very encouraging to discuss the Lord's work and how MPI is involved in peoples' lives in countries outside North America.

All of MPI's projects continue going forward - even though many changes have been made. Derek & Frances Miller have spent countless hours each week during the past 6 years doing Secretary/Treasurer work for MPI. For several years they have asked to be relieved of that duty because of a heavy load of other commitments they carry. We are happy that Jerry & Wendy Harris will take over that responsibility for now. Jerry was MPI's treasurer a few years back, and served at La Loma Luz Hospital before that. He is currently the Principal of DayStar Academy in Utah. We want to thank Derek & Frances for their help and dedication to MPI - and you - as they kept your funds flowing to the mission field.

During our Summer Board meeting at Mt. Ellis Academy we voted to make some changes to spread out the workload. Perhaps you've noticed that MPI now has a new address in Bozeman, Montana. June Anderson has volunteered to open all MPI correspondence and deposit the checks. My wife Karen will send acknowledgments and notes to donors. Receipts will be sent by our Treasurer after the end of the year, which will cut down on time and paperwork. Fred Adams will continue publishing the newsletter in California.

MPI Members

- President:** *Gary & Karen Andregg* - (Hope, ID)
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gbklandregg@nidlink.com
- Vice-President** *Melvin & Gladys Johnson* - (Hamilton, MT)
(406) 363-3080
- Treasurer:** *Jerry & Wendy Harris* - (Castle Valley, UT)
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- Huichol Project:** *Karen Kotoske* - (Palo Alto, CA)
Dagoberto Cirilo - (Guadalajara, Mexico)
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- Other Members:** *Mel & June Anderson* - (Bozeman, MT)
Fred & Velma Beavon - (Dayton, MT)
Harold & Norma Beavon - (Gold Canyon, AZ)
Eddie & Lorraine Hamilton - (Salmon, ID)
Derek & Frances Miller - (Gentry, AR)
Elydia Walker - (Superior, AZ)

And we consider each person who supports us with your prayers and/or contributions to be a member of MPI as well!

Website: www.tagnet.org/mpi

Melvin and Gladys Johnson of Hamilton, Montana will carry the Vice-Presidential responsibilities.

As you can see, we are quite spread out. But this is necessary since we don't have a central office, and we all serve as volunteers. Also, it keeps overhead expenses to a bare minimum. We keep in touch by e-mail, fax and phone, and appreciate your patience as we attempt to get our re-organized system functioning smoothly. Do feel free to contact us if you have any comments or suggestions!

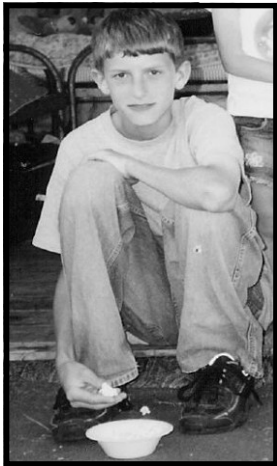
Gary

Gary Andregg and his wife Karen enjoy riding their Harleys with the Christian Motorcyclist's Association when Gary can get away for a few days from his busy schedule as a Nurse Anesthetist. They live in a home-built log house near Hope, Idaho.



Bibles for Mexico—Letters from Kids

Hey kids! Remember the “Bibles for Mexico” project? Special kids - and grownups too - have been saving up their dollars. So far we have received \$47.50, enough money to buy 19 Bibles! Check out some of the letters and pictures we received:



Hi,

My name is Ben, and I am 12 years old. I earned money for Bibles in Mexico by mowing lawns.



My name is KK. I'm 4 years old.

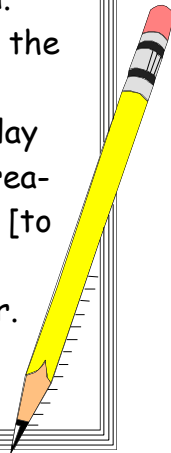
When I was in Mexico, I liked the children. When I got sick, the children made me feel better. I earned money by stamping order forms for Mommie.

Then Daddy gave me some money to buy a toy I wanted, but instead I want children in Mexico to have Bibles.

I am Krista and I am 9 years old. Mommie read the story to me about the lay workers and the Bibles for kids.

And I said “I want to sponsor a lay worker.” I earn money by making Creative Memories ideas for my mommie [to sell] and helping her in her work. I want to sponsor a whole lay worker.

Krista Medina



Note: We happen to know that Krista worked for many months to save up \$175 to sponsor a lay worker. Thank you, Krista for being such a devoted missionary. Your donation means that at least 4 new people will give their lives to Jesus, and they may lead dozens or even hundreds of others to Jesus as the years go by. You couldn't have made a better investment with your hard-earned money! Toys, gadgets and designer clothes will soon break or wear out, but when people give their lives to Jesus, they will live FOREVER!

So what do YOU think, kids? Can you imagine a better way to spend \$2.50 than to buy a Bible for someone in Mexico? Use the form on the back where it says “Bibles for Mexico.” We'd love to have you send us a picture of yourself, and tell us how you earned the money. Maybe we'll even print them in a future newsletter! Thanks, kids! You really CAN make a difference!

Lay Workers

Children Enjoy Being Missionaries Too!

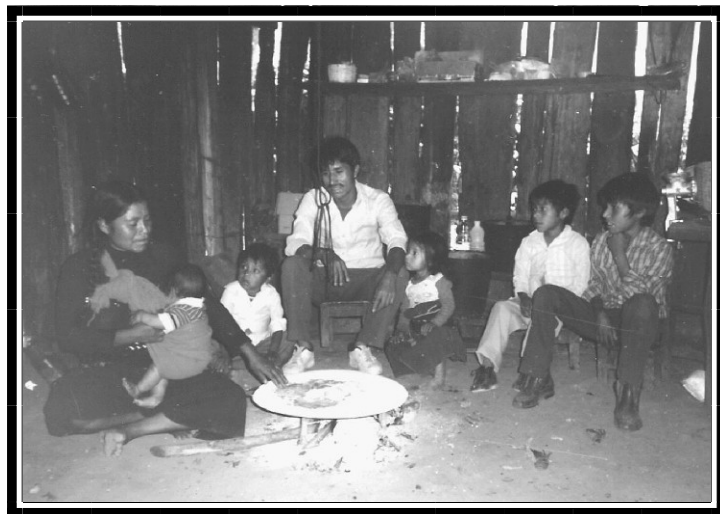
By Esther & JK Martínez

How often have you seen yourself in your children or grandchildren? You know what I mean—they do what you do; they talk like you talk. They follow your example. Here are two short stories about two of MPI's lay workers who have had the same experience: one with his son and another with his granddaughter.

Aarón Martínez lives with his wife and two children in the town of Cancuc, in a mountain area of Chiapas where everyone speaks the Tzeltal dialect. The indigenous people of this village are quite primitive in their dress and customs. The women sit on the dirt floor in their small homes to cook their meager meals. They traditionally make very large tortillas that they bake over a fire in the middle of the house. The children crawl around naked in the dust and mud, their little faces caked with dirt. The men spend their time in the fields cultivating coffee, corn and beans. A few of them are fortunate enough to own cattle.



Aarón (with briefcase) with young people in front of their church. Sign over door says "Bienvenidos" (Welcome).



Family sitting around firepit awaiting fresh hot tortillas.

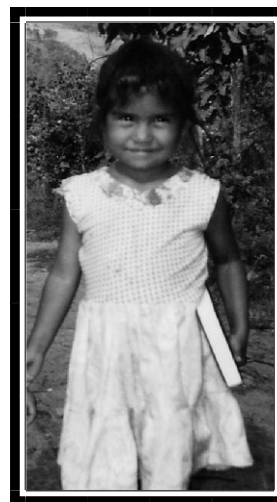
After living and working in this village for some time, Brother Aarón saw a need for health education for these people, so he put on a Health Week. Among other things, he showed a video about personal hygiene, and discussed the dangers of eating pork. The lessons were a great blessing to church members and visitors alike.

When Aarón's son Dani turned 15, many of the people from the town came to congratulate him. The whole family is learning the Tzeltal dialect, but Dani has made the most progress. The proud father reports, "He already knows more

than 150 words in Tzeltal, and the people here are very happy to have us." What a blessing for this lay worker to have his children with him to help as he works with the Tzeltal people.

Layman Daniel Reyes wrote to us about his granddaughter. She is just 3½ years old, but likes to work for Jesus, just like her grandpa. He reports: "One morning, I was sitting inside the house, which doubles as a business for my family. As I studied my Bible, my granddaughter asked me to play with her. When she saw that I was busy, she told me she was going to work. I didn't give it much thought, until I realized the house was quiet. Where had she gone to 'work?' I found her in the street, giving away literature and magazines to all the people that went by!

Now she goes out every morning to 'work,' and who can turn down literature from a cute smiling child holding it up to them? When I expressed concern for her safety, she assured me that she is working for Jesus, and that the angels are taking care of her." We are confident that with God's help, the efforts of this little girl will bear fruit very soon.



This little girl likes to "work" for Jesus just like her grandpa.

Worthy Student Aid

Working Toward a Goal

By Philip Mitchell

To: Mission Projects, Inc.

My name is Miguel Angel García. I am 20 years old and a Theology student at Linda Vista University in Chiapas, Mexico.

My family has limited money to provide for my education, as my brother is sick with microcephaly (abnormal smallness of the head, often associated with pathological mental conditions). This illness has made him incapable of using his mental faculties. In addition, my family is trying to send my youngest sister to a Christian elementary school. Since my parents have these financial burdens, they cannot help finance my studies.



My purpose for getting an education is to prepare myself to serve God in the Church, to take the Gospel to others, and to help my own family with their financial needs. In order to reach my goals I study very hard and I am in the "Five Hour Student Work Plan." During the summer I colporteured as well as during my other vacations. This, however, is not enough. Therefore, I am writing to ask for your help in my endeavor to complete my Theological studies.

Your Brother in Christ,

Miguel Angel García

News Notes . . .

* **New address for MPI** - As a result of recent changes mentioned in Gary's editorial on page 2, MPI's new address is: **Mission Projects, Inc.; P.O. Box 1950; Bozeman, MT 59771.** If you have already sent correspondence to the old address in Gentry, it will be forwarded to our new address.

* **Credit cards** - Some of you have been donating to MPI by credit card. The Adventist Book Center and Mt. Ellis Academy in Bozeman are doing us a great favor by processing these donations without cost to MPI, thereby making it possible for your entire donation to go to its intended destination. So if your credit card statement shows charges to the ABC or Mt. Ellis Academy, please don't call and tell them they billed you in error! It's simply your gift to MPI.

* **San Lorenzo School** - Folks at this remote mountain school continue to dream big! The administrators obtained government approval to add 3 grades at the Preparatory level, resulting in a 12-grade school. MPI does not have the funding to sponsor 3 more teachers they need (\$350 each per month), but they are moving forward in faith. This year they have nearly 150 students, far more than they've ever had before.

The woodworking program is fully operational, students are learning to use computers and a school band is being formed. In spite of limited resources, they continue to surge ahead!

* **Mission Trip to Chiapas** - Construction workers, medical professionals, translators, and anyone else with a desire to be involved in a life-changing, fulfilling adventure are invited to join us on March 6 to 16, 2003. Experience primitive Indian culture at San Lorenzo and surrounding jungle villages. We urgently need to raise \$16,000 to build 6 new classrooms for expanding grades and higher student enrollment. There will be opportunities to visit the Palenque ruins and other tourist attractions throughout Chiapas.

* **Administrative changes at La Loma Luz Hospital:** As the government attempts to modernize healthcare in Belize, the MPI Board feels the time has come to make changes in the administrative system. Responsibilities will be delegated among hospital staff so things can function more efficiently and effectively. Pastor Bill Borland has been relieved of his duties, and Dr. Bernardo Meza currently serves as Interim Administrator until a permanent one is selected.

Ketchi Indian Now Wields Bible instead of Machete

By Victor August

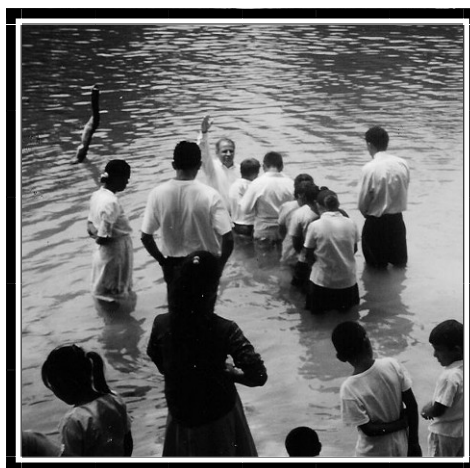
Taking the Gospel message to Valley of Peace in Belize was a real challenge. We prepared the field long in advance by visiting this village with our LLL Health Team. Then we held a series of evangelistic meetings. I was not sure what to expect, since the valley was **not** at peace. A most feared criminal had been at large, then killed in the same area.

But we got started anyway, and God came through. Mrs. Delia González, one of the most influential ladies in the area, allowed us to hold the meetings under a tent in her back yard. Baptized some 30 years ago, she had drifted away and got into the business of rearing pigs. But deep down she was still hoping that some change would be offered. When we contacted her she was overjoyed and immediately opened her home to us. We had a constant attendance of some 150 people each night, which got the religious leaders all nervous. They had never witnessed anything like it before.

After three weeks we baptized 21 precious souls. On the final evening, at least 300 people attended. It was very emotional to hear everyone say-

ing, "We don't want you to leave. Please teach us more!" Their pleas broke my heart. But from time to time we returned, and by God's grace we now have a new group established, all excited to serve God.

Among the newly baptized members in Valley of Peace are some 10 Ketchi Indians. One such is brother Juan Chen, who helped by translating for us into the Ketchi dialect for his people during the meetings.



Ketchi Indian Juan Chen, his family and several relatives were baptized.

When I first visited brother Chen, he told me, "I didn't expect you to come Brother Victor, because I have asked several pastors of other denominations to come give me Bible studies, but nobody came. You have proved to be different from the others." He now rejoices in his newfound faith.

In retrospect, brother Juan Chen was feared by the



Juan Chen (top center) now wields his Bible instead of a machete.

village pastors because he didn't mind using his machete on anyone he didn't like. In fact, he'd wielded it several times and caused serious injuries. Today he proudly wields his Bible to anyone who will listen about Jesus, whom he has learned to love. We praise God for His abundant miracles in Valley of Peace!

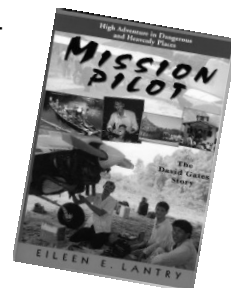
Victor August served as chaplain and outreach person of La Loma Luz Hospital in Belize, Central America.



Large crowds attended the nightly meetings.

Exciting New Book!- *Mission Pilot*

by Eileen Lantry is full of thrilling stories about the work of David Gates. For several years David and his family worked for MPI at Bella Vista Clinic in Chiapas, Mexico. Through a plane hijacking, prison, narrow escapes, angel encounters, and many other miracles, David and his family have learned the importance of total dependence on God as their faith ministry continues to expand throughout South America. Available through your nearest Adventist Book Center or by calling



Memorial & Special Occasion

In Memory

Adams, Elder & Mrs. George
by Elsie Ziprick

Babcock, Dr. Jean
by Celian & Betty Adams
Arvel & Vernita Sage

Burson, Daphne
by Mr. & Mrs. Vernon Locke

Byrd, Joyce
By Roscoe C. Byrd

Carter, Isabelle
by Mr. & Mrs. Ward Russo

Eberly, William
By Charles & Marie Jordan

Emmerson, Lee Roy
by Ruth Wiebold
David & Theresa Wilson

Harris, Gordon H.
By Nan Harris

Haugse, Gertrude
By Rose Tininenko

Lambeth, Eunice
By Larry Lambeth

Lukens, Marie
By R. Lukens, MD

McElmurry, Dr. N.K.
By Dr. & Mrs. Clifford E. Vixie

Nahoopii, Lew
by Arvel & Vernita Sage

Parfitt, Dr. Leonard
by Charles & Marie Jordan

Schmidt, Fred
by Roberta Horning Schmidt

Strong, Larry
by Marjorie Strong

Wallace, Beverly
by Ruth Wiebold

Anniversary

Mel & Gladys Johnson
Thankful for 50 years together!

Birthday

Katry Vital Kane
by Rita Vital

Father's Day

Joe Hudson
by Barbara Hudson

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

MPI staff serve as volunteers from their homes across the country. Our overhead expenses are low, and covered from other sources.

This makes it possible for us to send 100% of your contributions to the MPI projects you designate.

MEMORIAL & SPECIAL OCCASION GIVING

Given by: _____ Amount: \$ _____ Date: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

In behalf of: _____

☐ Anniversary ☐ Baptism ☐ Birthday ☐ Death ☐ _____

☐ Please send card to person below:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send to: M.P.I. ♦ P.O. Box 1950 ♦ Bozeman, MT 59771

☐ Please send me additional memorial forms



P.O. Box 1950 ♦ Bozeman, MT 59771

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 100
Shingle Springs, CA

*Inside: Ketchi Indian
now Wiolds Bible
instead of Machete*

What is MPI?

Mission Projects, Incorporated is a supporting organization of the Seventh-day Adventist church, dedicated to spreading the Gospel by way of medical, educational and evangelistic endeavors. M.P.I. works in complete harmony with local Conferences and Missions, and is a member of Adventist Laymen's Services and Industries (A.S.I.).

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)
_____ Huichol Humanitarian Work
_____ Spanish Literature
_____ San Lorenzo Teacher Salaries
_____ Worthy Student Fund
_____ Bibles for Mexico

\$ _____ Lay Workers
_____ Lacandón Indian Project
_____ Church Roofs
_____ Church Construction
_____ Use as Needed
_____ 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 _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Moving?

Please send us your new address 4 to 6 weeks in advance. That will save us the additional expense of forwarded or returned newsletters. Thanks!

July - August - September, 2002